

TOWER UPDATE

MID-AUGUST 2015

HIGH STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
219 S. HIGH ST. • MUNCIE, IN 47305
Church: 765-747-8500 • Fax: 765-741-5282
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HONORING OUR LONG-TIME MEMBERS

On Sunday, August 16, we will recognize and celebrate those persons who have been members of High Street Church for fifty years and more. This recognition will take place in the 8:30 and the 9:45 services. People who have been members for 50 years, 60 years, and 70 years or more will be honored with a certificate and a flower.

We have such a rich heritage here at High Street. Join us as we celebrate those who have helped make it so rich.

HOSPITALIZED THIS PAST MONTH



and giving High Street Church as their preference: Liz Kirklin, Louise Eddington (*IUH Ball Memorial Hospital*).

TOWER TOPICS DEADLINES

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

MM = Mid Month Tower Topics Issue

August 18
September 1 MM
September 15

August 26
September 9
September 23

You are invited!

OUTDOOR WORSHIP

HIGH STREET UMC'S
WEST PARKING LOT

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 2015
9:30 – 10:30 A.M.

Dr. Sherrie Drake preaching on
“Diving Deep”

Bibles will be presented
to our third graders

BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIRS
(folding chairs will be available for those
without lawn chairs)

You are invited to stay after worship for

A COOKOUT

10:30 – 12:00 noon

(freewill donations accepted)

&

ANGELS ON HIGH PRESCHOOL
OPEN HOUSE

10:30 - 12:00 noon

Look and See

I am from an era when we learned to read with Dick, Jane and Sally. The very first day of first grade we marched into our classroom to discover a pyramid of books stacked carefully on our new desks – the ones with the smooth, metal bellies and hinged tops that allowed us to store our freshly sharpened pencils, an eight-pack of Crayola crayons, and our Big Chief writing tablets with the extra dotted line that helped us make our Palmer method letters just right. The books told of the adventures of Dick, his sisters and his dog, Spot.

In the middle of a lovely illustration on the very first page of our very first book was a single word: “Look.” The plot thickened on page two: “Look, Dick, look.” Then the challenge of page three: “Look and see!”

We didn’t know what Dick was supposed to be looking at, but we did discover something critical. “Look” and “see” were two different words. They were similar in meaning, but not identical. Look and see.

There’s a lot to look at around High Street United Methodist Church! Bill and I have felt so warmly and lovingly welcomed, but it’s kind of overwhelming! Arches of stone, light shining through stained glass on intricately carved wood. Precious paintings and tapestries hanging on

walls. And the people! All ages, all shapes, all sizes; gifted as artists, musicians, scholars; hearts of creativity, compassion and vision – so many people working in so many ministries with dedication, love and devotion.

But the thing that touches me most about our church is the effort made every day in so many ways to encourage each other and the world around us not only to look, but to see as well.

Jesus did it a lot.

Look at that leper. Look at that Samaritan woman. Look at that sparrow, that lily in the field, that widow dropping a coin in the offering box at the Temple. Look. What do you see? An outcast? A problem? An enemy? Something insignificant, not worth a thought or a moment of time? Or a son of God? A daughter of Grace? A symbol of God’s abiding care?

Bill and I already are challenged by the opportunities here to see in new ways – to discover more corners of God than we have yet experienced, and to join in on ministry adventures together. We thank everyone for opening hearts to us, and can’t wait to see what God has in store!

Pastor Sherrie

A LIFE TRANSFORMED

We hear that we are to be “new creations” in Jesus Christ. Our lives are to be transformed. What does that mean? It can’t mean changing our identities. It has to mean becoming who we truly are meant to be in Christ.

Through September and October our pastors will be preaching on “A Life Transformed.” We will be exploring how we can move from a performance-based religion to a life-transforming relationship with God in Jesus Christ.

UMW MARY CIRCLE

Our first meeting this Fall will be Sept. 1st (Not 2nd). We will car pool to the Chocolate Moose in Farmland for lunch. We will leave from the Church Parlor at 10:30 AM and be back around 2:00 PM. Please call Celesta Dudley or Marsha Nuerge if you are able to go.

Thank you!

We would like to thank everyone for the prayers, phone calls and cards we received on our 60th wedding anniversary. We are truly blessed to have such great church friends.

Jim and Judy Lambert



Edible Muncie is a hard working group that was organized May 1, 2015 at High St. Its members come from the community and have a single focus to help solve the food insecurity problem here in our community. Our mission statement is: Edible Muncie works to gather and share the recommendations of individuals and families in our community and organizes and distributes the assistance information so all are EMpowered to secure the food they require.”

We have been gathering information about how to best serve those in Muncie and Delaware County. Look us up at ediblemuncie.org to see what we are doing. Join us at our next meeting. Call Karen Howells at 765-759-6026 for more information.

Thank you!

To my church family,

I am home and I am healing, thanks to all of you. Thank you for the love you shared...your warm and meaningful visits...and your words of encouragement that enriched my spirit.

I am very fortunate to have friends like you and to be a part of High Street Church.

Blessings,
Julie Harris

High Street Travelers Trips



Since 1974

LIFE IS A JOURNEY - COME ALONG FOR THE RIDE

WED AUG 12 FACTORY TOUR & TRAVEL
DAY - WARSAW, IN
\$85 PER PERSON

WED SEPT 23 FALL FACTORY FUN DAY -
COLUMBUS, OH \$85 PER PERSON

OCT 7 - 13 CALIFORNIA RAIL DISCOVERY
6 NIGHTS/2 Rail Excursions/Rt Air 9 Meals/Fully
Escorted/Tours +++ **WAITING LIST ONLY!!!**

THUR OCT 22 FALL MYSTERY \$85 PER PERSON

WED NOV 18 LACOMEDIA DINNER THEATRE: A
CHRISTMAS STORY, THE MUSICAL
\$85 PER PERSON

DEC 2-4 CHRISTMAS IN NASHVILLE, TN
STARTING AT \$569 PER PERSON
WAITING LIST ONLY!!!

2016 SOUTHERN CARIBBEAN CRUISE
JAN 24-FEB 5 **SOLD OUT!!!**

After EVERY 3rd paid trip you receive a \$25 voucher toward a future trip. 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

All-Church Picnic Football Tailgate

Come: Sunday, September 13th, 5pm at Morrows Meadows

Wear: Your team shirt!

Eat: Bird's Smokehouse BBQ pork, green beans, corn casserole, macaroni and cheese, hotdogs for kids, cake, drinks

Play: flag football, cheerleading, face-painting, music and much more!!

Cost: \$7/adults, \$5/kids 3-12, if you pre-pay in advance; \$1 more at the door. Kids 2 years and younger are free.

Registration: August 23, 30, September 6 during coffee bar or call church office

KICK OFF THE SEASON WITH YOUR CHURCH FAMILY! BE A FAN!

Projectionists Needed!



Persons are needed to help run the projection slides at the 8:30 a.m. worship service. It's fun, easy, and best of all, it's only once a month! If you are interested or want more information, call Casey Headland in the church office, 747-8500.

CONNECTING

Come check out our website site at www.munciehighstreet.com, follow us on Twitter @ HighStUMC, like us on Facebook, and watch us on YouTube. You can access all of these things from our website. Also, if you can't make it here on Sunday join us on the radio on 102.9 FM or 1340 AM at 11:00 A.M every Sunday.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FRUITFUL CONGREGATION JOURNEY TEAM REPORTS MADE TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL

Ministry Audit Team:

- Completed 16 of 21 audits
- Need to receive audits from five groups
- Hope to have the audits completed by the end of September
- Overall recommendations are about being more deliberate and purposeful in our efforts and doing some tweaking and focusing in some areas.
- Excitement about how much the FCJ Team reports are aligning with the Ministry Audit Team's recommendations.

Connection Team:

- What attracts newcomers are Property, Pastor, People, and Programs
- Need to train people in identifying, welcoming, and listening to people.

Relational Outreach Team

- Two new programs have already come out of this service-based FCJ Team:
 1. Edible Muncie, a working group of people from Muncie, including High Street Church, publicizing food pantry information and improving access.
 2. Samaritan Fund lunch for people coming for assistance at High Street.
- In conjunction with the Connection Team, an increasing spirit of welcome and inclusion supported by a workshop and reminders from the pulpit, and developing an ongoing group to reach out to newcomers.
- Encourage our church's many groups to find ways or more ways to serve the community
- Share Tower Topics with participants of Thursday Luncheon, Update Learning, and Angels on High
- Incorporate a "Mission Moment" into worship services at least monthly

Small Group Team

- The development and implementation of a Small Group Coordinator staff position (this has become part of the Associate Pastor's position description)
- Develop and implement surveys to gather information from the congregation
- Develop and implement a small group program based on relationship-building rather than based on a topic.
- Put in place a plan to encourage the continuing process of developing new ideas for future small groups
- The work of the FCJ Small Group Team will continue in new, but related directions
- "Eat Dessert First" ice cream sundae and small group formation event to be held Sunday, August 16, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FRUITFUL CONGREGATION JOURNEY TEAM REPORTS MADE TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL

Young Adult Ministry Team

- Development of a Family Ministry Team
 1. Develop a Life Group
 2. Provide Mission opportunities that support the church and enable young children to participate, including a baby ministry and participation in current church initiatives.
 3. Friday Family Socials
 4. Six Month Evaluation
- Partnership with Angels on High
 1. Bible Studies
 2. Friday Family Socials
- Young Adult Ministry with singles and marrieds without children
 1. Researching ways to engage our congregation young members as well as outreaching to the community, e.g. Young Adult Professionals, Ball State, various places of employment
 2. Identifying resources
 3. Identify “young adults” within the church and learn what they would like to see within our church
 4. Looking at splitting this group into college-age and young adults

Youth Ministry Team

GENERAL:

- Change Youth Group meeting time to Sundays at 3-5pm, generally omitting youth dinners
- Redefine Youth Council to be more goal-oriented and less task-oriented
- Host occasional “Invite a Friend to Youth Group” days and give rewards
- Permit youth full use of Parish Hall for games during Youth Group, without the need to take down and re-set tables and chairs

IMPROVE COMMUNICATION:

- Start using text messaging with youth, but continue emails, especially for parents
- Start Instagram or Twitter to post youth activities
- Start a Youth website

DEVELOP CHURCH-WIDE FAMILY MINISTRY MODEL:

- Advocate intergenerational connections to entire congregation thru a sermon series
- Partner youth with older persons one-on-one
- Enhance All-Church Activities Team to include youth and strive to plan at least one intergenerational activity per quarter - NOW
- Encourage various small groups to purposefully include youth and children
- Increase involvement of youth in worship services -NOW
- Consider topic-based rather than (or in addition to) age-based Sunday School classes

Evaluate the interest level and feasibility of making the arts a church-wide focus of HSUMC (music, arts, crafts, theater intergenerational groups)

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FRUITFUL CONGREGATION JOURNEY TEAM REPORTS MADE TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL

Youth Ministry Team Continued:

MAKE CHANGES TO YOUTH ROOMS:

- In middle school room, remove east wall, thus eliminating the hallway. Move bathroom doors to landing areas
- Add a slide and ladder (with a hatch door) connecting middle school room to game room
- Improve signage for getting to middle school and high school rooms
- Remove clutter from middle school, high school, and game rooms - NOW
- Clean all carpets and white couch in high school room
- Replace stained ceiling tiles in high school room
- Decorate middle school and high school rooms with a theme, with input from the youth, including painting the walls
- Create storage space, possibly off of the remodeled middle school room
- Obtain a volleyball set for use in Parish Hall

Discipleship Process Team

Developing a process of disciple-making around the membership vows of Prayers, Presence, Gifts, Service, and Witness

Children's Ministry Team

- Hire a part-time Director of Children's Ministries
- Form a team to investigate how we can improve the children's area in terms of safety, hospitality, and décor by moving the children's ministry area onto one floor.

Actions Taken by the Church Council in light of the FCJ Teams' recommendations

- Eliminate the full-time position of Director of Adult Ministries
- Hire a part-time Director of Older Adult Ministries
- Hire a part-time Director of Children's Ministries
- Form a Family Ministries Team
- Form an Investigative Team to explore what it would take to move all of the children's classes onto one floor

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

AUGUST

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| <p>2 Communion Brown Bag 8:30 AM Trad. Worship 9:30 AM Coffee 9:45 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday Sch 10:30 AM Coffee 11:00 AM Contemporary Worship 2:00 PM Girls & Guys Afternoon</p> | <p>3 12:00 PM Mah Jongg 1:30 PM Food Pantry 4:30 PM Senior Supper</p> | <p>4 6:45 AM Renovaré 8:30 AM Staff 10:00 AM Pastoral Staff 12:00 PM Assistance Appt. 1:30 PM Food Pantry</p> | <p>5 9:15 AM Wm. Bible Study 7:00 PM Staff Parish 8:00 PM AA's</p> | <p>6 8:00 AM SHIP 11:00 AM Bld Pres Chk 11:30 AM Thurs. Lunch</p> | <p>7 5:30 PM Bross/Ruble Rehearsal</p> | <p>8 Backpack Giveaway 5:30 PM Bross/Ruble Wedding</p> |
| <p>9 8:30 AM Trad. Worship 9:30 AM Coffee 9:45 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday Sch 10:30 AM Coffee 11:00 AM Contemporary Worship 6:00 PM The Grove</p> | <p>10 12:00 PM Mah Jongg 1:30 PM Food Pantry</p> | <p>11 6:45 AM Renovaré 8:00 AM Tower Topics 8:30 AM Staff 10:00 AM Pastoral Staff 1:30 PM Food Pantry</p> | <p>12 7:30 AM Travelers trip 9:15 AM Wm. Bible Study 1:00 PM Elder-Law 7:00 PM Special Sing Choir 8:00 PM AA's</p> | <p>13 8:00 AM SHIP 11:00 AM Lunch Activity 11:30 AM Thurs. Lunch</p> | <p>14 6:00 PM Compass Church Rehearsal</p> | <p>15 7:45 AM Wedding Party 1:00 PM Compass Church Wedding</p> |
| <p>16 50 + Membership 8:30 AM Trad. Worship 9:30 AM Coffee 9:45 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday Sch 10:30 AM Coffee 11:00 AM Contemporary Worship 12:00 PM Disciple Team 3:00 PM Eat Dessert First 5:00 PM Youth Council</p> | <p>17 12:00 AM Mah Jongg 1:30 PM Food Pantry 4:30 PM Preschool Board</p> | <p>18 6:45 AM Renovaré 8:30 AM Staff 10:00 AM Pastoral Staff 12:00 PM Assistance Appt. 1:30 PM Food Pantry 5:30 PM Martha Mary Circle</p> | <p>19 6:00 AM Men's Brkfst prep 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast 9:15 AM Wm. Bible Study 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir 8:00 PM AA's</p> | <p>20 8:00 AM SHIP 11:00 AM Lunch Activity 11:30 AM Thurs. Lunch</p> | <p>21 7:15 AM Kingdom Adviser's</p> | <p>22</p> |
| <p>23 8:30 AM Trad. Worship 9:30 AM Coffee 9:45 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday Sch 10:30 AM Coffee 11:00 AM Contemporary Worship 6:00 PM The Grove</p> | <p>24 12:00 PM Mah Jongg 1:30 PM Food Pantry</p> | <p>25 6:45 AM Renovaré 8:00 AM Tower Topics 8:30 AM Staff 10:00 AM Pastoral Staff 11:00 AM Wesleyan Cir. 1:30 PM Food Pantry 7:00 PM Children's Ministries</p> | <p>26 5:45 PM Handbells 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir 8:00 PM AA's</p> | <p>27 8:00 AM SHIP 11:00 AM Lunch Activity 11:30 AM Thurs. Lunch</p> | <p>28 1:00 PM UMW Exec.</p> | <p>29</p> |
| <p>30 8:30 AM Trad. Worship 9:30 AM Coffee 9:45 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday Sch 10:30 AM Coffee 11:00 AM Contemporary Worship 12:30 PM Youth going to Indianapolis Greek Festival 6:00 PM The Grove</p> | <p>31 12:00 PM Mah Jongg 1:30 PM Food Pantry</p> | | | | | |