

Mid-February 2016



ower Topics

HIGH STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

219 S. HIGH ST • MUNCIE, IN 47305

Church: 765-747-8500 • Fax: 765-741-5282

Email: info@munciehighstreet.com

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Upcoming Events

February 12, 2016

6 – 9p.m. Kid's Night Out

February 13, 2016

8 a.m. Walk A Mile Check-in

9 a.m. Opening Ceremony

February 14, 2016

8 a.m. – 1 p.m. Ruth and

Martha Mary Bake Sale –
Parlor

9:45 a.m. Vow Renewal -
Sanctuary

10:45 a.m. Vow Renewal –
Parlor

February 27, 2016

4:45 p.m. – 6:45 p.m Gibson's
Get Together and Games

February 28, 2016

9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Blood Drive –
Parish Hall



High Street United Methodist Christians:

- **Worship** God;
- **Connect** with other Christians to grow as disciples; and
- **Serve** Christ in the community.

Service Times:

8:30 – 9:30 AM

Traditional Worship

9:45 – 10:45 AM

Sunday school

9:45 – 10:30 AM

Chapel Worship

11:00 – Noon

Contemporary Worship

Traditional Worship is
Broadcast at 11 AM on
WXFN – 1340 AM and 102.9 FM

TOWER TOPICS DEADLINES

Deadline for Submission is 8:00 A. M. on Tuesdays

MM = Mid-Month Tower Topics Issue

Deadline

February 16

March 1 MM

March 22 MM

April 5 MM

April 19

Distribution date

February 24

March 9

March 30

April 13

April 19

Mushy Possibilities

“These little beauties are just so cool!” the young Ball State biology student exclaimed as he helped us gently place Painted Lady butterflies into their new home in the Muncie Children’s Museum. “They have a quick life-cycle, so they’re great to study, and they’re really sturdy and adaptable.”

We had been excited to design and install a large butterfly habitat – a huge terrarium decked out with soft, mossy ground, branches, a tiny pond of water and lots of grasses and greens for hungry caterpillars. It had been placed at the right height for young scientists to watch, observe, and, hopefully, be able to spot all of the cycles of a butterfly’s life from egg to adult.

The student who was part of the installation crew continued. “Have you ever taken a look at the inside of a cocoon?” I shook my head no. “It’s great!” he said. “It’s nothing but mush inside! There’s nothing of the caterpillar left at all. It’s amazing to think that black goo emerges as a complete butterfly!”

I have to admit, in all of my life I had never really stopped to think what happened to a caterpillar wrapped in the shroud of its cocoon. I knew butterflies laid eggs. I knew the eggs hatched into caterpillars that ate voraciously. I knew the caterpillars spun cocoons, snuggled themselves down, then emerged as beautiful creatures. But how did the caterpillar lose its “caterpillarness”? It turned to mush?

“That’s right,” the young man continued. “They eventually lose everything that ever was a caterpillar, and that stuff is the stuff of butterflies.”

Years after this exchange, I found myself sitting at a Lenten service, gazing at a lovely purple banner which depicted a beautiful silver butterfly

surrounded by these words: “Lent – a time for giving up what we are for what we may become.” Easter butterflies in splendid glory bursting out of cocoons – I loved the image of the finished product as a symbol of glorious resurrection hope. But how would I have responded if the time of preparation, the season of Lent, had been symbolized instead by a picture of black mush? What does happen to that caterpillar? How does it change? What does it give up?

In the church we have become familiar with the concept of giving up something for Lent – chocolate, T.V. hours, saving money on Starbuck’s to add to the bucket offering. All of these are great tools to use in our spiritual journeys to stop and take stock – to remember God’s presence and God’s plans. But I am also challenged by the depth of what God offers – a whole new life, a whole new vision, a complete possibility growing from the very substance of what can sometimes be pretty “mushy” lives.

At High Street we have been offered chances to focus in again on the wonder of God’s grace. Through worship from Ash Wednesday to Sunday mornings to Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and the glory of Easter. Through classes and small groups which give us chances to think and grow and learn together. Through mission’s activities that allow us to give and work for those in difficult circumstances. And through quiet spiritual disciplines and prayer that move us closer to God.

“Lent – a time for giving up what we are for what we may become.” From mush to magnificence. What a glorious God!

Blessings –

Pastor Sherrie

WORSHIP

Lenten Worship Opportunities

- **2016 Community Lenten Services** – Wednesdays at Noon beginning February 10, 2016. See Christian Ministries website: www.christianministriesmuncie.org
- **Maundy Thursday Service** - 7:00 P.M., Thursday, March 24
- **Community Good Friday Service at High Street** – Noon - 1P.M., Friday, March 25, 2016

February Bucket Offering Mission Focus

This month's bucket offering mission focus is Angel Tree. The Angel Tree ministry is readily recognized by the giving of Christmas gifts through the local church on behalf of the imprisoned parent. High Street Church has participated for many years, reaching out to literally hundreds of children and scores of families. The ultimate goal of Angel Tree is to facilitate the healing and restoration of families devastated by crime and the realities of incarceration. Beyond purchasing a gift at Christmastime, there are many more opportunities to expand the ministry to meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the loved ones of prisoners. For

more information on how you can become involved, contact Mary Ruble at [765-748-5768](tel:765-748-5768) or mjruble@yahoo.com. You can learn more at www.angeltree.org.

Valentine's Day Vow Renewal

On Sunday, February 14, the pastors will offer two opportunities in the morning for married couples to renew their vows.

9:45 in the Sanctuary

10:45 in the Chapel

Couples desiring to renew their vows are simply asked to be in place near the front of the worship space in time. The vow renewal will be done as part of the group of couples gathered.

Followers Become Leaders

You might not think of yourself as a leader, but there are others observing your example. They are looking at you for what it means to be a follower of Christ. And thus, you are a leader.

What's it means for each of us to become a servant leader in our personal lives, in our church, and in our community? We will explore this using materials from The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection pastored by Adam Hamilton.

When: Tuesdays, February 16 and 23, March 1, 8, 15, and 22, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Facilitator: Pastor Mendenhall
Child Care will be provided
Register by calling the church office or
completing registration forms available
in the church.

What are the Pastors Reading?

Okay, you may not have thought about asking that question at all. But we three pastors thought we would share what we are reading as part of a small group of United Methodist pastors who meet locally each month to discuss a mutually selected book (and some other topics). Here are the three most recent books we have been reading.

What happens when three women, a Jew, a Muslim, and a Christian, begin getting together in order to collaborate on a children's book on their respective religions? They begin discussing their respective religions. They challenge one another. They sometimes get upset with each other. In the end, they become friends, encourage one another, and find that each has been strengthened in her respective religion and faith. The result is an informative and engaging book for adults entitled The Faith Club written by Ranya Idliby, Suzanne Oliver, and Priscilla Warner.

Death of a King written by Tavis Smiley explores the last year in the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. The book offers insights into the man himself and the movement he was leading in the face of opposition

from within and without. It would be an appropriate book to read during this Black History Month.

Currently we are reading America and It's Guns: A Theological Perspective written by James Atwood. Atwood is a gun owner and a Presbyterian pastor who is seeking a balanced approach to guns in our nation. The book provides both statistics and a theologically critical look at the place of guns in our society. When we pastors next meet we should have quite a discussion.

Of course, we pastors tend to read more than one book per month. We actually do some reading for enjoyment and for our own growth. But the above represents the most recent books we are reading as part of our group of pastors.

CONNECT

Thursday Luncheon Programs

Feb. 18: Geoff Hutton and Phillip Blaine,
singer and pianist

Feb. 25: Jodi Cotton White with BSU
singing students

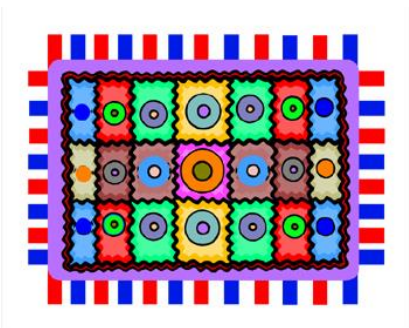
March 3: A dulcimer group, Chords of
Friendship

March 10: Scott Lamperd, guitar and
gospel

Grief Recovery Group Classes

High Street is offering the program "Growing Through Grief: Personal Healing" for six (6) weeks on Mondays, Feb 15 - Mar 21 from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Each session will begin with a DVD and informal discussion will follow. To register for this class or have further questions, please call the church office at 747.8500.

We're not Martha Stewart!



Think of this group as the modern quilting bee. Fellowship coupled with ever changing items that you get to take home!

This group is for anyone that sees cute things for the home on Pinterest or in catalogs and thinks, "I might be able to make that!" But either doubts their skills, needs moral support, or can't find the time to go buy the needed supplies!

This an open group that will probably have a core group of die-hard crafting team members and others that will float in and out because they like the specific item being made in that specific meeting. Meetings will be held at the church on a Tuesday evening about every other month, but frequency

schedule subject to change if a holiday craft idea comes up that can't wait to be made until the next meeting!

The first meeting will be Tuesday, Feb.23 at 7:00 pm in room 205.

The last date to sign up to participate for the first craft will be Feb. 12.

In our first group, we will be making an Easter tomb garden and a muslin wreath. Participation fee is \$10.00. You can view the planned project in the hall on Sunday, Feb. 7.

For question see Cynthia Dale 729-7287 or Kelly Wolfe 744-5451.

College/Young Adult Sunday School

We have a new class starting for our College/Young Adults. Because so many students can have unpredictable schedules or go away to school, I realize that attendance may be rather erratic. THAT'S JUST FINE!!! In fact, as facilitator, I am encouraging all of our students and young adults to jump in at any time and join us when you can. Friends and visitors are also always welcome. **Our first meeting will be this Sunday, February 7 at 9:45. Please meet in the parlor at that time.** We will either sit and chat there if we have a small group that day or if there are many of us, we'll go to either Kasey and Kristy's office or possibly the library.

If you have any questions, contact Kate Crow at minnecrows@msn.com. I look forward to our conversations and fellowship with our young adults!

Kate Crow

High Street Travelers - Since 1974

2016 OPEN FOR REGISTRATION

Feb 17 (Wed.) Beef & Boards: Sister Act \$85 per person

Mar 19 (Sat.) American Passion Play \$100 per person

Apr 13 (Wed.) Cincinnati Flower Show \$50 per person

May 11 (Wed.) Indiana History Day, Part 1 \$85 per person

May 16 – 20 BRANSON WITH A TWIST! 4
NIGHTS / 5 DAYS \$860 PP DBL OCC 5 SHOWS / 4
TOURS / 11 MEALS / LAMBERT'S CAFÉ

Jun. 15 (Wed.) Indiana History Day, Part 2 \$85 per person

July 18 – 31 SCENIC IRELAND INCLUDES: RT AIR /
13 DAYS / INSURANCE / TOURS

July 20 (Wed.) Beef & Boards: Church Basement Ladies
\$85 per person

Aug 17 (Wed.) Indiana History Day, Part 3 tba

Sept 8 & 9 OVERNIGHT MYSTERY TRIP:
Transportation/ Lodging/ 4 Meals / 6 Tours \$398 per

Sept 11 – 17 BEAUTIFUL MAINE Waiting List

Sept. 21(Wed) Beef & Board: Menopause the Musical \$85

Oct. 19 (Wed.) Indiana History Day, Part 4 \$85 per person

Nov. 15 – 18 New!! Christmas at the Biltmore \$569

Dec. 7 (Wed.) Beef & Board: A B&B Christmas \$85

Reservation Policy:

- 1) Contact High Street UM Church at 765/747-8500
- 2) Payment MUST accompany reservation.
- 3) Cancellations made within 7 days of trip are NOT guaranteed a refund. Tours are open to the Public, clubs & groups. All trips are deluxe motor coach unless noted. High Street Travelers is sponsored by and a mission of High Street United Methodist Church 219 So High St Muncie, IN 47305.

COORDINATOR-Deb Heeter

EMAIL: dheeter601@comcast.net

UMW Bake Sale

The Ruth and Martha Mary Circles are having a bake sale in the church parlor on Sunday, February 14 from 8:00 – 11:00 a.m. All proceeds are for the Samaritan Fund. Please coming to the parlor and buy some yummy treats and support a good cause!!

Gibson's Get Together and Games

This event will be at Gibson's Skating Arena on Saturday, February 27, 4:45-6:45pm. Cost will be \$5 per person in advance (\$6 at the door) and this will include skate rental, 9 holes of putt putt golf, and a piece of cake. Participants should bring money for Gibson's food concessions. In addition to skating and putt-putt, we will have games! All ages are welcome and encouraged to bring a friend.

SERVE

Edible Muncie

Have you seen our website lately? Go to ediblemuncie.org to find:

- * Recently updated and revised information about local food pantries.
- * The Friends section including Whitely Community Council.
- * A chart called Time to Toss It? That gives guidelines about when it becomes unsafe to eat certain foods.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Electricity Comes to High Street (Sort of)

"We the undersigned Trustees of the M.E. Church of Muncie, Indiana, hereby agree with James Boyce of same place, that, if he will put his Edison Electric Light into our church, that we will use it during the week and Sundays in such quantities only as agreed upon, except during our revivals or protracted meetings, and the President of the Board of Trustees shall give James Boyce five days' notice of all protracted meetings or of any intent to use the light in Auditorium on any other than Sunday night (when the light to be used exceeds in amount seven lights of sixteen candle power each), and James Boyce agrees to give said President of the Board of Trustees five days' notice when he wishes the following conditions complied with, viz: That we will use only the light in Halls, Stairways and Audience Room during protracted meetings, (said light being equal to nineteen lamps of sixteen candle power each) and that we will prorate two thirds of said light (equal to thirteen lamps of sixteen candle power each) among our members, in their dwellings and places of business, or, in other words, at times of such meetings, members of our church will turn off, and curtail the use in their dwellings and places of business, two thirds of the light used in our church on such occasions, each and every night except Sundays.
..."

This hand-written contract, signed by Trustees Lloyd Wilcoxon, O. A. Johnson, and Samuel Martin, was found stuck into a little "Cash Book" kept by Rev. Cyrus Ulysses Wade, our pastor from 1887-1901, under whose leadership the Red Brick Church on High Street was built.

Found next to this paper was another one, titled "Estimate for Gas & Elec. Chandeliers For The High St. M. E. Church, Muncie, Ind." It specified two chandeliers of "Ant. Brass" with 24 lights each for the Auditorium (sanctuary), twelve of which were to be gas lights and twelve electric with "crown cut etched globes." Also lighting the sanctuary were to be two fixtures of 12 lights each, and two for the pulpit of 5 lights each (both gas and electricity). Other gas and electric lights were to illuminate the halls, around the gallery, in classrooms and even the basement, and 2 "lanterns" with gas and electricity for the outside of the building. The total bid, including installation, was for \$529.

"In February, 1888, Mr. James Boyce promoted the organization of the Muncie Heat, Light, and Power Company, of which he was elected president" -- Haimbaugh's 1924 *History of Delaware County*, p. 399.

So, when you leave your dwelling to come to church, be sure to turn your lights off, or there may not be enough electricity to go around!

Contact Information

High Street Church Staff Email Addresses

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Sat Feb 13, 2016

8am Walk a Mile Check-in – Field House

9am Walk a Mile Opening Ceremony – Field House

Sun Feb 14, 2016

8am - 11am Ruth & Martha Mary bake sale

8:30am - 9:30am *Traditional Worship Service

9:30am - 9:45am *Fellowship and Coffee Time

9:45am - 10:30am *Informal Worship Service

9:45am - 10:45am *Sunday school Classes

9:45am Marriage Vow Renewal - Sanctuary

10:30am - 11am *Fellowship and Coffee Time

10:45am Marriage Vow Renewal - Parlor

11am - 12pm *Contemporary Worship Service

11am - 12pm Young Families LifeGroup – 205

3:30pm - 5pm Confirmation - Parish Hall

5pm – 6:30pm A Disciples Heart – Room 204

5pm - 7pm The Grove – YL/PH/Kitchen

Mon Feb 15, 2016

12pm - 2pm Mah Jongg Class - Room G6

1pm - 3pm Grief Recovery Group Week 1 – 205

1:30pm - 2:30pm High Street Pantry Opens

Tue Feb 16, 2016

6:45am - 8am Renovare Group – Parlor

8am Tower Topics Deadline

8:30am - 10am Church Staff – Library

10am - 11am Pastoral Staff – Office

10:30pm UMW General Meeting – Parish Hall

12pm - 2pm Assistance Appointments Lunch

1:30pm - 2:30pm High Street Pantry Opens

5:30pm - 6:30pm Martha Mary - Concannon's

6:15pm - 7:45pm Lilies (Women's Group) – YL

6:30pm - 7:30pm Followers Become Leaders - 204

Wed Feb 17, 2016

6am - 7am Men's Breakfast prep - Parish Hall

7am - 8am UM Men's Breakfast - Parish Hall

9:15am - 10:45am Women's Bible Study - G6

10am - 5pm Travelers Beef and Boards

5pm – 6pm Youth Game Night – Garden Court

5:45pm - 7pm Handbells - Room 303

6pm - 7pm Call to Christ/Praise Kids

7pm - 8:30pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

8pm - 9pm AA's - Room 204

Calendar of Events - February

Thu Feb 11, 2016

8am - 11:30am SHIP Counseling – Office

11:30am - 1:30pm Thursday Luncheon – PH

1:30 pm – 3pm Naomi Circle - Parlor

Fri Feb 12, 2016

6pm – 9pm Kid's Night Out

Thu Feb 18, 2016

8am - 11:30am SHIP Counseling – Office
 11:30am - 1:30pm Thursday Luncheon – PH
 4pm – 5pm Edible Muncie – Room G6
 4pm – 5pm Foundation – Room 204

Fri Feb 19, 2016

7:15am - 8:15am Kingdom Advisor's Group

Sat Feb 20, 2016**Sun Feb 21, 2016**

8:30am - 9:30am *Traditional Worship Service
 9:30am - 9:45am *Fellowship and Coffee Time
 9:45am - 10:30am *Informal Worship Service
 9:45am - 10:45am *Sunday school Classes
 10:30am - 11am *Fellowship and Coffee Time
 11am - 12pm *Contemporary Worship Service
 11am - 12pm Young Families LifeGroup – 205
 3pm - 4pm American Guild of Organists
 3:30pm - 5pm Confirmation - Parish Hall
 4pm - 5pm Reception for AGO – Parlor
 5pm - 7pm The Grove – YL/PH/Kitchen
 5pm – 6:30pm Disciples Heart – Room 204

Mon Feb 22, 2016

9am – Update folding brochures – PH
 12pm - 2pm Mah Jongg Class - Room G6
 1pm - 3pm Grief Recovery Group Week 2 – 204
 1:30pm - 2:30pm High Street Pantry Opens
 4pm – 5pm Facilities Team Meeting

Tue Feb 23, 2016

6:45am - 8am Renovare Group – Parlor
 8:30am - 10am Church Staff – Library
 10am - 11am Pastoral Staff – Office
 11:30am - 11:30am Preschool Chapel - Chapel
 1:30pm - 2:30pm High Street Pantry Opens
 6:30pm - 7:30pm Followers Become Leaders - 204

Wed Feb 24, 2016

9:15am - 10:45am Women's Bible Study - G6
 11:30am Preschool Chapel – Chapel
 5:45pm - 7pm Handbells - Room 303
 6pm - 7pm Call to Christ/Praise Kids
 7pm - 8:30pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
 8pm - 9pm AA's - Room 204

Thu Feb 25, 2016

8am - 11:30am SHIP Counseling – Office
 11:30am - 1:30pm Thursday Luncheon – PH
 4:30pm - 6pm Wesleyan Circle – Parlor

Fri Feb 26, 2016

11:30am Preschool Chapel – Chapel
 1pm - 2:30pm UMW Executive Meeting - G6
 2:30pm - 2:30pm Preschool Chapel – Chapel
 6pm – 9pm Young Families Night

Sat Feb 27, 2016

3:30pm - 4:30pm Penny Nolley vowel renewal
 4:45pm – 6:45pm Gibson Get Together and Games

Sun Feb 28, 2016

8:30am - 9:30am *Traditional Worship Service
 9am - 1pm Blood Drive - Parish Hall
 9:30am - 9:45am *Fellowship and Coffee Time
 9:45am - 10:30am *Informal Worship Service
 9:45am - 10:45am *Sunday school Classes
 10:30am-11am *Fellowship and Coffee Time
 11am - 12pm *Contemporary Worship Service
 11am - 12pm Young Families LifeGroup – 205
 3:30pm - 5pm Confirmation - Parish Hall
 5pm - 7pm The Grove – YL/PH/Kitchen
 5pm – 6:30pm Disciples Heart – Room 204

Mon Feb 29, 2016

12pm - 2pm Mah Jongg Class - Room G6
 1pm - 3pm Grief Recovery Group Week 3 -205
 1:30pm - 2:30pm High Street Pantry Open