



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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2019**

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

Pastor's Column

SEPTEMBER!!!

Summer, though fleeting, has been a blessed one. We have hired a new Pre-School Director, (Brooke Murray) and are readying ourselves for the coming of Autumn...and before we know it, ADVENT!!!

But backing up, I want to share you the news of my regularly scheduled "Summer Conversation" with our new District Superintendent Russ Abel. Russ is a great guy, obviously a "pastor's pastor," and a skilled leader. I am convinced that he will lead us into the future in an attitude of prayer and grace.

Accordingly, I want to share with you a recent note included in our District Newsletter. Contained in it's pages, I think, is a better introduction to all of you than I could author.

And so, to that end...

A Well-Rehearsed Witness

Dear Friends,

I pray this letter finds you well and blessed. So, sometimes things happen that you really should be embarrassed about, but are just too good to keep to yourself. In this new role as a superintendent, I received a "Conference car" along with a paper license plate. I am very grateful for this, because I am in it a lot! One day, as I arrived at a particular destination, I was getting my bag out of the back when I noticed my paper license plate was gone. Gone! Then, I remembered I had gone through a very aggressive car wash a few days before. I believe the car wash "ate" my license plate. So, I let the Conference office know and they got a new one for me. "Just pick it up the next time you are in" was the response. It was a week or more before I was at the conference office. The whole time I was rehearsing my story every time I saw a police car. So, I picked up the new plate and put it in the back seat and

headed back to Muncie. Now, mind you, more than a week I had driven with nothing and no problems. Yep! You guessed it. The lights came on. I pulled over. And, I had the chance to share my well-rehearsed story.

In Acts one, Jesus commands us to be His witnesses. I wonder if my witness is as well-rehearsed as my story was about the missing license plate. I wonder if I am as ready to tell the story of Jesus' power, love, grace, salvation, and call for justice. I believe each of us should be ready to tell Jesus' story in us. I find myself thinking of the "Messianic denial" themes in the Gospels (especially Mark). Those folks who had been healed and blessed by Jesus, but did not have the chance to share it...I imagine they rehearsed their story. I imagine they strained toward the moment when they could tell the story of Jesus in them. And, when they did tell, don't you think it was a powerful and joy-filled moment. Again, I find myself convicted by these thoughts.

God is a God of second chances and of joy. The officer, you know the one, sunglasses just right, hat cocked just ever so slightly, asked, "Do you know why I stopped you?" And, out came the story. He fought it for a moment, but then a wide smile crossed his face and he laughed. It is amazing what a story can do.

Shalom,

Russ Abel

Conference Superintendent serving the East District



to all the folks who provided flowers for our worship services during the month of August:

Ron & Wanda Parker

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 of the magazine.

**IF you love to sing,
come join the choir!!**



**Practices are on
Wednesday nights at 7pm
in the sanctuary.**

No auditions needed!!

Volunteering for Committees:

As we soon will be preparing 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 2019 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.

Thank you to all who volunteer!!!

Budget Report

| | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| 2019 Budget | \$209,219.00 |
| Received YTD | 130,291.91 |
| Received in August | 12,310.25 |
| Budget | 12,105.25 |
| Finance Fund Raising | 80.00 |
| Good Samaritan Fund | 125.00 |

OUR FRIENDS IN THE HOSPITAL

OR ILL DURING: August



Get-Well Wishes to: Shannon Brown, Lacey Snow, Max Swafford, Don Hiatt, Esther Bunch, Taylor Bunch, Ruth Bertch, Lloyd Bowers, Ryan Snow, Jeraldne Walters, Amy Moegerle, Don Clevenger, Kim Scott Durham, Barry Bryant, Dorothy Finch, Lloyd Bowers, Duane & Sharon Lafuze

Spiritual Moment

My Turn in the Nursery

*Last Sunday was my turn in the nursery to work.
My heart wasn't in it, and my feelings were hurt.
A child from its mother did not want to part
And cried a lot with its broken heart.
I prayed that soon the hour would end,
That I could relax--no more children to tend.
Soon the hour was over--it felt good to be free.
I said once a month was too much for me!
That very next Sunday, as I sat in the pew,
A very good sermon, but visitors were few.
But down came a woman and her soul was saved,
And she was the mother of the crying babe.
Then it dawned on me that I had been a part
Of one being saved--giving God her heart.
From that day on I would never dread
Working in the nursery while souls were being fed.*

-Morrow United Methodist Church
Morrow, GA



**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: George Fields
- 4: Brian Shepler
- 6: Bill Bennett
- 8: Luann Swafford
- 9: Larry Gulley, Xandra Davis
- 13: Arthur Redinger, Benjamin Bolser
Berniece Tipton, Lillian Myers
- 14: Rhonda Wilkin
- 15: Cameron Sanford, Lane Brown
- 16: Teresa Fisk
- 17: Ed Swafford, Don Hiatt
- 25: Todd Fields
- 26: Paige Whipple
- 27: Connor Payne
- 28: Pastor David Rockhill
- 30: Allison Kassens

Notice: The September Fund Raising Dinner has been cancelled due to the Founders Day Dinner.

Edwards Memorial Nursery School (EMNS)



Lets all welcome back our preschool as they prepare to return for the 2019-2020 school year. EMNS returns on Tuesday, Sept. 3rd.

Contribution Envelopes:

If you currently do not use the contribution envelopes and would like to start next year for 2020 please let Wanda or Dale know so we can set you up. I will be ordering the new ones in a couple weeks and want to make sure we have enough for everyone who wants to use them. If you currently use the envelopes, the finance team thanks you, and you do not have to do anything.

The envelopes and E-Giving make it easier to keep track of your contributions and for the year end Charitable Tax Report that you would receive. Remember your contributions to the church are tax deductible in accordance with the IRS rules.



Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Union County Founder's Day proudly presents:
"Revived" Saturday, Sept. 7, 2019 at 6pm on the Courthouse Square in Liberty rain or shine (in the event of rain the Church of Christ will host the event). If you like good Christian music, bring your lawn chair or blanket and enjoy this hour and a half of music. The event is free, but we will take free will donations to help offset our cost.

"Revived" is a group of 6 and includes Paul Odenwelder. Paul is a published songwriter. He writes contemporary worship music and operates two music education studios. Paul has appeared on The Grand Ole Opry and has been the opening act for many country stars.

I feel strongly that the family of Christ in Union County can show we are strong and united, by joining together in public enjoyment of this great group. Come early and enjoy the Founders Day Activities. You won't regret it!

Steve Logue



Lucille Raines Residence Needs Our Help!

Lucille Raines Residence began in 1977 for the sole purpose of rebuilding lives from substance abuse. The residence provides a clean safe environment for up to 49 residents (both men & women) at any given time.

Residents are expected to actively work, be in a 12 Step Program, work with a sponsor, attend support groups, be actively employed and pay rent. (The rent is \$100.00 a week).

United Methodist Women own the building and give monthly support to the residents.

Each Local Unit of UMW is asked to donate \$10.00 to Lucille Raines for each local member. If you have 10 members you donate \$100.00 each year.

The East District Fall Meeting is Sat., Sept. 7th in Muncie. The "Hands on Offering" this year are items for Lucille Raines Residence.

There is a laundry basket on the table in the parlor. There is a list of needed items taped to the basket. On the table is the list of items. Please take the list to help you remember what to buy. There is also a container for "money donations". We will shop for you.

Items can be donated from now till Friday, Sept. 6th. We will collect all items early Sat. Sept. 7th.

Thank you for helping people who are working hard to get their lives back on track.

Items to donate are:

- Bars of bath soap (like Dove or Safe Guard, etc)
- Toothpaste & Tooth Brush
- Deodorant
- Lotion
- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper
- Kleenex or Puffs
- Dish Soap (such as Dawn)

Attention College Students:

For those wishing to receive notes of encouragement in college, please email Erin Hensley at erin_hensley@uc.k12.in.us with your college student's name and address.



2019

Edwards Memorial United Methodist Church

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|--|---------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worhsip Service | Labor Day Office Closed | EMNS Returns 6 pm-8 pm ABLBH | 7 pm Choir Practice | | | UMW Fall District Meeting |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worhsip Service | 7 pm Trustees Meeting in RFC | 6 pm-8 pm ABLBH | 7 pm Choir Practice | | RFC 9am-9pm Barnhizer Rehearsal Dinner | RFC & Church 9am-5pm Fairchild Wedding |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship Service UMW Meeting in Parlor following church | 6pm Worship Committee in RFC 7pm Ad Council in RFC | 6 pm-8 pm ABLBH | 7 pm Choir Practice | | | |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship Service | | 6 pm-8 pm ABLBH | 7 pm Choir Practice | | October Newsletter articles due | |
| 29 | 30 | Oct. 1 | Oct. 2 | Oct. 3 | Oct. 4 | Oct. 5 |
| 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship Service | | 6 pm-8 pm ABLBH | 7 pm Choir Practice | October Newsletter goes out | | |