

### ***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

Return Address Requested



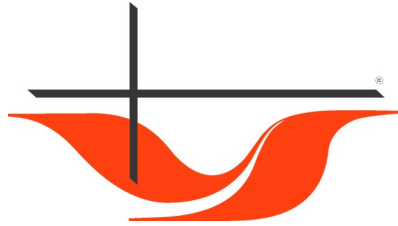
NON-PROFIT ORG.  
US POSTAGE PAID  
Michigan City, IN  
Permit No. 41

*September 2021*

*Crossbeams*

**First United Methodist Church**

**Crossbeam Publication**



## *Nancy's Notes*

We have the opportunity to meet our new Conference Superintendent, the Rev. Dr. Marti Lundy at a special gathering at Valparaiso First UMC on Sunday, September 26th at 1 pm on a day set aside to explore different ways of developing spiritual disciplines within the congregation.

This event will provide us with:

- Understanding what Spiritual Disciplines are and practically what they mean
- Hands-on experiences with a few different Spiritual Disciplines
- Reconnection with other North District United Methodists
- A “take home” plan so that you can start or revitalize Spiritual Discipline groups at your local church

Rev. Lundy is asking that each church have at least 1-3 participants attend.

During the summer a few of us have gathered on zoom (and on occasion in person) to explore different spiritual disciplines as we have read through the novels *Sensible Shoes* and *Two Steps Forward*. I think we would all agree that there is much joy in discovering new ways of connecting with God and with one another. This day away will give us a brief retreat space to explore more deeply where God is leading us.

If you are planning on attending please let me know!

Shalom,

*Pastor Nancy*

# Downtown Churches

## First Annual Car Show

to benefit Chef Erik Tannehill, director of the downtown soup kitchen. Chef Erik has worked tirelessly to keep the emergency soup kitchen running, now it's our turn to help him in his time of medical and financial need.

**\$10.00 entry fee per show vehicle- all classes and models welcome!**

**prizes in multiple classes!**

**First United Methodist Church**

**121 E. 7<sup>th</sup> St Michigan City**

**Saturday, September 25 10:00 AM- 2:00 PM**

Spectator parking is available for a \$5.00 donation at St. Paul Lutheran Church and School at 818 Franklin Street.

**spectators free!**

**food**

**fun**

**kid's games**

**Entertainment all day,**

**including LIVE  
performances by local  
Hoosier Star Talents!**

**Bring the whole family!**



## Worship Plans For September 2021



### Spiritual Disciplines Retreat

*"Spiritual Disciplines" are defined as practices that conform us as individuals into the likeness of Christ by the power of the Spirit so that our world will be transformed.*

For more information, visit the North District website at <https://www.inumc.org/districts/north-district/>

In September we will continue with our exploration of Practical Christianity for 2021 as we shift toward scriptures that challenge us to be doers of the word. In part we ask, "You've been claimed by Christ, so what?" James gives us a chance to reflect on the nature of Christian service and how we may engage with our broader community through acts of service. James asks us to maintain an outward focus, even when we gather for worship. Staying with our imagery of quilts, we will see how we are quilted together for the transformation of the world through our discipleship. Throughout this series we will explore the culmination of the book as we see how the power of prayer can indeed turn us into doers of the word.



#### Who

Any youth or adult, laity or clergy, of the North District of the IN Conference.



#### Cost

**FREE!**

*\*Please note, both days are identical retreats.*

 North District  
of the United Methodist Churches of Indiana



#### When/Where

**Saturday, September 25**  
at South Bend Clay UMC,  
Firehouse Campus  
17646 Cleveland Rd.  
South Bend, IN  
1:00-4:30 p.m. (EDT)

**Sunday, September 26,**  
at Valparaiso First UMC  
103 Franklin St.  
Valparaiso, IN  
1:00-4:30 p.m. (CDT)



#### 3 Ways to Register

1. Enter the link, <https://tinyurl.com/yypmdhyp> into your web browser.
2. Scan QR code below.
3. Talk to your pastor.



**Deadline to register is Monday, September 20.**

#### September 5: James 1:17-27

Theme: Avoiding Anger: Anger is one of those distractions that keeps us from being doers of the word. How do we live in community and value one another?

#### September 12: James 2:1-17

Themes: Making Distinctions: How do we seek reconciliation, not just between individuals, but between the church and world.

#### September 19: James: 3:1-12

Theme: Taming the Tongue: We must be even more vigilant in how we present God, especially through worship.

#### September 26: James: 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Theme: Root of Conflict: Peace is possible, even while we are works in process.

All church members are invited!

## CLOTHES LINE NEWS

With school just getting underway, requests will be coming in for the Clothes Line Ministry. If you are unsure how it functions, let me explain. Staff from the schools make requests which are placed on our display in the Gathering Room. One of you selects a card, signs the sheet indicating which card, purchases the needed items, and returns the clothing to the church office. A volunteer then delivers the clothing to the school office. The Michigan City Area School are not requiring uniforms this year so shopping for clothing items should be easier. Because of your compassion, students in MCAS feel warmer, more comfortable, and have the knowledge that someone cared. If you have any questions or if you would like to volunteer to help deliver the items to schools, please give me a call.

God bless you for your generosity.

*Dottie Evett*



## Quilt of Many Colors

During worship we have been making a quilt of many colors. You can make copies of the hexagon and mail it to the church or bring them in. You should have a total of 8 different hexagons. Those of you who are worshipping from home may choose whatever color you wish. Please put the following inside each different one. These are the questions we've asked each week.

8/8 - Your name

8/15- Where do you offer your wisdom

8/22- One thing you need to do to help God

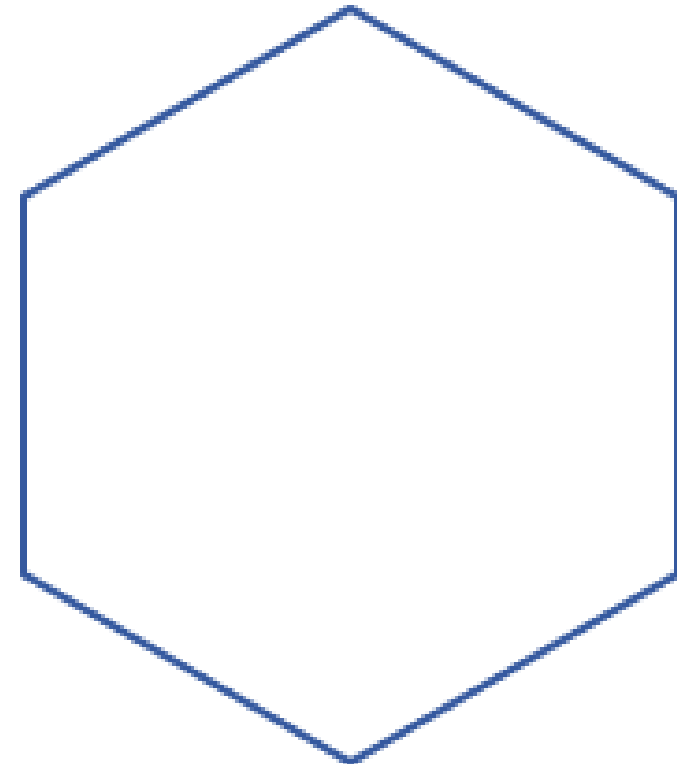
8/29- How God has accessorized you

9/5- When does my anger get in the way of community.

9/12- What can I do to help the world and church reconcile

9/19- How can I help with worship at First UMC

9/6- Where can I find peace?



## Memorials For September 2021

September Messy



# A NEW BEGINNING

"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; can't you see it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."  
Isaiah 43:18-19

Messy Church is for EVERYONE!

Join us outside in the church parking lot

Friday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>

6:00- 7:30

music- worship- food

What's new this month?

prayer station

and a labyrinth!

Invite friends and neighbors to join us for this casual, come-as-you-are, all-are-welcome, time of worship.

**Messy Church is church... but different**



In Loving Memory of  
Vera Woodruff  
Janet Dektor

In Loving Memory of  
Alice Kroening

Joyce & Roderick Warfield

Mary Morse Lance

Darlene Callaway

Mr. & Mrs. Keith Kroening

Sharon Applegate

John & Janice Horan

Cynthia Ward

Andrew Wetzel

Eric & Jeannine Kivi

Dave & Beth BaRoss

Susan, Tim & Natasha O'Daniel

Carolyn BaRoss Weir

Barb Tobias Chapell

## Bell Choir

Greeting, It is time for bell choir to start. Last year was a challenge with all the Covid restriction, hopefully this year will be better.

I am inviting everyone back and any one that would like to come and be a part of the great group of people. We will be play for the congregation at least once a month.

Bell choir will start meeting on September 8th at 6:00.

We will practice till 6:45. Hope to see every one there. If you have any questions please contact me at [gpenks@comcast.net](mailto:gpenks@comcast.net) or my cell at 219 873-4995

Thank You

*George*

## Walk Abouts Thursday's at 9am & 4:30pm

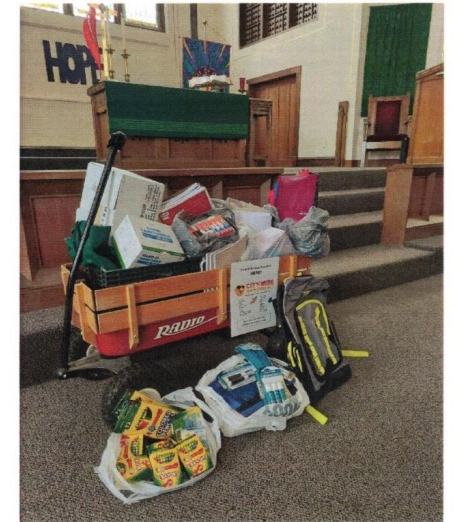
Last summer several of us started meeting at Friendship Gardens on Thursday mornings at 9am & 4:30pm to walk, pray, and connect with one another. The cost of entrance on Thursdays is \$6 and Pastor Nancy can take in 3 guests for free. Please consider joining Pastor and Licorice as we continue to explore this beautiful garden in our own community! **She will meet you at the front gate at 9am & 4:30pm.** There may be Thursdays when she is not available, but she hopes you will still gather anyway!



Greetings!

This is a HUGE thank you for your generosity in contributing a HUGE donation of school supplies to our MCAS students. The faculty at the school administration building wanted to make sure that I passed along their heartfelt thanks. So, thank you all for helping to make the start of the school year a great one for our local students.

*thank you!*



To continue to meet the needs of MCAS students throughout the school year, we will once again be contributing to the **Michigan City High School Caring Closet** project as an ongoing service project throughout the year. This will be a service project for the kids and youth, but we ask that the church contribute as well.

You may remember that this is a project we supported in the past, but it was “on hold” last year as so much of the school year was virtual. The Caring Closet is a place that High School students can find personal hygiene items that they very much need, but may not have at home. SNAP and other benefits do not cover the purchase of most of these items that everyone needs. The school has a system in place where students can request what they need privately and then have access to the Caring Closet.

Each month, I will post a list of the most needed items, and you may bring those items and add them to the basket in the Gathering Room. Financial contributions are also welcome. Please mark them “Caring Closet”.

**For the month of September, we will be collecting:**

**shampoo**

**conditioner**

**face wash**

**acne care items**



If you have any questions, please let me know. – “Ms.” Trish

# Homebound September 2021

MC 1st  
kids

## Try-It begins again on September 8!

Try-It is for anyone age 4 and older!

Music with Ms. Bev 4:30- 5:00 (come when you can!)

Kid Worship with Ms. Trish 5:00- 6:00

*Masks are currently required for everyone while we are in the building and we are closely monitoring school and county Covid- 19 updates to make changing decisions. Keep an eye on Facebook pages and email for updates.*

**Youth Group** meets on Friday, September 24 at 6:00 for all Junior High, Senior High, and recent grads. See you there!



Did we have fun this summer at "Try-It in the Parks"?

YES!

Will we do it again next summer?

YES!

Is Ms. Trish tired?

...

Time moves so fast during these wonderful days of summer, and it at least seems to me that there are so many different activities we can get engaged in. Please try to add an additional activity by visiting someone who is unable to come to church or we can all send birthday cards or give one of our members on our Homebound list a call. This past month and in August we have people on our Homebound list who have birthdays. I'm sure if you are early or late with a birthday greeting a card telling the individual you are just thinking of them would be great.

When I write this article for the Crossbeams it is difficult because we don't give out names or information about our individuals who are on the Homebound list for security reasons. It is hard to share with you due to not being able to publish who I refer to, but we know that privacy is important to keep people safe and secure.

Remember the saying "It takes a village to raise a child", this saying could also be used by our Homebound Ministry. It takes an entire church to show all our members we care and especially those members who are unable to attend a church service. Many thanks to those individuals who visit with our friends in our retirement centers and in their homes.

When writing these articles I refer to our friends unable to attend church so, consequently I googled Bible verses about friendship, and in my search I found that Jesus taught us about friendship. He treated everyone he came in contact with as a friend and he chose his disciples to be his special friends. We can be disciples ministering to others. Just taking the time to see or talk to another person shows our love, and we all know everyone wants to feel loved.

If everyone could contact a church member who you miss seeing wouldn't that be fun and a great way to be disciples?

Thanks to everyone this month that does contact a church member who you have not seen for awhile. I'm sure you will be rewarded - friendship is contagious.

If someone would like to have a list please contact me by phone 219-363-0103 or by email [judycommers@gmail.com](mailto:judycommers@gmail.com) or contact the church office.

God be with you all!

*Judy Commers*

## TIME TO MAKE MUSIC!

I am so very excited to let you all know that starting Wednesday, September 8th, we're ready to get back to our weekly music rehearsals here at First United Methodist. Yay, double yay and even triple yay!

Here's the Wednesday evening lineup:

Try It	4:30 - 6:00 pm	for our budding musicians
Memorial Bells	6:00 - 6:45	bell ringing at its finest
Common Time	6:45 - 7:00	15 minutes of catching up with each other (and you know there will be Methodist brownies)
Choir	7:00 - 7:45	vocal music sung from our hearts to yours

Come one, come all! Just make sure you've had your vaccine so we can all breathe a bit easier (and all those pesky COVID-19 germs won't get blown at Ms Bev). Join us as we take music here at our church to new levels with more wonderful music played and sung to God's glory.

For more info, contact [beverlyegriffith@gmail.com](mailto:beverlyegriffith@gmail.com)

See you soon!  
Bev



## Spirituality Notes:

The Sacred Journey group that began meeting on zoom last summer while reading the book *Sensible Shoes* has decided to continue our evening meetings on zoom but meeting on occasion for a face to face activity. Even if you have not joined us yet or read the novels we have been discussing, please consider joining us now. We have read *Sensible Shoes* and *Two Steps Forward*, both by Sharon Garlough Brown. We will gladly give everyone a catch up session.

Beginning the Tuesday following Labor Day, September 7, we will gather for a zoom study at 7:30 and begin discussing the first section of the 3<sup>rd</sup> volume of the *Sensible Shoes* series: *Barefoot: A story of surrendering to God* (available on Amazon). The zoom address will be sent out as an all church email and also posted on the facebook page.

Those who have participated in this study have found it to be one of the best they have ever done as we discuss practical ways of staying connected with God during life events. We hope you will join us.

