

# First News

First United Methodist Church

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## A Note from Pastor Toni

Dear Friends,

We're home all safe and sound from our mission trip to Guatemala and are grateful once again for the staff and team of Mission Guatemala who organized our work experience and helped us be successful. They fed us well, provided us with comfortable accommodations, translators and work fore-



men; they transported us wherever we needed to go, and made sure we had the opportunity to rest and relax.

I'm grateful for this year's team who worked well together, who enjoyed being together even when they didn't "have" to be, and who were open to new experiences. Even our youngest members were willing to try new things, including food they weren't accustomed to and job assignments using unfamiliar tools. There were lots of smiles and words of encouragement for and from everyone. It

was good and I feel blessed to have been a part of it. And I'm also really glad to be back home!

When our children were young, Scott and I decided that we wanted each of our children to travel to a third world country on a work

team to experience life beyond our own perspective here in the mid-western United States. Our two younger children each joined me on

work teams to Haiti at least once, but somehow our oldest ended up going with me on a Wesley Heritage tour to England/Scotland. I don't know how that happened. In college he ended up going with a group to Mexico, so I guess that balanced things out.

I've wanted the same opportunity for the youth and adults in my churches—to experience God's love and activity outside of our usual world and activities, outside of our comfort zone. I would never take folks someplace unsafe.

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*Sunday Brunch*

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 4  
BRUNCH WILL BE HELD  
AT SYMPHONY RESTAURANT  
FOLLOWING SECOND SERVICE  
SIGN UP SHEET IN FELLOWSHIP HALL**

### **Quentin Flagg Gospel Concert**



Sunday August 4, 2019 at The Well 5:00 p.m.

Singing the gospel renderings of Elvis and other well known vocalists plus many standard hymns as well.

Quentin travels the United States presenting his

style of oldies hits plus gospel songs as well.

This concert is FREE and open to the public.

Refreshments to follow concert.



### **COMMUNITY MEAL**

**WEDNESDAY AUGUST 28**

**5:00 to 7:00 PM**

**Please come and welcome  
the community diners!**

## United Methodist Men

The United Methodist Men will be meeting on Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, at 8:00 A.M. for breakfast. Mike Boys will be talking about the Vietnam Traveling Memorial wall being in Plymouth in September. The men's group from Trinity UMC is planning on attending. If you are planning on attending it would be helpful if you would indicate your interest on the signup sheet in the back of the fellow-

ship hall. John Wautelet will be in charge of the meeting. Contact John if you have any questions.



Reminder of the Men's Bible Study which meets at Christo's every Wednesday at 6:45 A.M. It is open to all men. One does not have to be a member of First Church.

## Notes from Mission Guatemala Work Team

### From Barbie Pickut:

*I'm so glad we had the opportunity to go to Guatemala with the group. I appreciate how Mission Guatemala works with people in the area to share Christ's love in a variety of practical ways. They are great at giving groups a hospitable welcome and coordinating so that many groups can help with each project.*

*Seeing the land and people first hand gave me a new appreciation for God's work there. The trip was a great experience in a beautiful place--if you go next time, you won't regret it!*

### From Abi Pickut:

*I'm glad there were things that I could do to help with the work project. I liked learning about the culture in Guatemala and seeing the*

*weaving, the dogs, and the boat ride.*

### From Troy Spencer:

*I loved being able to go back and re-connect with relationships that were started a year and a half ago and also being able to build on those relationships. I love being a part of something so much larger than myself and the feeling of doing work that is meaningful. One of my favorite parts of the trip was the fact that we were working on a Catholic girl's school showing that we may be from different denominations but we are all God's children. This basketball court will be used by*



*hundreds of children for many years and that makes me smile. Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world and I believe we are doing just that in Guatemala one project at a time.*

# August

**Share the family of FUMC with friends & neighbors!**

**Small groups and concerts provide opportunities for entertainment, worship, and fellowship!**

## The Outreach Committee Invites You to Participate in the Events Below:

Lunch Bunch: The third Friday of the month: RSVP Carol Beiter

*August 16:* Jerretty's (Rochester)

*September 20:* Marilyn's Amish Kitchen (Bremen)

Dominos and Euchre will be featured on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month from 2-4:00 PM. Contact Dean Luther for further details at 540-2196.

Blessed Bookies: The 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of the month at Miller's Assisted Living at 5:30 PM. August 26 the discussion will be on The Gentleman in Moscow. Please join us as we examine this popular book.

Even if you have never come, please join us for a stimulating discussion!

Bad Girls: This gathering of women meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays at 11:00 in the Education Building (main floor).

In June we started studying another of Liz Curtis Higgs' book: "It's Good to be Queen." It's not too late to be part of this group!

We always go to lunch afterwards!!

Knit Two...Pray Three: Will be meeting the first Tuesday of every month in the Education Building from 10:00 to noon.



**A.S.K.** will be meeting at **St. Thomas** for the month of August. Remember, Junior High meets from 4:30 to 6 pm and Senior High meets from 6:15-7:45 pm.



# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

**Knights of Columbus  
Council #1975**

**All You Can Eat**

**Pancake Breakfast!!**



**3rd Sunday of Every Month!**

**Carry-out Available!**



**August 18 , 2019**

**8-11 a.m.  
Adults \$5  
Age 10 and Under \$2**

**Knights of Columbus Hall  
901 E. Jefferson St.  
Plymouth, IN 46563**

**Each Month's Net Proceeds Go  
To a Different Cause  
This month's goes to:**

**The Well**

**Breakfast Includes:  
Pancakes (Regular)  
Blueberry Pancakes  
Sausage  
Eggs  
French Toast  
Coffee. OJ  
Milk, Soda**

**For More Information Call:  
(574) 952-0307  
[www.plymouthcolumbusclub.com](http://www.plymouthcolumbusclub.com)**

**MISSION MINDED**

Saturday, August 24 7:30 to 11:30 a.m.  
**BAKE SALE** at the **Farmer's Market**  
River Park Square

*Invite your friends & neighbors to purchase some goodies!*

**Bakers:** Sign-up to donate baked goods. Drop-off in the kitchen on Friday, 8/23, during morning office hours or between 5 and 6 p.m.



Saturday, Sept. 21 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**Tenderloin Fry** - Cooked by Ralph Smith

In the Church Parking Lot (Drive-thru Service)  
More info in the September Newsletter

**OCT. 20 - 25, 2019 Work Trip to HENDERSON SETTLEMENT -**

A group of volunteers will be traveling to Frakes, Kentucky for the week of October 20, returning on the 25. We will stay in the mission dormitory. Our meals will be in the cafeteria. We will probably be siding a trailer or home. All sorts of skills can be put to use during the week. If your talents lay in other directions, there are other volunteer opportunities are available at the Settlement.

- Now's the time to get signed up or find out more. Contact persons are Mike Woolfington and Carol Beiter.



**KIDS HOPE -**

Do you have an hour to give once a week? Mentors are needed to be a special friend and provide consistency for at-risk elementary students at Webster Elementary. Volunteers will be matched with a student and then trained. Each volunteer will join their student once a week during the student's lunch time. You are to be the child's friend; you are not expected to tutor or counsel the child. This is a commitment for the entire school year, but if you need to occasionally miss a week, you may simply inform the teacher. This program will start in September. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Beth Pinkerton.



**SHOPPING CART FOR NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER:**

The Shopping Cart has made the move with us to the Fellowship Hall! Items placed in the shopping cart are taken to the Neighborhood Center on a regular basis. Suggested items include non-perishable food items, paper products, cleaning supplies, personal hygiene items, and cash.



***I need daily, prayerful fellowship with God if I am to have His thoughts make their home in me.*** by Dorothy Steinke

*"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land."*

2 Chronicles 7:14

With our aging churches and churches closing because of diminished congregations; who will pray for our land? The separation of church and state groups have taken God out of the schools and government organizations. Faith in God was built into our constitution. Our founding fathers were all men of faith. Following are comments from several of them:

*"It is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor."*

George Washington

*"At the time of the adoption of the Constitution and the amendments, the universal sentiment was that Christianity should be encouraged. .. In this age there can be no substitute for Christianity... That was the religion of the founders of the republic and they expected it to remain the religion of their descendants."*

House Judiciary Committee Report,  
March 27, 1854

*"The Bible is the best of all books, for it is the word of God and teaches us the way to be happy in this world and in the next. Continue therefore to read it and to regulate your life by its precepts."*

John Jay, First Chief Justice

*"I have lived, sir, a long time, and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth: that God governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid? We have been assured, sir, In the sacred writings that except the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it. I firmly believe this; and I also believe that without His concurring aid we shall succeed in this building no better than the builders of Babel."*

Benjamin Franklin

### **Mission witness**

In the shade and fresh water after-school program here in Brazil, we include educational enrichment and a program for building character and values, so the kids become positive citizens, grounded in Christian values that work for a better world.

***Gordon Greathouse,***

Global Missionary from Oregon serving in Brazil

## A Note from Pastor Toni continued

*(Continued from page 1)*

Though there are places in Guatemala (as there are places in the US) where it would not be wise to travel, our hosts in Guatemala are well aware of safety needs and we were never in any kind of danger (other than drinking water that wasn't purified, food from street vendors, or lifting bags of concrete without regard to proper body mechanics).

From the airport we were driven 3 hours into the rural mountainous area of Panajachel. Our days began with breakfast, travel to the worksite at 8:30 a.m., lunch midday and work again in the afternoon with return to the River House by 5 to be ready for supper at 6. A couple of evenings, members of our group traveled by tuk-tuk into town (that's a "taxi" that's kind of like a fancified golf cart that cost less than a dollar each to ride into town). They discovered a place with some pretty tasty gelato. We had an evening when an extended family shared about Guatemalan culture through music and drama, and another evening when a family brought in a variety of items so we could shop in a "low-pressure" environment if we wanted. We visited a pottery shop and a weaver's coop. On Saturday before our return home on Sunday, we took a boat ride across Lake Atitlan and had breakfast at a nice Guatemalan style resort, and then spent some time in the artisan community of San Juan.



This year seven of us were repeat visitors to Mission Guatemala, while five of us had not been there before. We decided that on our next trip we would like to take as many repeat visitors back with us who would like to go, and set a goal to take at least 5 first-time visitors with us, as well. We have scheduled our next trip for **January 8-16, 2022**. If you're interested, please talk to one of this year's team members for more information or call the church office. Along with me, this year's team members included Emily Cochern, Lily Cochern, Jim Cochern, Jessie Huerta, Brenda Pedavoli, Brittaney Pedavoli, Melanie Pedavoli, Abi Pickut, Barbie Pickut, Sophia Preston, Katie Spencer and Troy Spencer.

This Fall, we will schedule a Sunday where each of our church mission teams, including not only Mission Guatemala, but also Henderson Settlement and Midwest Distribution Center, will share experiences during worship. We look forward to doing that. I just "had" to give you a taste now, of this most recent trip.

We're grateful for your prayers and support and for the opportunity to serve in different places and in different ways. We know that not everyone can travel to do these things, and yet we're all a part of the experience together as the Body of Christ. Together we serve and together we make a difference.

In Christ,

*Toni*



# Blueberry Sunday - 9/1

One service only

## 10:00 a.m.



We received a Thank You from the Dept of Children's Services for the items donated at the Ladies Luncheon.



## Worship Participants

August	8:30 Liturgist	10:30 Liturgist	Greeters	10:30 Ushers	Older Nursery	Sound System
4	Elaine Dick	Sam Goebel	Joyce Gibbons	Woody Schinbeck- ler, Bert Rans, Bill Binkley and Ken Daren	Stacey Jackson	Tom Pedavoli
11	Susie Kreighbaum	Sam Goebel	Bill & Donna Hemmig		Robin Cupka	Volunteer
18	Jim Easterday	Mary Kaufman	Sam & Judy Goebel		Volunteer	Ralph Booker
25	David Smith	Donna Hemmig	Linda Hagan		Amanda Dreibelbis	Robin Cupka

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!!

### MUSICAL CONCERTS

### AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, & OCTOBER!

These concerts are held at 5 pm at The Well. Please plan to come and bring music loving friends!

**Quentin Flagg, Entertainer will perform on Sunday, August 4th (Gospel Favorites)**



**Sharon Tarwater will perform Tennessee tunes on Sunday, September 29th**

**Steve Douglas & 48th Guitar has re-schedules for October 27th. Steve brings California music to Plymouth, IN!**



## Rebuilding First Church Update by Brian Liechty

What's happening with the building? everyone.

We are pursuing permanent repairs to the sanctuary building as quickly as we can. Over the past 6 weeks we have solicited interest from contractors, and we're pleased to report that three of them have expressed interest in our project. There are two distinct parts: First, to stabilize the building and make it safe; second, to repair the damages and fix it permanently. We are awaiting a determination from the insurance company about possible coverage of the cost.

We have received initial bids on the first part of the work and they are being reviewed. Once the best plan is determined we'll have a congregational meeting to go over the details with

Because of the costs we anticipate we have delayed some of the other projects we had planned for this summer. Once we know the directions we'll take with the building we'll get started on those again.

Using the education building more frequently has also highlighted some needs in that building. Several of the window air conditioners have been replaced in recent weeks so we can remain comfortable this summer.

Please bring issues to our attention as you may find them.

Yours in service,

Brian Liechty

### Mission Guatemala 2018 Project





Love God ~ Love Others ~ Serve Others

# August 2019

First United Methodist Church

400 N. Michigan St.  
Plymouth, IN 46563

Phone: 574 936-2943

Email: office@plymouthfirstumc.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>KEY:</b>	⌘ Early Birds 6 am	6 am	Normal Sunday Schedule:	1 ⌘ ☺ ☩	2	3
◆ Boy Scouts 7 pm	☺ Joy Breaks noon	8:30 am Worship Service 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service 5:00 pm The Well				
☐ Men's Bible Study 6:45 am	☩ Women's Bible Study 12:30 pm					
4 1st Sunday Brunch 5:00 pm	5 6 pm Staff Parish	6 ◆ 10 am Knit 2, Pray 3 6 pm Worship 7 pm Missions	7 ☐	8 ⌘ ☺ ☩	9	10
Quentin Flagg concert						
11	12 7 pm Mother's Club at DQ	13 ◆ 11 am Bad Girls 6:30 pm Social Concerns	14 ☐	15 ⌘ ☺ ☩	16	17
				2-4 pm Game Day Rochester	Lunch Bunch: Jerretty's in Rochester	8 am UMM Break-fast
18 8-11 am Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast to benefit The Well	19 6 pm Outreach	20 ◆ 6 pm Finance	21 ☐	22 ⌘ ☺ ☩	23	24 7:30-11 am Missions Bake Sale at Farmer's Market
25	26 5:30 pm Blessed Bookies 7 pm Youth & Ed	27 ◆ 11 am Bad Girls Bible Study 5:30 pm Trustees	28 ☐	29 ⌘ ☺ ☩	30	31
			5-7 pm Community Meal			

# August 2019 Birthdays

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</b>				1 Bert Rans	2	3 Melissa Christian- sen
4 David Miller	5 Lucas Goebel John Mills	6	7	8	9	10
11 Debbie Hesler Lillian Kenney	12	13	14 Don Balka	15	16 Scott Heeren Genie Tobias	17
18	19	20 Robin Cupka Diane Hogsett	21	22 Patty Kyser	23	24
25 Eva Macey	26 John Kreighbaum	27 Mary Kralovansky	28	29	30	31

## Preaching Plan For August

### August 4

*8th Sunday after Pentecost*  
*Communion*

Text: Luke 12:13-21

Title: **Choices**

Theme: Jesus tells a parable that begins, "A certain rich man's land produced a bountiful crop." How do we measure the success of our lives? How can we be good stewards in times of plenty, and in times of want? What are our choices?

### August 11

*9th Sunday after Pentecost*

Text: Luke 12:32-40

Title: **No Fear**

Theme: How do we joyfully prepare ourselves for Christ's coming? Do we believe that God delights in giving us the kingdom? How do we live out our trust in God's love and care for us?

### August 18

*10th Sunday after Pentecost*

Text: Genesis 12:19, 1st Peter 4:7-11

### Title: **How to Stay Alive All Your Life**

Theme: When we think about living out our lives, what are the essential elements we gain from our Christian faith that make life not only meaningful—but help us to live fully? The faith of Abraham and the role love plays in our lives will help us answer this question.

Rev. Dr. Ron Naylor preaching

### August 25

*11th Sunday after Pentecost*

Text: Luke 13:22-30.

Title: **"No One Over 12 Inches Wide Need to Apply"**

Theme: Living a rich and fulfilling life requires dedication and sacrifice. Common sense tells us that. A rich and meaningful life of any kind requires dedication and sacrifice. How can Christian faith demand any less? People who are successful in any worthwhile endeavor pay a price. Sometimes life requires going through some narrow or threatening gates of life.

Rev. Mike Dixon preaching

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## Photos from Mission Guatemala

