



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](http://www.emumc.com)

e-mail: [emumc@emumc.com](mailto:emumc@emumc.com)

Pastor Scott Bell  
[pastorscott@emumc.com](mailto:pastorscott@emumc.com)  
765-993-9440

**DECEMBER  
2018**

Wanda Parker, Secretary  
[wparker@emumc.com](mailto:wparker@emumc.com)  
765-458-7489

Pastor's Column:

***For a child has been born—for us!***

~Isaiah 9:6

The past couple of years our church has been blessed with the birth of babies. Recently, another little one has joined our number, and as I write this edition of *Echoes*, yet one more “bundle of joy” is but a few days from joining our Community of Faith!

To that end...let me tell you a secret about me. I used to be **TERRIFIED OF BABIES!!!** Born an only child, my experience with babies was less than limited. Fact is, I had NEVER held a newborn baby...let alone cared for one IN MY ENTIRE 27 YEARS OF LIFE! Accordingly, when my wife informed me that we were expecting, I kissed her, expressed my overwhelming joy, and promptly went into the bathroom, closed the door...and entered a state of apoplexy!!!!

Over the course of the next few months, my fear and trepidation grew exponentially. As our due date came closer, so too did my anxiety. Even though I faithfully attended our Lamaze classes, held and rocked and diapered and burped and bathed “almost real, look-alike, reasonable facsimile baby dolls,” the absolute terror that loomed inside our third trimester overwhelmed me.

And then...while eating a seemingly safe bowl of Campbells Soup, my wife spoke the two words I had been dreading for nine long months.

***....it's time.***

It's all just a blur now. A race to Reid. The donning of a set of scrubs and mask and gloves. Breathing...pushing...encouraging...more pushing...and then.

***...a child was born—for us.***

Shortly thereafter, a very wise nurse sat me in a very low chair and handed me a blanket bundled baby. Our baby.

And then the most miraculous thing happened. That baby...that same baby I had been so frightened by, confused by...overwhelmed by...reached out and took hold of my finger...

*...and with my finger...went my heart.*

And that baby has never given it back.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, though we were frightened, and confused, and overwhelmed... a baby came...to take our hearts. To heal our confusion, and our suffering, and our fear. When we *least* expected it, when we were looking the other way and focused on other things...God decided, "*It's time...*"

My prayer for each of you this Christmas Season is that, when the time is right...for only you and God will know...you sit yourself down and gather upon your lap a carefully swaddled bundle. And in a moment that will forever be for you the moment of moments, a tiny hand will reach out and take your finger...

*and with it...your heart.*

*...For a child has been born—for us!*

And, Brothers and Sisters in Christ, in a moment...in the twinkling of an eye...He's Coming Back!

Merry Christmas,



Pastor Scott Bell



to the following folks who provided us with flowers for the worship services during the month of November:

**Jean McCormick, Bob Burkhead & Della Ware**

**Snowbirds:** To our snowbirds that go to Florida for a few months every year, please make sure Wanda knows when you are leaving and when you are returning. This is so you receive your mail from the church especially the end of the year financial information. You may call 765-458-7489 and leave a message or e-mail her at [wparker@emumc.com](mailto:wparker@emumc.com)



**There will not be a Trustees Meeting, Worship Committee Meeting or Administrative Council Meeting in the month of December.**

**Deadlines:** Please remember any information to be put in the bulletin needs to be into the office by Tuesdays 11am. Any information for the newsletter needs to be in by the third Friday of the month.



All Youth Sixth Grade and above who have not yet attended a Confirmation Class with Pastor Bell are invited to be a part of Confirmation 2019. Classes

will be held on Sunday Mornings at 8:50, beginning Sunday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, and running for approximately 12 weeks.

Students will learn what it means to be United Methodist, the meaning of Baptism, Holy Communion, and the seasons of the church. Hopefully, confirmands will deepen their faith and develop the systematic building blocks for a personal theology that will help them to come to know Jesus in a profoundly intimate way.

Those youth wishing to attend Confirmation 2019 should contact Pastor Bell or Wanda Parker by December 16<sup>th</sup>. Books will be ordered for each student and will be a gift from the church.

Those prospective students or parents who wish to have more information should contact Pastor Bell. Parents are welcome to attend classes, and are especially invited to attend the first class held on January 13<sup>th</sup>.

### **Budget Report**

2018 Budget	\$202,969.00
Received Budget YTD	176,394.02
Received in November	15,648.00
Budget	14,749.00
Fund Raising	80.00
Good Samaritan Fund	110.00
Poinsettias	9.00
UMCOR	700.00

### **OUR FRIENDS IN THE HOSPITAL**

#### **OR ILL DURING: November**



**Get-Well Wishes to:** Pastor Scott Bell, Mary Brier, Bobbi Schuck, Dorothy Finch, Joe Irwin, Lee Alcorn, Stephanie Chamberlain, Courtney Fairchild, Linda Teegarden, Esther Bunch, Malcolm Miles, Quentin Richardson, Taylor Bunch, Ruth Bertch, Juanita Jordan, Audrey Brown, Julia Porter.

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## ***Spiritual Moment***

***Your faith is what you believe  
not what you know.***

*-John Lancaster Spalding*

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**Poinsettias:** If you wish to order a poinsettia for the Christmas services, please sign-up on the sheet in the parlor on the table by the door. ***Please use the second line under your name to write "In Honor of" or "In Memory of" the person or persons you wish to list. You may also email Wanda: [wparker@emumc.com](mailto:wparker@emumc.com) with your sign-up request.***



Make checks out to EMUMC for \$9.00, **mark the memo section Poinsettia**, and drop in the offering plate. If you e-mail Wanda your request, you may mail your check or use e-giving for your payment.



## **Happy Birthday**

**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 December Birthday's:***

- 3: Joy Woodruff
- 4: Alicia Miller
- 6: Tim Bowers, Erica Moffett
- 7: Stanley Nichols
- 8: Anita Faye Howard
- 9: Jennifer Oster, Connie Powers, Braden Norris
- 10: Campbell Meier
- 11: Pat Gentry
- 13: Kadence Brock
- 14: Cathy Hensley, Sarah Schwendenman
- 15: Brian Keith Anderson
- 16: Ruth Bertch, Victoria Russell
- 17: Cynda Bilbrey
- 18: Sandi Cox
- 21: Jacob Schwendenman, Karen Bowers
- 22: Linda Jahosky, Amanda Jahosky
- 24: Stephen Whipple
- 25: Jesus, Phil Cox
- 28: Betty Richardson, Rod West
- 29: Russell Hensley, Ryan Hensley  
Jerry Tipton
- 31: Beth Fields, Mary Alice Crowder

### Cheering Up Addresses:



Let's remember our shut-ins during the holiday season. Names and addresses are listed below for anyone wanting to send a card or note to help them know we care and are thinking about them:

Malcolm Miles, 219 E High St, Liberty, IN 47353

Vivian Kaser, 900 S A Street #608, Richmond, IN 47374

Anita Faye Howard, 9229 Weist Rd, Eaton, OH 45320

Juanita Jordan, 215 W High St, Liberty, IN 47353

Carolyn Winters, 622 S Nine Mile Rd, Liberty, IN 47353

Betty Pouder, 2030 Chester Blvd, Apt. 300  
Richmond, IN 47374

Audrey Brown, 204 Knollwood Dr, Oxford, OH 45056

Ruth Bertch, 108 S Market St, Liberty, IN 47353

### Cookie Drop Off:



**Please note the office door will be open from:**

**7am to 7pm on Friday, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> so cookies and goodies for the Cookie Walk can be dropped off.**

**Please take items to the kitchen and leave on the bar or tables. Make sure you mark your containers so they may find their way back home.**



## **Nov-Dec 2018 Schedule of Events**

**Sunday, Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> (First Sunday of Advent)  
“Hanging of the Greens”**



**Saturday, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>  
9am-11:30am  
“Cookie Walk” in RFC**



**Sunday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>  
(Second Sunday of Advent)  
9am Sunday School  
10am Worship Service**

**Sunday, Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>  
(Third Sunday of Advent)  
9am Sunday School  
10am Worship Service**

**Sunday, Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>  
(Fourth Sunday of Advent)  
9am Sunday School  
10am Worship Service**

**Monday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>  
8pm Christmas Eve  
Candlelight Service**

Edwards Memorial United Methodist Church

**Tuesday, Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> Merry Christmas**





Christmas

# COOKIE WALK

**Saturday, December 8, 2018**

**9am – 11:30am**

THERE WILL BE TABLES SET UP WITH A VARIETY OF COOKIES,  
INCLUDING: “Sugar-Free and Gluten-Free Cookies”  
You will choose the assortment of cookies and candy to fill your box.



**Edwards Memorial United Methodist Church  
Rogers Fellowship Center  
4 W Seminary St, Liberty, IN 47353**

**Cost is \$7.00 a small box  
\$12.00 a large box**

Home Delivery for shut-ins in town 50 cents extra  
Call 765-458-7480 during the Cookie Walk



Sponsored by: United Methodist Women  
Proceeds go to Local Mission Projects



# December

# 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9 am</b> Sunday School <b>10 am</b> Worship Service "Hanging of the Greens"		<b>6 pm-8 pm</b> ABLBH	<b>7 pm</b> Choir Practice		<b>Set-up RFC</b> <b>Cookie Walk</b> <i>Drop off</i> <i>Cookies</i> <b>7am-7pm</b>	<b>9am-11:30am</b> "Cookie Walk" in RFC
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>9 am</b> Sunday School <b>10 am</b> Worship Service	<b>No</b> <b>Trustees</b> <b>Meeting</b>	<b>6 pm-8 pm</b> ABLBH	<b>7 pm</b> Choir Practice			
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>9 am</b> Sunday School <b>10 am</b> Worship Service	<b>No Worship</b> <b>or</b> <b>Ad Council</b> <b>Meetings</b>	<b>6 pm-8 pm</b> ABLBH	<b>11am</b> EMNS Christmas Program  <b>7 pm</b> Choir Practice		<i>Jan Newsletter</i> <i>articles due</i>	Bennett's in RFC all day
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>9 am</b> Sunday School <b>10 am</b> Worship Service	<b>8pm</b> <b>Christmas Eve</b> <b>Service</b>	<i>Merry</i> <i>Christmas</i>				Bunch Family in RFC all day
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>Jan. 1</b>	<b>Jan. 2</b>	<b>Jan. 3</b>	<b>Jan. 4</b>	<b>Jan. 5</b>
<b>9 am</b> Sunday School <b>10 am</b> Worship Service	<i>New Years</i> <i>Eve Party</i> ABLBH	<i>Happy New Year</i>	<b>7 pm</b> Choir Practice  <b>Office Closed</b>	<i>Jan. Newsletter</i> <i>goes out</i>		
						