

The First United Methodist Church of Lowell Tele-Christian August 2022 Edition

**The mission of the United Methodist Church is to
make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.**



Mark's Remarks...

We have a very special Sunday coming up. Mark your calendars now for **September 11**. Although it is a date of infamy in our nation's history, we will redeem the day and celebrate. It is our first annual Homecoming Sunday. This is like a family reunion for our church. We want to invite everyone who has ever attended here to come back for this celebration.

It will be a time to pull out all the stops. We have a special speaker for the day who is from the church's past. It's such an exciting opportunity that nobody else knows who our speaker will be. I am keeping it a surprise. All of our choirs will be performing (God's Bells, Chancel Choir, Children's Choir, and Praise Team). All the rest of the music for the day will be uplifting and special.

We also will be hearing from our Shift team. They have been meeting since November to evaluate how we can improve our church. They will talk about our Mission and Vision statements. They will show new brochures that have been developed. They will unveil our new website. Also, the result of your votes for the name of our newsletter will be announced.

This is such a special Sunday that for this one Sunday we are changing the time of our worship. Our Homecoming Service will combine the 8 am and 10:30 am service into **one service at 9:30 am**. Sunday School would typically restart, but we're putting that off for one Sunday. Our Sunday School kick-off will be September 18 at 9:15.

Another exciting event is that we will have a brunch following the service. Our own Tom Sufana has offered to treat the congregation to a delicious brunch. It will be in the Fellowship Hall around 11 am. Various leaders in the church will be helping to set up, serve, clean up, etc. We'll have the menu in the next newsletter. This will be our first all-church meal since the pandemic started.

I am really looking forward to this special day. There are two things that you can do as this day approaches. First, be praying for the church. Pray that God blesses and uses this time together. Second, bring family and friends and invite any of those who have worshiped here in the past. This is a family reunion, and we want all to have an opportunity to gather with old friends and catch up.

August Sermon and Scripture Schedule

August 7 ~	Scripture: Matthew 12:16-21	Sermon Title: 'Your Savings Account'
August 14 ~	Scripture: Proverbs 22:7	Sermon Title: 'Can I Borrow a Buck?'
August 21 ~	Scripture: Malachi 3:8-12	Sermon Title: 'Giving to the Lord'
August 28 ~	Scripture: Luke 14:1-12	Sermon Title: 'The Place of Honor'



Worship News

Trudy Corning & Linda Hayden, Co-chairpersons

Summer Worship

Worship in the park at 8:00 AM will continue throughout the month of August. Bring a chair and join us at Liberty Park! August 28 will be the **last** 8:00 service in the park.

Music Notes for our August worship services from Michelle Mishlove

August 7 High String Country Band will share their musical talents at both the 8:00 and 10:30 services.

*In addition, the nurse will be available to take Blood Pressures at Liberty Park at 9am and from 10-10:30 in the church office.

August 14 Chancel Choir will sing at the 8:00 AM service.

August 21 Chancel Choir will sing at the 10:30 AM service.

August 28 Praise Team will share at the 10:30 AM service.

Do you love kids and like to hear them sing?

We have a great opportunity for someone, or a team of volunteers, to lead our children's choir! Please contact Pastor Mark or the church office.



Thoughts on Faith and Giving

Pastor Mark is currently preparing our hearts, our minds, our souls with a sermon series on Stewardship. We also have been attempting to "Tell Our Story" of how our church family shares their gifts and their talents to carry forth the ministry of Jesus. All this communication is supported by FAITH. Faith gives one an inner strength and a sense of balance and perspective in life. Faith and prayer are vitamins for the soul (most of us do take our daily supplement); we cannot live in health without them.

What does the Bible say about faith and giving? 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 *"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all you need, you will abound in every good."*

So, as you are intimately and in deepest prayer with the Lord, consider what your giving will look like.

Consider these five reasons for giving: 1. Giving brings joy. 2. Giving is an expression of obedience to God's calling. 3. Giving evokes gratitude. 4. Giving affirms our trust in His grace. 5. Giving is our acknowledgment of "He has everything we need and has promised to take care of us."



LYFT (Live Your Faith Today) is our Thursday evening worship service. We start at 5:30 pm with dinner and go right into worship at 6 pm. Worship includes music, a lay speaker or Pastor Mark speaking, prayer and ends with communion. LYFT is a casual worship service where we look forward each week to food, fellowship and fun! Everyone is welcome! Bring a friend!

***The LYFT team is currently looking for people to help cook the weekly dinners! If you are interested or would like to know more about this ministry, please contact Kim McGinley or Susan Wells, or you can call the church office for details.



REACHING OUT TO OUR COMMUNITY

We are sponsoring **“Music in the Park” on Friday, August 19** with food trucks and music by the 3-member **Lemmon Brothers Band**. (Website: dannylemmonmusic.com)

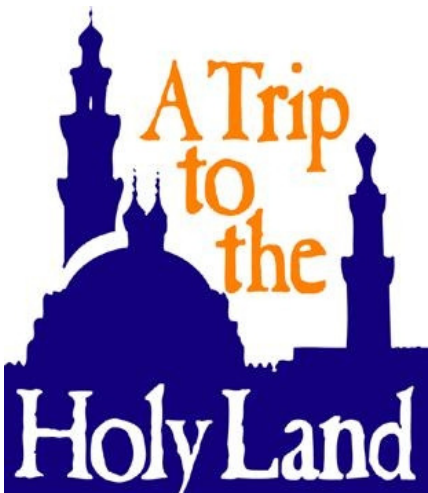


This is not a fundraiser. It is an opportunity, organized by the Outreach Committee, for our community to experience FUMC hospitality and fellowship. **Local food trucks will be available for food purchases starting at 5:00 PM** on the west side of our building. Tables and chairs will be set up on Library Drive. **The Lemmon Brothers Band will provide music in Olde Towne Square from 6:00-8:00 PM.**

As members of our FUMC family, you are encouraged to not only attend, but to invite friends, neighbors, co-workers, store clerks, waitresses, your mailman and others.

Everyone will need to bring lawn chairs! Dancing will be allowed! Families are welcome!

***If the weather is not favorable for this event, we will move into our building. Dining will take place in the Fellowship Hall, the band will perform in the sanctuary.



Holy Land Journey December 12-21, 2022

Bishop Trimble and First Lady Trimble are leading a tour of the Holy Land. You are invited to be a part of this adventure in faith and join the Bishop and his wife in experiencing a once in a lifetime journey as they walk where Jesus walked. **Brochures are available on the table in the narthex.** Ed van Wijk will be serving as a host. You may contact Ed with any questions at: ed.vanwijk@inumc.org



You are invited!
 Rev. Dr. Marti Lundy, our Superintendent,
 is inviting all the churches of the
 North District to a FREE opportunity
 to come together
 on Aug. 20th at Lakeville UMC, from 11-4 ET
 to celebrate that we are in fact
STRONGER TOGETHER!!

**It will be a day of
 WORSHIP, MUSIC, FOOD AND FUN!!**

**One of the groups performing that day
 will be our own**

HIGH COUNTRY STRING BAND!!

**Saving the “Best for Last”,
 our ladies will close out the day!**



Newsletter News

The church newsletter is an important means of communication that keeps members informed of church business & ministries, upcoming events, and needs. The purpose of a newsletter also includes marketing a church and growing membership. It can tell prospective members what they can expect from a church.

Our monthly newsletter has been named the Tele-Christian since the mid 70's. (Prior to that, it was called the Methodist Messenger.) Much has changed in the world, in our community and in our church since the 70's. This is a time of transition for our church, as we are looking at ways to improve how we are doing ministry and focusing on our mission – to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Would a new name for our newsletter better reflect our ministry in this current time? A catchy newsletter name is one that conveys the ministry of the church, is easy to remember, and makes people want to read it.

In May the Administrative Council voted to let the church family decide on the name of our newsletter. Thank you to those who engaged in some creative thinking! We received some great name suggestions for the whole church family to consider!! Now is the time to VOTE!!

A ballot with the suggested newsletter names will be available in the worship bulletin July 31, August 7 & 14. You may also use the ballot on this page. Your paper ballot can be placed in the offering plate or dropped off at the office. If you are unable to get to the church, you may call the office to report your choice. We ask that each person submit only one ballot. The deadline for voting is Tuesday, August 16. The winning name will be announced on September 11.



Please vote for ONE newsletter name. Deadline for submitting your vote is Tuesday, August 16.

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Church Chat | <input type="checkbox"/> Disciples' Dialogue | <input type="checkbox"/> The God Gazette |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Jesus Journal | <input type="checkbox"/> Joyful News | <input type="checkbox"/> The Life Line |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Light | <input type="checkbox"/> Methodist Message | <input type="checkbox"/> The Newsletter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tele-Christian | <input type="checkbox"/> Tell a Christian & some who aren't | <input type="checkbox"/> Victory |

MINISTRY IN ACTION

Nurse Is In
By Trudy Corning



Be Sun Smart and protect yourself from dangerous ultraviolet rays.

Here are 5 Sun Smart Tips:

- Slip on covering clothing. Choose clothing that covers as much skin as possible. For example, collared shirt with long sleeves
- Slop on SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum water resistant sunscreen and reapply throughout the day
- Slap on a hat with a brim to shade the face, ears and neck
- Seek shade even with protective clothing and sunscreen
- Slide on some sunglasses; even your eyes need protection from the sun

Be smart while enjoying the sunshine!



YOUNG AT HEART SENIOR BINGO



On Tuesday, August 23 we will have our next Young At Heart Senior BINGO. We'll meet at 1 pm to have dessert together and then play BINGO. Prizes will be provided. All who are available at this time are welcome! Bring a friend and be ready to have some fun and fellowship together.



Congregational Care

Prayer Blanket Ministry



In the July Tele-Christian, Pastor Mark shared an article entitled "Close Knit". The article told of prayer blanket ministries touching lives in towns all over our country. Individuals shared their stories of receiving a shawl, or of making and giving away blankets, and of the relationships built through a simple blanket.

Did you know our church has a prayer blanket ministry? We hope so! It has been active for many years. We accept handmade knit and crocheted blankets and fleece tie-blankets that are approximately lap size. The donated blankets are prayed over and then taken to those who are in need of prayer and comfort due to physical, emotional or spiritual ailment.

Currently we are in desperate need of blankets to support this ministry. We would love to expand this ministry and start a 'knitting' group to meet together like those described in the article. If you are feeling a nudge, if you have a talent to share, if you want to learn how to knit or crochet, please let me know or call the church office!

Trudy Corning
219 613-1787



"HAPPY IS THE PERSON WHO COUNTS THEIR BLESSINGS AS WELL AS CALORIES."

Be happy! Be grateful! Be aware of the many blessings you have received!

And share just a few on our Blessing Board in the narthex!



UWF (United Women of Faith) News

I want to thank everyone who has donated fleece and made blankets. We will be working on them again soon. We will meet the first and third Thursdays in August and September from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm. We will work on cutting and tying the blankets in room #300.

Everyone is welcome to help with this project. The blankets are for Lucille Raines Residence and Lakota Indians. See you soon!

Martha Farney



A Busy Summer for our Trustees

It started out to be a quiet summer ...

And then the fire alarm went off in the middle of Sunday services, followed by a scramble to find out why the alarm went off. It was discovered to be an air-conditioner leaking water onto a smoke detector that had caused the fire alarm to go off. Thanks to air-conditioning professionals and to Ray Smith, Dennis Olson, Rick Bachman, Mike Hayden and others, the issue was resolved.

The rental house committee has been busy securing a new renter and preparing a lease.

Thank you to Dean Moes for taking care of the parking lot resealing and the marking of parking spaces.

Amid all of this turmoil, we also had a sprinkler inspection which we passed with flying colors.

We are hoping August will be less busy!

Dave Bauman, Chairperson



Bob and I would like to thank you for the thoughtful cards and prayers. They mean so much. Thanks again. A special thanks to Pastor Mark for traveling down the lovely 41 to Munster.

Sincerely,
Bob and Paula Bernotus



Dear Church Family-

Thank you so much for the prayers, phone calls, messages, cards, concern and food during my convalescence. I am making progress and hope to see you all in the near future. I am very honored and proud (even though we are not to be prideful) to be a member of this caring church.

Lynn Bochart



Lowell Church Mouse

I'm the church mouse. I see all that goes on in the church and I love to gossip about it. Of course being a Christian mouse, I only say positive things.

There is a new committee at the church. The Worship Attendance Care Committee. It's a long name for a committee doing great work. Their only task is to reach out to those who have missed attending worship. They write them a post card saying they are missed. Laura Eller, Beth Bales, Ethel Devine, and Betty Kelley are doing this work. Thank you ladies for your service.

A couple of our old committees have started doing things in new ways. Administrative Council is not simply hearing reports about what the committees are doing. They are now spending their time visioning what the church can do in the future. The various committees then decide who is going to do the work to implement the plan. It's actually fun sitting in my hole and listening to them discuss. Worship has started doing the same basic thing. They are looking at each Sunday in the future and making plans for what is coming in worship rather than talking about how things have already happened. Things are changing, and in this mouse's opinion, it's for the better!

Be careful when you do good work for the church. I'm watching and just waiting to share that gossip.



Pastor's Comic Corner

In case you haven't noticed, I love humor. Below are comics that I've come across. Enjoy and smile! Pastor Mark



WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday - Worship ~ 8 a.m. (at Liberty Park) and 10:30 a.m. (in Sanctuary), *Sunday School 9:15: F.O.M. (301)*, **Monday/Tuesday - A/A** 12 p.m. (303) **Wednesday - A/A** - 8 p.m. (Fellowship Hall), *Al/Anon* - 8 p.m. (library) **Thursday - Dulcimers** 10 am (303), *LYFT Dinner* 5:30 p.m./Worship 6:00 p.m. (Fellowship Hall) Chancel Choir 7pm (sanct.) **Saturday - A/A** 11 a.m. (303)

August 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Outreach Meeting 10am	3 UWF Executive Meeting 4:30pm	4 LYFT Speaker – Pastor Mark	5	6
7	8	9 Lay Leader Meeting 10 am Pre-School Open House 6pm (FH)	10	11 NO LYFT Tonight High Country String Band at Heritage Stage Lake Co. Fair 6pm	12	13
14	15 <i>Shift</i> Meeting 4:30pm (304) Congregational Care Meeting 6pm (FH)	16 Household Pantry 9-12 and 5-6 (curbside)	17 Worship Meeting 6pm (301) Music Meeting 7pm (301)	18 LYFT Speaker – Susan Wells	19 Music in the Park 6pm (Olde Towne Square)	20 ‘Stronger Together’, North District Event @ Lakeville, IN 11-4 (EST)
21 **Tele-Christian Articles due**	22 Administrative Council 6pm (FH)	23 Young at Heart Bingo 1pm (FH)	24 Staff/Parish Meeting 4pm (conf. room)	25 LYFT Speaker – Rick Bachman	26	27
28 Last Sunday at Liberty Park	29	30	31			