



OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS – The People of the United Methodist Church

The **ECHOES** of Edwards

EDWARDS MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

4 West Seminary Street, Liberty, Indiana 47353

Phone: 765-458-7489

Web page: www.emumc.com

e-mail: emumc@emumc.com

Pastor Scott Bell
pastorscott@emumc.com
765-993-9440

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Wanda Parker, Secretary
wparker@emumc.com
765-458-7489

Pastor's Column:

“Pray for the Commission”

The past few editions of “Echoes” have found the Pastor’s Page repeating what, to some, might be a boring list of what is happening at the “Conference Level” of our church. Often times we (your Pastor included) become numb to what is going on beyond the boundaries of our local church, and take an attitude of, “**THEY** can sort it out!!!”

Still, I can think of no other time in recent denominational history when the stakes have been so great, and the possible outcomes so grave. Indeed, I truly feel the future of our denomination, as we know it, hangs in the balance.

Accordingly, I urge all of us to accept the fact that the “**they**” we so often refer to in the church, is really **US!!!** And we **MUST** become aware of what is going on at the General Conference level so that we might become informed, empowered, **PRAYERFUL** members of the United Methodist Church.

To that end, I want to share with you one more “EPISTLE” authored by Bishop Mike Coyner as he enters his last two weeks of service as our Bishop.

Prayerfully,

Pastor Scott Bell

(In the words of Bishop Mike Coyner)

By now you have probably heard that the Council of Bishops Executive Committee (of which I am not a member) is in the process of naming the special commission which was approved by the General Conference to seek a way forward for our UMC. Each active bishop has been asked to nominate five persons to be considered, but realistically we all know that the Commission will be small (about 20-24 members) and our own particular nominations may not be able to be included. Nonetheless, I am sure the process will generate some excellent names to be considered.

As the Commission begins its work, I am asking that we all pray for them (even though we don't know their names yet), and to be effective in our prayers we need to remember several things:

1. The Commission is entitled "The Way Forward" Commission. It is not a "sexuality commission" (even though the UM news service and others keep calling it that). Their purpose is much larger than simply studying and recommending possible changes in our *Book of Discipleship* about human sexuality. They are to study and propose a way for our denomination to move forward together, or alternatively, a way for our denomination to make tough decisions which might cause some to choose to leave – hopefully with grace and peace.
2. The Commission is not a commission of the General Conference, it is a commission of the Council of Bishops. General Conference asked the Council of Bishops to propose a way forward, the COB proposed a Commission to be named by the COB, and the General Conference approved that recommendation. This Commission will be a product of the Council of Bishops, and it will report to the Council of Bishops. Any proposals for changes in our *Book of Discipline* will need to come to the next General Conference, of course, but the Commission will first report to the Council of Bishops.
3. The naming of this Commission does not necessarily mean that there will be a "called session" of the General Conference, but it could well lead to the Council of Bishops calling such a session. It will all depend upon the product of the work of the Commission, and then the Council of Bishops will be the group that determines if there are proposals and possibilities that merit the expense of a called session of General Conference. As I look at the calendar, that would likely be in 2018 because the Commission needs time to work in 2016 and 2017, and because having a called session in 2019 would be too close to the regularly scheduled General Conference in 2020. But no one has made a decision yet about whether such a called session will happen.
4. During the time the Commission does its work and we move toward any future decisions about changes in our *Book of Discipline*, it is important for everyone – and I mean EVERYONE – to be faithful to our current *Book of Discipline*. Some persons, some groups, and even some conferences are not being faithful, but I call upon everyone in our Indiana Conference to be faithful. Please do not put our new Bishop, Julius Trimble, in the awkward and unfair position of having to deal with disruptions while he is trying to get acquainted with Indiana.
5. The Commission, it seems from what I have read, is going to be composed of persons who want to find a way for our UMC to stay together. That should be the focus of our prayers for the Commission. This is not about either side of these debates trying to "win" or trying to make others into "losers." This is about seeking God's guidance for a way forward. Let's keep that prayer focus, too.

So, as I am in my final couple of weeks as the Bishop of the Indiana Area, I ask of you and everyone else in Indiana and beyond: please pray for the Commission, its work, its focus, and its guidance by the Holy Spirit.

Please pray.

Thank you.



to all who provided us
with flowers for the
worship services during the month of
August:

**Bob & Carol Dance,
Dorothy Finch, Sue Fields,
Jerry & Teresa Ashbrook**



Thank You: We would like to thank the
congregation for their prayers, food, visits, and
calls at the time of our surgeries and recoveries.
Your support and concern means a great deal and
carries us now through the days of healing.

Gene & Kathy Sanford

Union County Middle School would like to
graciously thank you for your generous donation
of school supplies. Your donation assists our
students to help them begin the year with what
they need. It also directly supports classroom
instruction by enabling our teachers to focus on
teaching and not on supplies.

Thank You, Ron Ross, Principal

Flowers: If you would like to furnish
flowers for a Sunday Worship Service,
please stop by the parlor and
sign-up for a Sunday that fits
your schedule.



The sign-up sheet is on the
table by the door. Please use the
first line for your name and if
you wish to honor a family member or friend
please use the second line for:

"In Honor of" or "In Memory of"

Remember to take your flowers home
after the service. Any flowers left in the
sanctuary will be donated.

Charge Conference: October 30, 2016 3:30 pm

**at
The Place UMC
205 S 21st Street
New Castle, IN**

Volunteering for Committees:

As we get ready for Charge



Conference
please
prayerfully
consider
volunteering
for a
committee
when the
Nominating

Committee begins to make calls to
fill the leadership positions for the
2017 year.

Volunteering is a very important
part of your spiritual life. We thank
all those in advance who volunteer
year after year. We thank all of our
leaders for their commitment, and
the conscientious way they carry out
their various ministries.

Sympathies: Edwards Memorial
would like to express it's sincere
sympathies to the family of Eugene
McCormick. Eugene passed away on
Aug. 25, 2016 and was the husband of
Jean.

Eugene was very active in this
church. He founded the ministry of
God's Nightcrawler in 1972 with the
South Indiana Conference. Eugene and
Jean served this ministry for
8 ½ years. Eugene was known for his
famous chocolate cookies which were
always in abundance for special dinners
or events at the church. He will be
greatly missed.



**IF you love to sing,
come join the choir!!
practices are on
Wednesday nights
at 7pm
in the sanctuary.
No auditions needed!!**



Upper Rooms: The Sept/Oct. Upper Rooms
are now available in the back of the
sanctuary. Please help yourselves to this
wonderful devotional magazine. There is a
basket next to the rack is you wish to leave a
donation to help offset the cost.

Weekly Volunteer Lists:

If your name is on these volunteer lists **Ushers, Acolytes, Greeters, Jr Church and Nursery**, and you do not wish to remain on that list for the 2017 year, it is **your** responsibility to call (765-458-7489) or e-mail Wanda (wparker@emumc.com) that you wish to be removed. Otherwise you **will remain** on the volunteer list for next year. All volunteer jobs receive a reminder card the week you are to serve.

Volunteer Job descriptions:

ACOLYTE DUTIES: To be an Acolyte you must be in 2nd grade or older. We also would like parents to encourage the older children to be acolytes. You will receive a reminder card the week you are to serve.

At the appropriate time of the service the head usher will light the candle lighter for you at the back of the sanctuary and will tell you when to proceed to the altar. Leave the flame burning on the candle lighter until you return to the back of the sanctuary. During the last verse of the last hymn you are to light the candle lighter on the altar before you extinguish the candles and leave this flame burning until you return to the back of the sanctuary.

If it is not possible for you to serve on your assigned day, please make arrangements for someone to take your place and **notify the office of the change.**

GREETER DUTIES: This is an important part of our worship – a warm smile and friendly handshake as you enter God’s House is a good expression of His love for us and our regard for others.

You will receive a reminder card the week you are scheduled to be a greeter. It is your responsibility to fill your spot if you are unable to serve on the assigned Sunday, please change with someone on the list and **notify the office of the change.**

The Worship Committee decided under the approval of the Administrative Council to have a “Time of Fellowship” every Sunday after the Worship Service. The Greeters are to be in charge of this. This will be set up in the church parlor. Drinks will be in the refrigerator and the coffee pot filled and ready to be plugged in. **Please plug in and turn on the coffee pot** before the worship service. Then serve the coffee and drinks following the worship service and clean the kitchenette area and the coffee pot afterwards. You will not be responsible to bring the drinks – they will be provided.

On the “Fourth Sunday Fellowship Hour” the Greeters on those particular Sundays **will not** be responsible for serving as we have several groups who do this. Also, generally if we have a dinner or luncheon served following the worship service, we do not have the “Time of Fellowship” or the “4th Sunday Fellowship Hour”. Please read your reminder notices as they will reflect the information you are responsible for on the Sunday you are to serve.

USHER DUTIES AND CHECKLIST

- Please be at the Church by 9:30 A.M.
- Assist anyone who needs help in finding a seat.
- Open the Parlor Doors after the Sunday School Class has adjourned.
- Assist acolytes on starting on time and extinguishing the candles on time.
- Count all in attendance. Please follow the counting sheet on the podium in the vestibule and leave on secretary’s desk after the service is over with the attendance sheets.
- Help to collect the offering.

After the Worship Service remain to help do the following:

- Clean up sanctuary after the worship service is over.
- Pick up any bulletins that are left and any other paper and place on secretary’s desk. Replace hymnals in racks if necessary.
- Turn off all lights.
- Turn off ceiling fans - Sanctuary (on stair landing)
- Check all Sunday School room doors to make sure they are closed.
- Close the doors between the parlor and sanctuary.
- Close all windows and lock all doors, with the exception of the office door it will lock automatically.
- Turn off Fountain in the vestibule by the front entrance.
- The head usher is the first one listed on the schedule. It is his/her responsibility to see that the above is completed.** However, all ushers should assist the head usher in completing all tasks.



Edwards Memorial would like to thank all it’s volunteers that help make our worship services run smoothly!

**OUR FRIENDS IN THE
HOSPITAL
OR ILL DURING: August**



Get-Well Wishes to:

Marilyn Heeter,
Wanda Pierce,
Karen Bowers,
Gene Sanford,
Kathy Sanford,

Tori Russell, Betty Gulley, Ed
Swafford, Eugene McCormick,
Malcolm Miles, Darrell Richardson,
Dale Stevens, Donna Stevens,
Quentin Richardson, Bev Carmack,
Ruth Bertch, Juanita Jordan,
Christi Harris, Audrey Brown,
Tom Berry.

Spiritual Moment

***To God belong the East and the West.
Wherever you turn the glory of God
is everywhere: All pervading in He
and all-knowing
-The Koran***

**God Bless you on your Birthday
God be with you everyday!**

***Birthdays remind us of
God's gift of life.***

Your birthday reminds us of your
special place in our Christian family.
***(Please notify us of Corrections
or Omissions)***

Here are the September Birthday's:

- 1: Mindy Shepler
- 3: Jacob Bowers, George Fields,
Becky Seibert
- 4: Brian Shepler
- 6: Bill Bennett, Melanie Watterson
- 8: Luann Swafford, Marilyn Heeter
- 9: Larry Gulley, Xandra Davis,
Todd Woodruff, Melanie McDaniel
- 10: Benjamin Dunning
- 11: Roger Redinger
- 12: Leah Gabbard
- 13: Arthur Redinger, Benjamin Bolser
Berniece Tipton, Lillian Myers,
Alison Rhonemus
- 14: Rhonda Wilkin
- 15: Cameron Sanford, Lane Brown
- 16: Teresa Fisk
- 17: Ed Swafford, Don Hiatt
- 18: Luke Seibert
- 25: Todd Fields
- 26: Ann Tobin, Paige Whipple
- 27: Adam Hoskins, Connor Payne
- 28: Claire Cashdollar, David Rockhill
- 30: Allison Kassens



**United Methodist Women
News:**

**U.M.W. FALL KICK-OFF MEETING
SEPTEMBER 24, 2016**

The United Methodist Women will be
having their fall Kick-off meeting on Saturday,
September 24, at 11:30 a.m., at the home of
Stephanie Moore in Oxford, Ohio.

Everyone is asked to bring a salad, vegetable,
fruit, or dessert to share with the group. The
meat dish will be provided.

We will meet at the church parking lot at
11:00 a.m. for those who would like to car pool.
This invitation is extended to all the ladies of the
church. Would be helpful to let Stephanie know
that you will be attending and the dish you plan
to provide.

Please note the **change of date** from your
U.M.W. Program Book. Make your plans now to
come for a delicious meal, fellowship with one
another, and a very informative program.

**Don't forget the UMW Fall District Meeting
in Muncie on Saturday, Sept. 17th.**

UMW Fall Retreat:

Date: Sat. October 15th 9:30am - 2:30pm

What: Pitch In Dinner
11:30am - 12:30pm

Place: Rogers Fellowship Center at the Church.

Leaders: Helen Fields & Jean McCormick.

Guest Leaders: Louise Dennin: East District
former President and Kathy Phillips former Vice
President. All Ladies of the Church are
welcome!! We will have an enjoyable and
formative experience!! Please RSVP Helen
Fields at 458-6614.

Bible Wordsearch

Wordsearch 191

A	H	S	I	L	E	H	F	S	E	L	N	J	A	L
C	Y	R	U	S	L	T	H	A	U	R	A	O	J	E
G	I	D	E	O	N	A	L	A	B	T	H	S	A	B
H	I	H	T	O	D	I	S	E	E	R	T	E	C	A
A	N	S	R	R	H	L	N	S	I	L	A	P	O	A
J	O	A	A	A	D	O	N	O	U	K	N	H	B	L
I	A	C	D	A	S	G	E	O	E	I	E	R	A	A
L	H	U	N	A	C	B	H	L	D	M	R	Z	H	M
E	J	I	M	O	R	D	E	C	A	I	I	A	E	D
Y	E	S	S	O	U	U	M	L	H	M	I	S	D	I
L	O	H	C	H	M	I	I	S	A	M	O	S	I	V
N	E	A	D	A	M	A	A	I	E	C	N	S	V	A
M	I	I	S	A	I	A	H	R	E	N	B	A	E	D
N	O	M	O	L	O	S	E	H	C	O	N	E	L	S
T	A	U	H	S	O	J	S	L	J	J	O	N	A	H

Famous Men of the Old Testament

AARON	JACOB
ABEL	JEREMIAH
ABNER	JOB
ABRAHAM	JONAH
ADAM	JOSEPH
BAALAM	JOSHUA
CAIN	JUDAH
CALEB	LEVI
CYRUS	LOT
DANIEL	MORDECAI
DARIUS	MOSES
DAVID	NATHAN
ELIJAH	NEHEMIAH
ELISHA	NOAH
ENOC	SAMSON
EZEKIEL	SAMUEL
GIDEON	SAUL
GOLIATH	SHADRACH
ISAAC	SHEM
ISAIAH	SOLOMON
ISHMAEL	SIMEON

After you find all the hidden words the left over letters spell out a Bible verse reading from the top left to the bottom right

Psalm 35

MORE PUZZLES AT:
<http://biblewordgames.com>

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2016

Edwards Memorial United Methodist Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship Service	Labor Day Office Closed	EMNS Returns	7 pm Choir Practice			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship Service	7 pm Trustees Meeting in RFC		7 pm Choir Practice			UMW Fall District Meeting at Muncie
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship Service <i>Fund Raising Dinner following church in RFC</i>	6:30pm Worship Committee in RFC 7pm Ad Council in RFC		7 pm Choir Practice		<i>October Newsletter articles due</i>	11:30am UMW Luncheon at the home of Stephanie Moore
25	26	27	28	29	30	Oct. 1
9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship Service <i>4th Sunday Fellowship Hr hosted by: Ad Council</i>			7 pm Choir Practice	<i>October Newsletter goes out</i>		



**Edwards Memorial
United Methodist Church**

Sunday Mornings:

**Sunday School: 9am
Worship Service: 10am**

**“Come and See
What God
Can Do!”**

Invite a friend!!