



This Issue

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From the Pastor:

Greeting Friends and Family of Bridgeport United Methodist Church. The year 2020 is concluding and has been a bit of surprise for me. I knew it would be a different year for Kim and me as I entered my first appointment to a church being the Senior Pastor. The surprises had more to do with the World than with me or the Church. This being November, I think it would be very appropriate to adopt a Thankful attitude for all who have supported BUMC and myself this year.

This year has been challenging, and we as a church have met the challenge by The Grace of God. Praise and Thanks to Our Father in Heaven for He has allowed us to remain in Ministry as His Church at 1305 Bridgeport Road. We have met the challenge in several ways. First is that we have continued to hold worship every week this year. Be it via the internet or live worship on the premises, The Word of God has been proclaimed. We have gathered to Praise Our Lord, Pray to Our Father and Share the Love and Light of The Gospel Message of Jesus Christ with many others in and outside of our congregation.

We have raised awareness and have supported other causes in the attitude of ministry through our food pantry collections and donations to individuals and Barnes United Methodist Church. We raised and donated money to stop Human Trafficking with our participation in the "Purchase" program. We learned and listened to ministry leaders from Sierra Leone about Madina School Village and now they are building a clinic there and we generously donated money to the cause.

We listened and supported The Gideon ministry with hearing from a "Gideon" and then donating to help purchase bibles to be distributed around the world. Thank you, God, for this church of believers and our works of faith. (Con't. on Pg. 3)

November 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

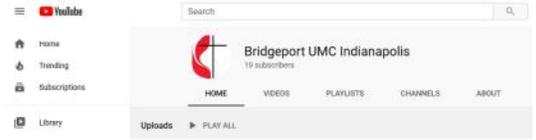


At Our Church

Fellowship Time 9:15 AM
 Sunday Services 10:00 AM
 Sunday School 11:30 AM
 Amazing Grace's Thursdays @ Noon
 Choir Practice Sunday @ 8:30 AM
 Movie Night (Postponed until June
 4th Friday at 3 and 6 PM)

Church Family,
 It is really a blessing we watch and have Sunday service (remotely) that I can see that number of people that are able to see the service online using YouTube.

Click here for Bridgeport
 UMC YouTube -
[Bridgeport UMC Indianapolis](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC156261224432213)



On Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Bridgeport-United-Methodist-Church-156261224432213/>

Email: prayerlist@smallchurchbigheart.com

Send Letters or Donations to: P.O. Box 420, Plainfield, IN 46168

IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

Alex Heaton	Iain Spurgin	Leonard Prator
Alicia Padan	Janet Jones	Lori Bowser
Ann Benthin	Jean & Gary Smith	Mary Vogt
Barbara Lee Over-	Jeni Rober	Pat Tomes
Bob Fuller	Jerlyn Strube	Patti Mendel
Brian Hume	Jim Stansell	Paul Fair
Danielle Ferguson	John Unrich	Rachel Shore
Devin This-	Joy Bradley	Shelly Akers
Debbie Balder	Judy Johnson	Sherry Bryant
Eileen Parker	Kenneth Turpin	Stetson Garwood
Gladys Murphy	Larry & Mary Lou	Sue Cox
Grace Ann Moore	Larry & Nancy Hess	Terry Simmons
Hayley Bowser	Laura Wilbur	Toni Huffer
Hunter Roberts		

NOVEMBER Birthdays

Ethan Shoemaker 11-3
 Jayda Strom 11-5
 Kyle Bandy 11-6
 Pat Adkins 11-10
 Charlene Swank
 Melanie Hall 11-23
 William M. Huffer 11-24
 Peg Lindsey 11-25
 Mary Jane Dickhaus 11-29
 Kristen Bright 11-30



If there is someone you would like to have added to the prayer chain, just give their name to Julie Bright. Also, for various reasons a name which has been on the list may need to be removed to keep the prayer chain current. Again, if there is someone's name which needs to be removed, please contact Julie (317-409-7498).

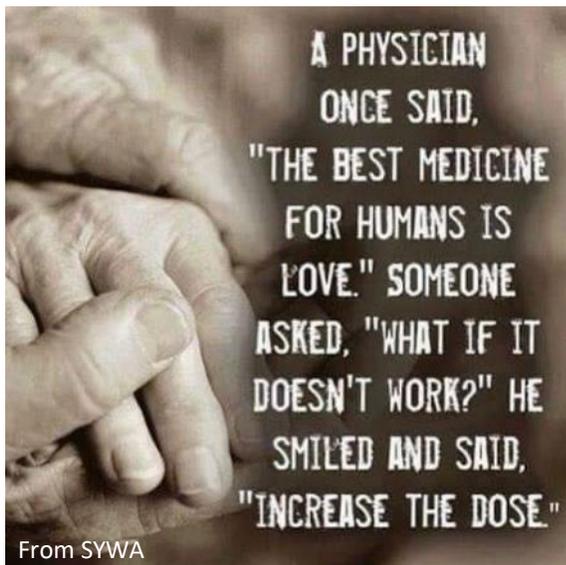
(Con't from Pg. 1)

Our works and ministry of looking after each other continues. There were deaths, near death experiences, sicknesses, loss of loved ones, loss of employment, economic distresses, and other "sorrows" that we as a church body shared with each other. We continue to build each other up during these challenging times.

We looked after each other in ways that were different because of the Pandemic and we are still here doing this every day. Some are better connected to this ministry than others. It is my prayer that we find out how to connect with all members in some form or fashion. Everyone is not on internet. Everyone does not have technical skills for staying connected, but phones still work and so do letters. I have hopes that we can ensure that everyone that wants to belong can belong and we do not miss anyone.

As I write this November letter there are questions that will be answered this month. Who will be our President? How long will the social distancing and

restrictions last? Will we tighten up restrictions? Will we remain open to worship at our facility on Sundays? When will this



From SYWA

Pandemic pass? I wish I could tell you with absolute certainty what will happen in our world and at Bridgeport United Methodist Church for the remainder of the Year.

But, Hear The Good News and what I can tell you with absolute certainty. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever (Hebrews 13:8). God never changes. We are being His People; The people of God have been commissioned to carry on The Work of Christ by sharing Him with all who have ears to hear. I look forward with hope to the remainder of 2020 and the starting of a New Christian Year which will

begin with Advent on November 29, 2020.

It is My and Kim's hope that we keep our eyes on

the "prize" and that is the Great and un-failing love of Jesus Christ and that we remain thankful and in that attitude of gratefulness we are compelled to do works of helping others who desperately

need to hear The Gospel Message.

I ask all who read this letter that you remain calm, thankful, and ready to do your part in the ministry here at BUMC. If you know someone who needs attention please let us know with a phone call, letter, or email. If you have any ideas of some type of ministry or study you would like to lead or be involved in, again let us know. If you have any questions for me, my email address is ken.loudenback@inumc.org or you can text or call me at 317.590.9589

We belong to an Awesome God who has promised not to forsake us and

will protect us if we choose to take refuge as written in Proverbs 18:10. Psalm 46:1b says, "God is our refuge and strength an ever present in times of trouble.

So, I end this message with Thanks be to our Father God, in The Holy Name of Jesus Christ and By The Power of The Holy Spirit placed in us His Church. I next thank Bridgeport United Methodist Church and your willingness to work with me as your Pastor. Again, Praise and Thanks be to God.

May The God of Hope fill you with Joy and Peace in believing and may that hope abound in you by the power of The Holy Spirit. Amen.

Pastor Ken



Annual Conference Summary

"I'm grateful this year for the gift of technology," Bishop Trimble said as he opened the virtual 2020 Indiana Annual Conference in mid August and again in mid October. He encouraged members to fulfill the words in 1 Corinthians 14:40 that "everything should be done with dignity and in proper order. Beautiful people of the Indiana Conference, let us do this work," he said. About 1600 people participated in the annual conference held each year to plan for ministry together. All voting was online. Greg Bright is the lay representative for Bridgeport and this is his report.

Laity Address

David Johns, Conference Lay Leader, challenged the Conference with the question: Why are you here? "How do we treat the people we encounter? Jesus' expectation of us is that we're different than the rest of the world. We're here to bring help and hope," he said.

Charter Recognition

Emily Reece, Director of Church Development, presented two newly-chartered churches:

- Disciples Korean UMC (West Lafayette) – January 2020
- Abundant Vida Nueva UMC (Indianapolis) – December 2019

Children Matter Most

Emily Krach presented one of our new Missional Offerings: Children Matter Most

- Indiana has the 2nd highest in infant mortality rates in the midwest.
- Indiana has the highest rate in the country of teens who have considered suicide and the second-highest of those who have attempted it.
- Compared to neighboring states, Indiana has the highest rates of children in the foster care system.

The Children Matter Most Team's goal is to inspire churches to partner with schools and invite children to camp.

Celebration of Ministry

Fifty-seven retirees were honored for their 1,705 years of combined service. Rev. Cheryl Garbe addressed members as a representative of the retiring class.

Cheryl interviewed some former retirees and shared a few of their words of wisdom for the Retiring Class of 2020:

"Retirement is a time to let go of that which has served you so well in the past to make room for that which will serve you so well in the future."

- "Travel as much as you can for as long as you can."
- "Give yourself a sabbath from ministry."

Rev. Dr. Aleze Fulbright opened the Celebration of Life Service with prayer and scripture. Rev. Dave Neckers preached on Proverbs 13:22, challenging the Conference to leave an inheritance through investing in the lives of others. The Conference then honored the lives of 46 clergy and 30 spouses who died and joined the "Church Triumphant" during the last year.

Presentation of Persons to Be Ordained

Four persons were commissioned for the work of deacon. Nine persons were commissioned for the work of Elder. Two were recognized as Associate Members. One person was ordained into the Order of Deacon. Twelve were ordained into the Order of Elder. One of these was Ben

Biggs, son of Mike and Ruthie of our church.

Budget Discussion

The annual budget approved for the coming year is \$11.3 million. About 70% of this will be spent for Indiana missions, the rest is worldwide Methodist missions. Tithes and gifts contributing to the Indiana UMC budget are down 9% compared to last year.

Bishop's Address

Bishop Trimble offered his message "Climbing our Second Mountain" without wearing his shoes, though he donned his United Methodist socks. "Where God's name is proclaimed and Christ is lifted as our Lord and Savior is holy ground," he said. We can choose joy. We can choose justice. We can choose life with Jesus!"

During the past year, 2004 people were baptized and 2289 people professed new faith in God's saving grace in Indiana United Methodist churches.





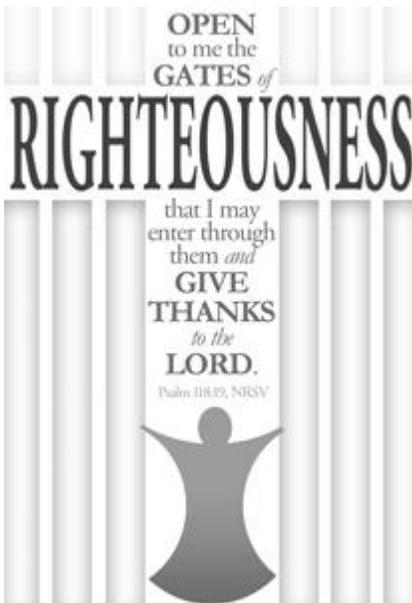
Growing Through Gratitude

Thankfulness, studies show, has multiple physical, mental and emotional benefits. Psychologist Robert Emmons calls gratitude “fertilizer for the mind” because of its powerful effects.

He admits gratitude isn’t always easy — especially when life throws us curveballs (see the year 2020) — but says it can be most helpful during and after difficulties. Emmons suggests reframing challenges using thankfulness-based language. Ask, for example: Though I wasn’t grateful for the experience at the time, how can I be now? What lessons did I learn, and how did I grow as a person?

Throughout his letters, the apostle Paul reframes his extensive sufferings and urges us to do the same.

“Give thanks in all circumstances,” he writes, “for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus” (1 Thessalonians 5:18, NIV).



A Meaningful Month

Consumerism can prevent us from noticing needs, writes Walter Brueggemann (The Prophetic Imagination). A culture steeped in materialism and greed can “block out the cries of

the denied ones ... so that no one discerns misery alive in the heart of God.”

In November, we celebrate Thanksgiving, Christ the King Sunday and the start of Advent. What does it mean that Christ is our King? How can we truly give God thanks and prepare for Jesus’ coming? It’s a good time to ponder what hurts God’s heart — and how we can help.

If someone is lonely, perhaps we can invite them to Thanksgiving dinner. If we sense inequality saddening God, we might advocate for fair policies. If God is in pain because some of his children have too little, we can share our resources. In so doing, we welcome Christ the King among us, and give him meaningful thanks.

Solitude as Soul Care

Richard J. Foster (Celebration of Discipline) says solitude is “more a state of mind and heart” than a place: “There is a solitude of the heart that can be maintained at all times. Crowds, or the lack of them, have little to do with this inward attentiveness.”

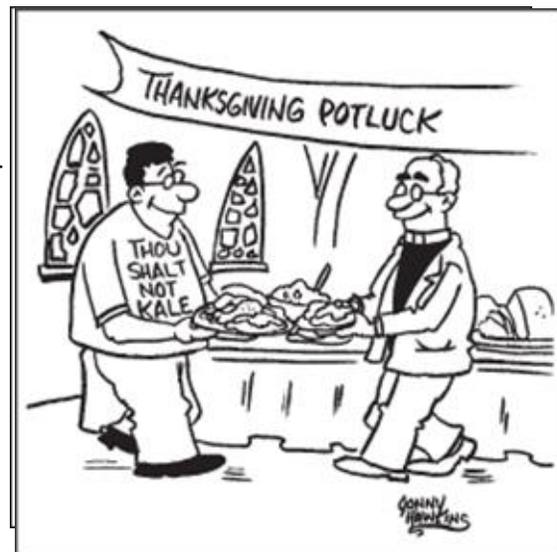
Although Jesus preferred crowd-free alone times, that’s not always

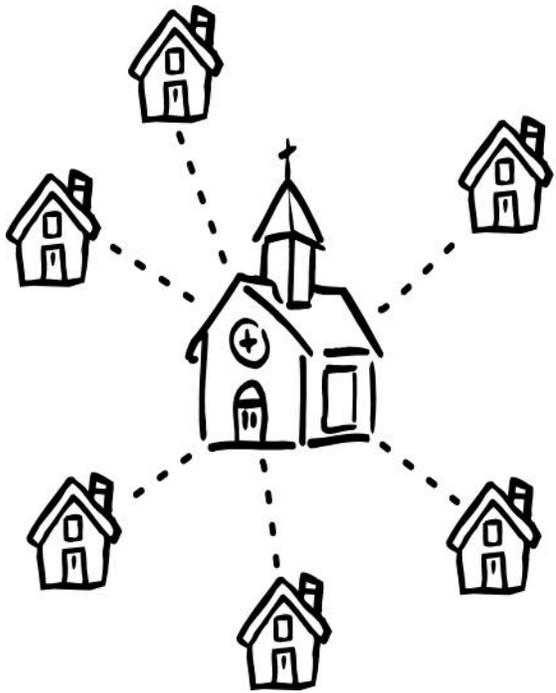
feasible. But no matter your surroundings and responsibilities, you can carve out intentional time to “be still” (Psalm 46:10). Try these tips for adding solitude to life’s rhythms:



- Take a day. Every month or two, enjoy a day of solitude. Turn off your phone and spend the day with God.
- Take an hour. Treat this time as an important calendar appointment. Keep it free to protect your solitude.
- Take a minute. Before a big meeting or as you’re answering the phone, breathe deeply and invite God into the moment.

—Janna Firestone





TOGETHER IN *Spirit* STAYING CONNECTED

A Singular Focus

When we try to focus on too many things at once, sometimes we end up doing nothing well. During a visit to their house (see Luke 10:38-42), Jesus tells Martha that only one thing is needed and that Mary has chosen rightly. Surely Jesus doesn't mean that quiet devotion is needed while serving others is not. But when we let ourselves get "worried and distracted by many things," we may lose sight of the one crucial thing: love.

St. Francis is credited with the following quote: "God came to my house and asked for charity. And I fell on my knees and cried, 'Beloved, what may I give?' 'Just

love,' God said. 'Just love.'"

And in Galatians 5:6 (NRSV), St. Paul writes, "For in Christ Jesus ... the only thing that counts is faith working through love." Amid all the worthy pursuits that fill your days, remember to choose rightly — by choosing love.



A taste of history

Add a yummy, authentic touch to your Thanksgiving meal with this recipe.



What you need:

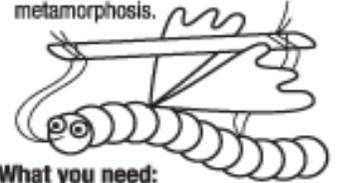
- 2/3 cup heavy cream
- pint jar with lid
- strainer
- bowl
- container
- salt

What you do:

1. Pour cream into the jar and close the lid tightly.
2. Shake vigorously about 8 minutes, until a solid lump of butter forms. (Take turns with a friend!)
3. Strain the contents, catching the buttermilk in a bowl to save for another recipe.
4. Put the butter in a container. Add salt to taste.
5. After chilling the butter, enjoy on fresh bread.

CHANGED!

Make this cute puppet to show and tell the amazing story of metamorphosis.



What you need:

- Needle and string
- 12 small pom-poms
- Wooden craft stick
- Scissors
- Googly eyes
- Glue
- Coffee filter
- Markers

What you do:

1. Sew pom-poms together to make a caterpillar body. Tie off that string.
2. Thread another string up through the first pom-pom, leaving 12 inches to dangle. Repeat with the ninth pom-pom, leaving two dangling strings.
3. Wrap those strings around opposite ends of the stick, adjusting their length to about 6 inches. Tie in place.
4. Glue on eyes.
5. Flatten the coffee filter and draw a symmetrical design on it. Pleat in the center to create wings.
6. Move the caterpillar puppet by holding the stick. Glue on the wings as you describe the transformation into a butterfly.

PUZZLE

Glad gatherings

The first Christians met together over a meal. Today church families still gather to break bread and thank God.

Follow the instructions below. Then write the remaining words in order from left to right and top to bottom to complete the verses.

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	They	found	broke	bread	acts	in
2	houses	their	homes	beautiful	and	round
3	the	world	beginning	together	follow	thought
4	with	numbers	glad	happiness	lesson	and
5	thanks	sincere	disciples	gathering	hearts	tradition
6	celebrates	good	praising	Christian	God	river

Cross out all words in column E with double letters.
 Cross out all words that are books of the Bible.
 Cross out all words in column B that end in d.
 Cross out all words in column A that have more than 4 letters.
 Cross out all words in row 5 with 3 syllables.
 Cross out all words in the table with 9 letters.
 Cross out all words in column F with 2 or more vowels.

ACTS 2:46-47, NIV

Answer: They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God. Acts 2:46-47, NIV

Puzzle!

Use the food key to complete Acts 14:17, NIV.

KEY

THANK YOU, LORD

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"e s s w i ess b

givi_g i f_m_e ve

c_ps i ei se_s_s;

e p_vi_es wi ple

f f_d fi_s

e_s wi j."

ACTS 14:17, NIV

Answer: "He has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons; he provides you with plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy." Acts 14:17, NIV

Please by the 20th of each month.

To submit articles or stories please send to

Dave Pearson

Pearson_david_b@yahoo.com

Or

Liz Hollinger

lizhollinger17@gmail.com

Bible Quiz

Fill in the blank to complete this verse from a psalm of thanksgiving: "Bless the LORD, O my _____, and forget not all his benefits."

- A. people
- B. soul
- C. heart
- D. children

Answer: B (See Psalm 103:2, ESV)