

## FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## FIRST NEWS

## A Note From Pastor Toni

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Dear Friends,

For the past several weeks, when I've opened up Facebook, it has shown me memories of the sabbatical I took beginning in May 2015, the year before I moved to Plymouth to join in ministry alongside you.

I spent about 6 weeks of my sabbatical in Europe. The first week and a half, our daughter Dominique and granddaughter Olivia accompanied me, and we spent time in Rome visiting cathedrals and historical sites, taking in as much as we possibly could. I know the girls grew weary of all the places I dragged them, but they were good sports and we still talk about the places we were able to visit, and the "pizza, pasta, salad" which was our main dietary intake. We took a day trip to Tuscany (so beautiful!) before boarding a plane and heading to Paris. My friend Deb met us there, and for 3 days the 4 of us vis-

ited the Eiffel Tower, The Louvre, the Arc de Triomphe, Notre Dame Cathedral and other amazing sights.

A few weeks ago, at about the time Notre Dame caught fire, a "Facebook Memory" popped up, with Olivia standing at the baptismal font just inside the doors of the cathedral, touching the water to her forehead. Sad for what was lost, but thankful for the memories and the rebuilding that will happen there.



After the girls left for home, Deb and I traveled by train to St. Jean in south France, where the 500 mile long

Camino de Santiago begins. This 2000 year old walk across northern Spain was a spiritual pilgrimage for me, one where I spent much of the next 32 days walking in quiet prayer, listening for God's voice and direction for the next chapter of my life. It was during that time when I opened myself to the possibility of moving. The following Spring, when our superintendent of-

*(Continued on page 8)*



**SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 2019**  
**BRUNCH WILL BE HELD IN**  
**FELLOWSHIP HALL**  
**FOLLOWING SECOND SERVICE**

*(If you go to Symphony, you will dine alone!!)*

Please join us in celebrating music Sunday,  
Graduate Sunday, and welcoming  
Presbyterians as we gather in fellowship.

RSVP in the back of the sanctuary or the church office.

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## Steve Douglas & 48th Guitar



**Sunday, June 30, 2019**

**5:00 in the Sanctuary**

STEVE DOUGLAS WILL BRING CALIFORNIA  
COUNTRY TO PLYMOUTH INDIANA

50's, 60's 70's, Gospel, Contemporary Praise & Worship Music



## COMMUNITY MEAL

**WEDNESDAY JUNE 27**

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

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

## The Outreach Committee Invites You to Participate in the Following Events...

**Lunch Bunch:** The third Friday of the month: us as we examine this popular book. Even if you have never come, please join us for a stimulating discussion!

RSVP Carol Beiter

**JUNE 21: HUNTERS HIDEAWAY** (Nappanee)

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

**Blessed Bookies:** The 4th Mondays of the month at Miller's Assisted Living at 5:30 PM. On June 24 the discussion will concentrate on "Shelter in Place" by Nora Roberts. Please join



**Bad Girls:** This gathering of women meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 11:00 in the Memorial Room. On June 11 we will start studying another of Lizz Curtis Higgs' book: "It's Good to be Queen."

**Knit Two...Pray Three:** Meets the first Tuesday of every month in the Memorial

Room from 10:00 to noon.

## United Methodist Men by David Hogsett

The United Methodist Men met on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, for breakfast. There were men from First Presbyterian Church, Tyner United Methodist Church, and the Church of the Brethren. Don Balka spoke on "Where is Panama?" It had to do with all of the towns, villages and hamlets that once existed in Marshall County. There was a rousing discussion and sharing of information.

The next meeting of the men will be a cook-out on Saturday June 22 at the ROTARY pavilion at Centennial Park. Special invitations will be given to the Tyner UMC, the Pretty Lake UMC, the Trinity UMC, and First Presbyterian. Spouses are also invited to attend the cook-out. The event will start at 4:00 P.M. with dinner at 5:00 P.M.

The men will be helping with the Community Meal on June 26<sup>th</sup> which will be held in the church

parking lot. At 3:00 P.M. they will help set-up and at 7:00 P.M. will help take down. If you would like to help, contact Dave Hogsett.

The annual trip to the South Bend Cubs will be on July 11. All of the spaces for the U.S. Granules suite have been taken and there are a few seats outside the suite available. There is a waiting list. The group will meet at the church at 5:30 P.M. for the 7:00 P.M. game. We have four parking passes.

There was a planning meeting for the United Methodist Men on Monday, June 20<sup>th</sup>. A number of items were discussed including future meetings, a fund raiser, having a train room, and the Men's Bible Study which meets at 6:45 A.M. on Wednesdays at Christo's. The next planning meeting will be September 16.



## Community Meal



**Community Meal Picnic,  
Wednesday, June 26 from  
5-7 pm**

The June community meal will be Wednesday, June 26 from 5-7 pm. We will have a picnic! Join us in the parking lot east of the Fellowship Hall (if weather does not permit an outside picnic, we will have an inside picnic in Fellowship Hall.).



The Boy Scout troop will be grilling hot dogs for our guests. We will also have baked beans, coleslaw, chips and angel food cake with strawberries. Share with others of our monthly meal. Come and bring a friend. See you at the picnic!

## Youth & Education by Barbie Pickut



We are almost to the end of the school year, which brings some new opportunities for our ministry to kids in our church and community:

**Summer Sunday school**--please sign up to teach a week (list is on bright pink paper at the back of the sanctuary)! You will enjoy this time sharing your faith with our kids. Curriculum will be provided.

**VBS** will be June 17 - 21. Info sheets and registration forms are in the back of the sanctuary. Sign-ups to donate snack items or help in other ways will be in place by June 2.

Don't forget to include **church camp** in your plans for the summer. Our Methodist conference offers so many opportunities to have a memorable week full of fun and faith-strengthening experiences. Many adults in our church look back on camp as one of the foundational experiences of their faith. Our church will help with at least half the cost of camp--let the church office know you are going, and we will connect you with this funding. More details on camp locations and dates are

available at <https://impact2818.org> -

Other volunteer opportunities available--these are all great chances to share Jesus with young people in our church. Please contact Barbie Pickut at 574-870-4981 or another Youth & Education member if you can help. Ministry to youth is an exciting opportunity--the seeds planted have so much potential to grow!

**Teach Junior Church** once / month in 10:30 service. Curriculum is provided.

**Lead music** in SS during the school year, including helping the kids prepare to offer music during worship periodically.

**Lead** "Bringing in Christmas" in Advent 2019.

**Teach Elementary SS** in a rotation with other teachers during the school year.

You won't regret investing time in nurturing the faith of our young people. You will be blessed by knowing them and seeing their growth, and the experience will nurture your faith too!



Saturday,  
June 1<sup>st</sup>  
at the

# Farmer's Market

7:30 – 11:30 a.m.

River Park Square

*Proceeds to benefit*

*Mission Trips*

Plymouth First United  
Methodist Church

## MISSION MINDED

**Midwest Mission Distribution Center:** On May 12, Carol Beiter, Sharon Westfall, Debbie Bell, and Donna & Bill Hemmig headed to the Midwest Mission Distribution Center in Chatham, Illinois to represent Plymouth First UMC while we worked as "weekly missionaries". We sorted, mended, washed, and packed hospital linens headed to the Congo. We built school desks out of discarded bleacher wood. We assembled layette kits for newborns and their mothers, and school kits for children to provide them with basics such as pencils, rulers, notebooks, scissors, and crayons. And we disassembled (yes, that's right!) many flood buckets that had been donated but needed to be checked for the proper items. Each day the MMDC staff shared stories with us of how the items they ship bless the lives of people around the world, and how God is at work providing the means to accomplish more than we could ever imagine. Wouldn't YOU like to participate in this ministry, to be the hands of Christ in service to others? The next trip to MMDC will be April 26 - May 1, 2020.



### THANK YOU:

**THANKS!** to everyone who supported our Port-a-Pit Chicken Sale. Proceeds are used for our mission trips. (*Trips are not supported through the church budget.*)

### UPCOMING:

**JUNE 1 – BAKE SALE** at the Farmer's Market at River Park Square.

**JULY 6 - 14, 2019 MISSION GUATEMALA**

We have 13 people going on this summer's trip.



**OCTOBER, 2019 HENDERSON SETTLEMENT**

Our annual work trip to Kentucky will take place in the fall. It's not too early to think about joining our crew. Mike Woolfington is the contact person for this trip.

**DO YOU HAVE A PROJECT?:** Do you know of a project that needs our help? If you know of something locally that needs done, either for a church member, friend, or neighbor in need, please contact Mike Woolfington.

## In Prayer We Cast Ourselves at the Feet of Divine Power

by Dorothy Steinke

Our Father in heaven, reveal who you are. Set the world right; do what's best - as above, so below.

Keep us alive with three square meals. Keep us forgiven with you and forgiving others. Keep us safe from ourselves and the Devil. You're in charge! You can do anything you want. For yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen. *The Lord's Prayer from The Message*

How often do we say the Lord's prayer? We all have it memorized - do we really listen to what we are repeating? The church I attend in Murray uses sins instead of trespasses so I have to be aware of what I am saying, Dean printed in the bulletin different versions from the different Bible versions. I cut them out and keep them with my daily devotions and alternate them - the beginning of each month I move the next one to the front; it keeps me from just repeating from memory and not paying attention to what I am saying.

### *Mission Witness*

"We have a voice," one woman said in Asian Young Woman's Leadership Development Seminar. Although women have progressed in receiving education and jobs, we still have many hurdles to overcome in order to have equal leadership opportunities in society and community.

What we need is to be empowered to use the voice for building up a world of shalom.

*Hikari Kokai Chang*, United Methodist Women Regional Missionary, Wesley Foundation, Japan



### *A 23rd Psalm for Musicians*

Lord, You Are My Conductor

I shall not be mute.

You lead me into the deep beauty of sound

and surround me with pure melody.

You tune my inner voice.

You guide me through intricate passages

and create an all-surpassing harmony of spirit.

At times silence comes upon me like death-

I lose all centered pitch...yet I will not fear,

for you are in the silence with me.

At other times I gorge myself upon a mellifluous symphony of resonance,

oblivious to all those who understand

not my calling.

You have anointed me with the gift of music

which floods my inmost being.

In faith I move forward to play out the score

prepared for me until at last

I blend into oneness with the song

and greet you, my eternal Savior.

## A Note From Pastor Toni continued

*(Continued from page 1)*

I referred Plymouth First to me, I said yes.

July 1st we will begin our 4th year together. I can hardly believe it! Time has moved quickly.

I want to thank you for the time we've shared so far. I have told you before, and want to tell you again, that I am grateful to share life and ministry with you. You have blessed Scott and me during the 3 years we've been together, and I'm particularly grateful for the love and care you've offered us in these past weeks as I've been recovering from surgery. I'm so thankful for you.

I feel blessed, too, to share in "Rebuilding First Church" together. It has been a learning process for me, but in a lot of ways, it's been a reaffirmation of who you are as a church: you are generous and dedicated to this life of ministry and responding to God's call. As you have generously responded to the needs of our church, we will be able to continue to reach out—in even a greater

way—in our community and beyond to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

We have great memories of what First Church has been. Maybe photos aren't popping up on Facebook, reminding you of something amazing that happened a year ago, or 10 years ago—but you have "photographs" in your mind of the people, of the gatherings, of the activities that have helped define life together in this place. They're memories, but they're also a foundation for the future we're continuing to create.

Our Trustees are in the process of prioritizing our "to do" list. We'll keep you informed!

I look forward to seeing all that we'll be able to do together as we rebuild and strengthen First Church.

In Christ,



## Westfalls are moving!



We are moving this week. Please update our address; phones will remain the same.

We will miss our church family!  
Prayers and Blessings  
Sharon







## The Annual Ladies Luncheon

Sponsored by Mother's Club,  
was held on Sunday, May 5, 2019

*We had great food and fellowship. We learned about Cinco de Mayo. (It's Not Mexican Independence Day – and it's celebrated in the U.S. more than in Mexico.) Door prizes included small pinatas, candy, and balloons for the girls; and potted flowers for the ladies.*

**Thanks! To everyone who donated for foster families and the Dept. of Children and Families.**

Items donated include: 36 stuffed animals, coloring books, journals, colored pencils, crayons, markers, puzzles, games, snacks, toys, and hygiene items. Also \$162 was donated!



Mother's Club members had previously purchased and decorated 20 canvas bags trimmed in red.



Thanks to the ladies of WOW for providing salads!





## June 2019 Birthdays



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 <b>Christine Morrow</b>
2	3	4 <b>Chris Cochern Laura Luebcke</b>	5 <b>Lynette Espich Emma Jackson</b>	6	7 <b>Ryon Macey</b>	8 <b>Ed Pullen</b>
9 <b>Larry Pinkerton</b>	10	11 <b>Alberta Millikan</b>	12 <b>Sharon Westfall</b>	13	14 <b>Debbie Dunning Eric Jung</b>	15 <b>Art Jacobs Sr. Hugh Smith</b>
16 <b>Phyllis Westfall</b>	17 <b>Ben Clough Lynn Hartman</b>	18	19 <b>Brian Liechty</b>	20 <b>Trista Mitchell Sharen Robinson</b>	21 <b>Norma Booker Barb Dreibelbis</b>	22 <b>Bill Binkley Zoe Daren</b>
23	24 <b>Jon VanVactor</b>	25	26	27	28 <b>Ken Robinson</b>	29
30						

A.S.K. (Adams Street Kids) is taking the month of June off. Meetings will resume the second week of July.



## Social Concerns by Mary Kaufman

Through your generous giving to Social Concerns, we support Link to Hope, Heminger House, Neighborhood Center, and our free Community Meal, all of which assist the needy in Plymouth. We also appreciate your donations of cold cereal, canned fruit, pasta and pasta sauce, which may be placed in the grocery cart at the back of the sanctuary. These are then taken to the

Neighborhood Center each month by Jeff Mills. Cash or checks made out to FUMC with Social Concerns in the memo line may be put in the wicker basket on the first Sunday of the month. Your caring gifts are making such a difference in our community and are part of the mission God asks us to do. Thank you so much!



## June Worship Participants' Schedule

JUNE	Liturgists 8:30	Liturgists 10:30	Older Nursery	Greeters	Sound System	Ushers	Acolytes
2	Jim Easterday	Sam Goebel	Stacey Jackson	Paul & Betty Cleeter	Tom Pedavoli	Woody Schinbeckler, Brian and Becky Liechty, Bill and Donna Hemmig	<b>NO ACOLYTES FOR THE SUMMER.</b>
9	David Smith	Sam Goebel	Robin Cupka	Jon & Angela Ganshorn	Volunteer		
15	Susan Wautelet	Mary Kaufman	Volunteer	Betty Kay Eley	Ralph Booker		
23	10:00 Service only Mary Kaufman		Sarah Smith	Mike & Jane Woolfington	Robin Cupka		
30	Pam Michel	Becky Liechty	Barbie Pickut	Ed & June Pullen	Scott Carmer		

# June 2019—First United Methodist Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>Normal Sunday Schedule:</b>                      Services at 8:30 and 10:30 am, The Well at 5:00 pm</p>						
2 Music Sunday Graduation Sunday 1st Sunday Brunch in FH	3 6:00 pm SPRC 7:00 pm Youth & Ed	4 10:00 am Knit 2, Pray 3 7:00 pm Missions 8:00 pm Mission Guatemala ♦	5 □ ●	6 ☺ ☺ ☺ ☼ ☺ ☺	7	8 7:30-11:30 am Missions Bake Sale at Farmer's Market
9	10 7 pm Mothers' Club @ The Standard in Bourbon	11 11:00 am Bad Girls in Memorial Room ♦	12 □ ●	13 ☺ ☺ ☺ ☼ ☺ ☺	14	15
			← IN UM Annual Conference, Indpls. →			
16	17 7 pm Mothers' Club @ The Standard in Bourbon	18 6 pm Finance ♦	19 □ ●	20 ☺ ☺ ☺ ☼ ☺ ☺	21 Lunch Bunch @ Hunter's Hideaway	22 4 pm UMM at Centennial Park
			← VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL →			
23 10 am Service <b>ONLY</b> Church Picnic @ Centennial Park	24 5:30 pm Blessed Bookies @ Miller's 7 pm Youth & Ed	25 11:00 am Bad Girls in Memorial Room 5:30 pm Trustees 6:30 pm Church Council ♦	26 5-7 pm Community Meal in Ed Bldg. parking lot (if weather permits) □ ●	27 ☺ ☺ ☺ ☼ ☺ ☺	28	29
30 5 pm The Well presents The Steve Douglas Band						<p><b>KEY:</b>                      Tuesdays: 7 pm Boy Scouts ♦                      Wednesdays: 6:45 am Men's Bible Study □                      7:00 pm Choir Practice ●</p>
					<p><b>Thursdays:</b> 6 am Early Birds ☼                      noon Joy Breaks ☺                      12:30 Bible Study ☺</p>	

## June Happenings!



Sunday, June 2 – Music Sunday and Graduate Recognition  
at the 10:30 Service, Communion at both services

Some of those to be performing include:

- The Chancel Choir
- The Ladies Trio
- Jan Heeren and Tom Boys Duet
- Keeley Miller solo
- Violin and Viola Duet by Jayla and Trista Miller

Brunch in the Fellowship Hall at 11:50.



Happy Sunday, June 16 – Father's Day  
Father's Day

Sunday, June 23 – Picnic Sunday

**One Service only at 10:00 a.m.** in the Sanctuary,  
Followed by a Carry-In Picnic at Centennial Park, Hoosier  
Old Wheels Shelter



WHERE: The Hoosier Old Wheels Shelter is on Randolph Street across  
from the high school baseball diamond. The facility includes  
restrooms. There is a playground adjacent for those young at  
heart.



PARKING: Parking is at a premium. Please be considerate and  
leave the closest parking spots for those that need them most!

BRING: Bring a well-filled basket and table service. Lemonade and  
water will be furnished.

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*Unless otherwise noted, Sunday morning services at 8:30 and 10:30,  
Sunday School for all ages at 9:30.  
Sunday evening – The Well at 5:00 in the Fellowship Hall*



LOVE GOD ~ LOVE OTHERS ~ SERVE OTHERS

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## Perspectives from *Alive Now*, May/June 2012

“All our experiences can help us discover our call. God never lets anything go to waste. All the experiences of our lives—our wrenching losses, our dearest successes, and everything in between—shape us and become one of the resources God can use to extend Christ’s healing ministry into the world.”

Mary Lou Redding

*The Power of a Focused Heart*

