

The First United Methodist Church of Lowell

Tele-Christian ~ October 2018 Edition

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

Words for the Journey.....

The pages of Mr. Calendar tell us that October is among us. We are entering the season of crisp days, changing of the leaves' colors and harvest. It is a magical time of year here in Indiana.

As summer slowly submits to autumn, we often examine our lives a little more closely. This is a great time to examine if we are using all the gifts God has given us to His glory.

Some people will evaluate if they attend our worship service as frequently as they should. We have a new 8:00 and 10:30 option each Sunday morning. 'Which of these fits better into my Sunday routine? How will I adjust that thinking as the dark days of winter descend upon us?'

Some people will evaluate how they support our church. 'The financial gifts I give to my church should reflect the depth of my spiritual life. We should give freely, generously and without expectations of how I think the money should be used.'

Our annual Stewardship Campaign has begun. What will be your attitude as you fill out your pledge card this year?

Some people will evaluate how they do ministry within their church. It is also time to consider who serves our church in what ministry and administrative areas. We have important tasks which match your interests and abilities. How will you stretch yourself a little this year and serve your church in new ways?

Our annual Service Campaign will soon begin. In what areas will you hear God call you to serve your church?

Some people will evaluate how our church does ministry in our community and around the world. The time is almost completed for the various committees to submit their budget requests for the coming year. How are we pushing our church forward? How are we looking for new ways to reach new people? The response to Stewardship and Service helps us see how we can move deeper into ministry.

While we are pondering in the Fall, on Sunday, October 7, we will host a guest speaker who will talk about good and evil. He will speak at both worship services. He will also lead a special teaching session at 2:00 in the afternoon, which will include a time for Q & A's. There is no cost for this event. Please register by calling the church office for the afternoon event so we will have sufficient materials for all.

Fall is in the air. How is God calling you more closely to himself in this beautiful season?

Pastor Rick

October Sunday Sermon and Scripture Schedule

October 7 ~ Doctor Michael Peterson

Scripture ~ Romans 8:28

Sermon Title ~ *'God is At Work'*

October 14 ~

Scripture ~ Luke 12:22-34

Sermon Title ~ *'Me? Worry?'*

October 21 ~

Scripture ~ Luke 12:25-48

Sermon Title ~ *'A Great Trust'*

October 28 ~ Al Martin

Scripture ~ Luke 18:9-14

Sermon Title ~ *'The Pharisee, the Tax Collector and Reformation Sunday'*



October Worship News

On Sunday, October 7, we will host Doctor Michael Peterson, professor of Philosophy at Asbury Theological Seminary, Wilmore, KY. He will lead both our morning worship services, as well as a teaching session at 2:00 Sunday afternoon. (For the PM session, please call the office or sign the sheet in the Narthex so we can plan our set up). If you wish, you may prepare for his visit by reading the book of Job. We hope you plan to attend and bring a friend.

Thanks to Sam Conley, our church now offers guest WIFI throughout our building. This will allow us to connect to the Internet with our wireless devices. To connect your WIFI enabled device, look for "FUMCoL-Guest" network and use the password "welcomehere", all lowercase letters with no spaces. Coverage extends throughout the east, west, and south sides of the building, but is currently weak in the basement and north side. Plans are in place to strengthen these areas before the end of 2019. (Thanks, Sam, for all you do!)

We need additional greeters and ushers for Sunday mornings. If you would like to serve your church in this way, please make a note on your attendance card or call me. Acolytes are also needed for the 10:30 service.

Fall Worship Schedule

Worship is at 8:00 and 10:30 with Sunday School for all ages at 9:15

Martha's Coffee House is open in the library from 9:00-10:30.

Bread for Life is every Thursday. Dinner from 5:30-6:15 Worship 6:15-7:00.

Charlene Grant,

Chairperson

219-671-1044

granttc@sbcglobal.net



For where your treasure is,
there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:21

What is Stewardship?

Christian Stewardship is the grateful and responsible use of God's gifts in light of God's purpose as revealed in Jesus Christ. Stewardship may include living and telling the Good News; wisely employing God-given human resources, abilities, and relationships; and sharing material resources. Stewardship is a joyful act for the sake of God's world. Stewardship is not simply about money. Stewardship is a fundamental of Christian discipleship. It is about how we live and how we give. What we give to God is in response for all that God has given us. We give time, talent, and treasure in response to the gifts of unconditional love, salvation, and grace.

We are now embarking upon the month where each of us will be asked how we will commit to the further growth of all the wonderful stewardship programs our church offers. We will be asked to make a "Pledge." **What is a pledge and why does it mean so much to Lowell Methodist Church?** A pledge is your commitment of a certain amount of money to help this church community grow. Lowell United Methodist Church is our "spiritual" home, and your pledge helps us extend that welcome to many others as well as meeting the spiritual needs of our present members. Your pledge says, "I am part of this church community, and I want to show that this church and its goals are important to me."

Your giving is personal and only you can know what is right for you. Your pledge is a serious commitment to the church; a promise that you intend to provide a certain level of financial support in the next year. Your pledge is vital to Lowell United Methodist Church because we depend on it to plan for the future.

During the month of October all members of our congregation will witness several activities associated with the "Stewardship Program." All members will be receiving a "Stewardship Letter" mailed to their home during the last week of September. Also, a "Commitment Pledge Card" will be included in the mailing. On the Sundays of September 30 and 7 there will be a church member who will briefly speak ("The Three Minute Speaker") to the topic of "Giving" and why they give. The plans are to have "Three Minute Speakers" at the 8:00 and 10:30 services. We will also have speakers at Bread 4 Life on October 4 and October 11. On Sunday, October 14, there will be the opportunity to place the "Commitment Cards" in the offering plate. For those who attend the Bread 4 Life Thursday services we will ask that your "Commitment Cards" be placed in the offering plate on Thursday, October 11.

Think. Pray. Stretch. Commit to being a caring and compassionate giver.

Tom Stoner

Finance Committee

Inspiration from the Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recently received a letter from Bishop Julius C. Trimble thanking the Lowell United Methodist Church for giving faithfully 100% to the tithe covenant in 2017. The following is a copy of that message:

Dear Friends:

I am writing to thank you for your faithful payment of your 2017 tithes and district askings. According to our records, you are one of 575 churches which tithed at or above the 90% level! Thank You! Because of your faithfulness, lives are saved, miracles are multiplied, and our witness is shared locally and globally. Because of your faithfulness, the budget of the Annual Conference is supported, our denomination's shared ministries are supported, and the necessary underpinning has been provided for all of the additional mission giving, Advance Special, special offerings, and related efforts which depend upon our connectional structure. Because of your faithfulness to tithing, a young child was able to make her first public commitment to Christ through our camping program, a pastor's spouse was able to be treated for a life-threatening disease without experiencing catastrophic financial drain, and a college student received guidance from a university chaplain. Along with these ministries you have enabled your church to be connected to the people in need around the world.

Thank you for your generous giving in the past and thank you for your faithfulness this year in meeting your obligations and opportunities for ministry. In recognition of your faithfulness, I am enclosing a special recognition that I hope you will post and share with your congregation.

May God continue to bless you with generous hearts and with abundant resources to share.

Be encouraged,

Bishop Julius C. Trimble

We will post the certificate in the Narthex for your observation. May it serve as an encouraging reminder during this stewardship season. Our faithfulness in God's presence in our lives can be enriched through our sharing of the gifts and resources that God has provided. We reach other lives when we, without reservation and with a giving heart, seek to play a role in God's ministries.



CHILD CARE POSITION AVAILABLE

If you know a student that is interested in daycare or elementary education, The First United Methodist Church of Lowell has a paid Nursery Attendant position available on a part-time basis. Attendants typically work from 7:30 a.m. to noon every other Sunday with some additional time during holiday seasons (Christmas, Easter, etc.). Candidates must be 18 years of age, willing to take a CPR/Universal Precautions/AED class which is paid for by the Church, and approve a background check. The ideal candidate will supervise 0 - 3 year old's, engage children in a positive manner, communicate effectively with children and adults alike, and work with other attendants in seeing that the nursery is covered every Sunday.

To submit a resume, request an application or job description contact:

First United Methodist Church of Lowell
520 E. Commercial Avenue
Lowell, IN 46356
(219) 696-9219
E Mail: umcfriends@sbcglobal.net



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Adult Study Opportunities

Each Sunday at 9:15 you have the chance to expand your biblical knowledge and deepen your understanding of God's Word. Three adult discussion groups are currently meeting on the upper level from 9:15-10:00 a.m.

Room 300 The WINGS discussion group, facilitated by Al Martin, will finish the DVD study on the Forgiveness of Jesus on Oct. 14. On October 21, they will start the DVD series "The Parables of Jesus" that will continue through November.

"Jesus communicated deep spiritual truths through simple, vivid, and engaging stories. The Parables made the Kingdom of God understandable to His listeners. This Deeper Connections Bible Study will give you new insights into these marvelous stories so you can appreciate more deeply their relevance for your life."

Room 301 The Bible study class, led by David Schoon, is continuing with their chapter by chapter study of Esther and then will start Daniel.

Room 304 The FRIENDS discussion group, facilitated by Don Bales, will complete the Max Lucado study "Anxious for Nothing" on Oct. 7. On October 14, they will begin a new LifeGuide Bible Study called "Spiritual Warfare."

"The greatest threats to our faith, our families and our church do not come from the demonic influences we can see but from those that we cannot see - the ones so cunning that they are virtually invisible. Come and learn the answer to three crucial questions: Who is our real enemy? What is their plan of attack? How can we defend ourselves in battle and be victorious?"

Face Time for Youth

Did you know that each Sunday from 9:15-10:00 in the youth room (303) all junior and senior high youth are invited to join Cheryl and Pastor Rick for a time of fellowship and learning? We have been meeting for the past three weeks. So far, we have learned that the red light that hangs in the sanctuary is called The Eternal Flame. We took a tour of the church and discovered many new things about our church building. We have discussed the Trinity and the role of the three parts of the Trinity. If you are a youth in Grades 6-12, please come join us. If you are a parent or grandparent of youth in this age group, please encourage them to give us a try.



Pictorial Directory

Cheryl Jones

The initial part of the directory is completed. Pictures have been taken. Now we will be working with Lifetouch to get the directory ready to go to print. I hope that in about 6 weeks our new directories will be here. If you were not able to get your picture taken and would like to submit a picture, please do so **by Friday, October 5**. You can send a picture digitally in JPEG format to the church office at umcfriends@sbcglobal.net or to me at glassparsonage@hotmail.com.

MINISTRY IN ACTION



MUSIC NOTES

FROM BETTY KELLEY, MUSIC CHAIRPERSON

WHEN SEPTEMBER ROLLED AROUND, THE MUSIC MAKERS OF OUR CHURCH WERE SO HAPPY TO GET BACK TO PRACTICES! THE PRAISE TEAM, CHANCEL CHOIR, GODSBELLS, CHILDREN'S CHOIR, AND OUR LEADERS, DAVID AND MICHELLE, ARE ALL HARD AT WORK AND ENJOYING EVERY MINUTE OF IT! THEY ARE PRACTICING MUSIC FOR SUNDAY SERVICES, FOR CHRISTMAS, AND FOR OUR HARVEST FESTIVAL OF MUSIC WHICH WILL BE HELD SUNDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 28 AT 6:00 P.M.

THE CHOIRS ARE ALWAYS OPEN TO THOSE WANTING TO JOIN. ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS SHOW UP AT PRACTICE! PRAISE TEAM PRACTICES ON WEDNESDAY AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE SANCTUARY; GODSBELLS PRACTICE ON THURSDAYS AT 4:30 P.M. IN THE BALCONY; AND CHANCEL CHOIR PRACTICES ON THURSDAY AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE SANCTUARY. YOU WILL BE GIVEN A WARM WELCOME AND ALL OF THE HELP THAT YOU NEED! CHILDREN'S CHOIR MEETS SUNDAY MORNING WHILE AT JR. CHURCH DURING THE 10:30 WORSHIP TIME. PAIGE AND MICHELLE WILL WELCOME YOUR CHILDREN!



NEWS FROM THE HOUSEHOLD PANTRY

Julie Donovan, Chairperson

Just a quick update on how our Household Pantry is doing. We continue to serve our community with products thanks to all of the generous donations from our church family and many other wonderful people!! Please welcome Pam Nelson to our household pantry crew! THANK YOU TO EVERYONE INVOLVED WITH THE PANTRY!! THANK YOU TO THE CONGREGATION FOR ALL YOU DO TO SUPPORT THE PANTRY!!

Registrations January-September 136

PANTRY ATTENDANCE

January-September 581 families/1756 people

January	59 families/178 people
February	61 families/186 people
March	69 families/211 people
April	63 families/188 people
May	61 families/200 people
June	71 families/222 people
July	65 families/182 people
August	76 families/198 people
September	56 families/191 people





Hulalujah!

Many women have been asking me to bring back our sacred hula ministry called Hu-la-lu-jah, so.....

We will have our first meeting on Saturday, October 6, at 8 a.m. in the Narthex. We practice in front of the large mirror. Men, women, and children welcome! Women, bring something to wrap around your hips like a sarong or a large tea towel. Even if you never want to perform, the gentle hula is good exercise.

For more information contact Peggy Hendricks at 219-765-2088.



College Ministry Update

From Trudy Corning, Congregational Care

As a church family, we like our college students, near and far, to stay connected to their home church through correspondence and prayer. We currently know of twelve college students from our church whose addresses have been submitted:

Robert Corning, Hammond IN
Bryce Hayden, East Peoria IL
Samantha Ingebretsen, Muncie IN
Terra Kelley, Bloomington IN
Rebecca Koon, Lowell IN
Madison Lacy, Terre Haute IN

Kimee Mooney, Lowell IN
David Nadolski, West Lafayette IN
James Nadolski, West Lafayette IN
Kristen Newlin, Indianapolis IN
McKenna Smith, Spartanburg SC
Megan Snell, West Lafayette IN

If you know of other college students from our congregation, please submit their name and mailing address to the church office.

Later this semester, the college ministry will be sending “final exam boxes” to our students. Donations of small items are being accepted. Examples: post-it notes, hi-lighter markers, chewing gum, granola bars, inspirational book mark or pocket card, etc. Please place donated items in the box labeled “college students” located in the Narthex.

Finally, please continue to pray for these students and this ministry. Your continued support and prayers are greatly appreciated.

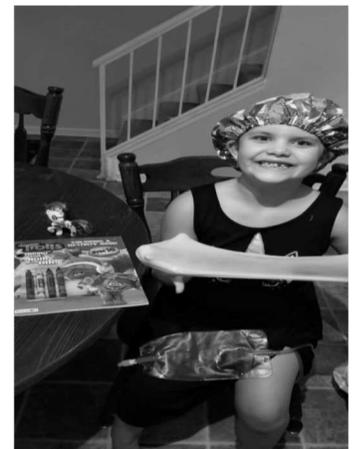


Sewing with a Purpose

From Nancy Lain & Patrice Martin

Several ladies of our church family have been meeting on Thursdays at 3:00 in the youth room to create surgical caps for children. The caps are sewn from a rainbow of colors and patterns, including animals, ballerinas, balloons and cars. They will be sterilized and worn by children facing surgeries. Our first recipient (see photo) at Riley Hospital was thrilled and felt very special to be the only one to have such a unique head covering.

If you have remnants of kid-friendly material large enough to fit a 24 inch circular pattern, or thin elastic at least 15 inches long, these items could be used for this outreach mission. Bring any donations to the southwest corner of the third floor of the church. This is just one way to bring the love of Jesus to the community!





Operation Christmas Child ... Shoeboxes that reach around the world
From Ethel Devine, Missions Committee

Last year nearly eleven million shoebox gifts were collected worldwide with Operation Christmas Child, a program of the Samaritan's Purse International Relief organization. That is a big number, but each gift goes to a specific child like Maryann. Maryann had never been told that she was loved and her little heart longed to hear those words. When she received her shoebox, she was told that God loved her and inside of her shoebox she found a note that the shoebox packer had included telling her that God loved her and that they did too! For the first time she was filled with hope for her future. She attended the Greatest Journey discipleship program and at her graduation her father heard the gospel and accepted Christ. Now Maryann and her father serve together in the church, and she knows that she is loved by her heavenly father as well as her earthly one. All this started with a simple shoebox gift.

Our church will be participating in the Operation Christmas Child program from October 7-28. Take a look at the bulletin board in the Narthex and watch for the display table on October 7 with the information and shoeboxes for this ministry. I would love to let you know more about how you can pack a box and change the life of a child. You may contact Ethel Devine at 219-616-6676.



CHURCH EVENTS



Let's Celebrate!

THE MUSIC COMMITTEE INVITES YOU TO COME SEE AND HEAR "A HARVEST FESTIVAL OF MUSIC". THIS WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 28, IN OUR SANCTUARY. A WARM, FRIENDLY SPIRIT WITH SMELLS OF APPLE CIDER AND HOME-MADE COOKIES WILL PERMEATE OUR CHURCH AND IT WILL BE FILLED WITH THE HAPPY SOUNDS OF MUSIC AS WE CELEBRATE THE BEAUTY OF GOD'S HANDIWORK IN THE AUTUMN OF THE YEAR. ALL OF THE VARIOUS MUSICAL GROUPS WITHIN OUR CHURCH WILL BE PERFORMING FOR THIS SPECIAL OCCASION, AND WE WILL HAVE A "PUMPKIN CAROLS SING-ALONG" TOO! WE HOPE THAT YOU WILL INVITE FRIENDS AND FAMILY MEMBERS TO THIS FUN-FILLED EVENING OF FELLOWSHIP AND MUSIC. THE TIME IS 6:00 P.M. ON OCTOBER 28.

BETTY KELLEY, MUSIC CHAIRPERSON



Celebrating our Veterans

On Sunday, November 11, the Congregational Care committee will be hosting a time for our church family to thank our church veterans for their service to our country. Everyone is invited to join our veterans for conversation, coffee, cake and other refreshments during our regular Martha's Coffee House fellowship time, which is 9:00-10:30 a.m. in the church library. Please feel free to invite a veteran to join us that morning.

If you are a veteran who is new to our church, please notify Laura Hutchison at 696-0321, or Kim in the office at 696-9219. Anyone wishing to assist with this recognition morning may contact Laura as well.



Attention Senior Citizens!

Do you ever wish you could see a movie or go out to eat, but you don't want to go alone? Or perhaps you are a senior couple who enjoys being part of a group outing. Well, maybe we are the group for you. We are SENIOR MOMENTS, and we would like you to join us for some fun and fellowship.

Join us on Sundays, following the 10:30 service, for **breakfast/lunch**. We usually go to Denny's or George's, but we are open to suggestions.

Sometimes we go to a **movie** on Tuesday afternoons because that is "\$5 Ticket Tuesday".

I would also like to invite you to come to the Lake Village Grange on Tuesday mornings from 8-11 for our **Biscuit and Gravy Music Jam**. They ring the breakfast bell at 8:30 a.m. for some really delicious biscuits and gravy. Then musicians from around the area play and sing until 11, mostly Country & Western, some Bluegrass, and Gospel, of course! No set charge, just a donation can for the food.

Please join us! For more information you can call, text, or email me to get your name on the list.

Peggy Hendricks



UMW Birthday Party
Cheryl Jones



On Monday, September 17, the Lowell United Methodist Women hosted a Birthday Party. It was a fun evening of fellowship, food, and entertainment. We had 70 UMW in attendance. We had women from Griffith, Hebron, DeMotte, Crown Point, and, of course, Lowell to name a few. The tables were beautifully decorated. Each table represented a calendar month. It was fun sitting at a table with others that shared our birthday month. We enjoyed a meal of pulled pork sandwiches and too many salads to name. The dessert of the evening was cupcakes. Peggy Hendricks led us in music. Beth Cummins, a Christian ventriloquist, was our entertainment. Beth reinforced how important it is that Jesus is the center of our life. Thank you to everyone who came, decorated a table, helped set up or clean up, or donated food. If you missed it, we hope you can join us next year.

WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday - *Worship* ~ 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. (in sanctuary), *Children's Sunday School* 9:15-10:15 (basement)

Youth & Adult Sunday School 9:15-10:00 ~ WINGS (300), F.O.M. (301), Youth (303), FRIENDS (304)

Monday - A/A 12 p.m. (rm. 300), Guitar 6 p.m. (rm. 303)

Tuesday - Household Pantry 9-12 and 5-6 (1st and 3rd Tuesday)

Wednesday - Weight Watchers 6 p.m. (300), A/A - 8 p.m. (Fellowship Hall), Al/Anon - 8 p.m. (library)

Thursday - *BRD4life* dinner 5:30 p.m., *Worship* 6:15 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

October 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Staff/Parish 6pm Tri-Kappa 6pm (basement)	2 Crock Pot 4:30 (basement) Children's Council 7pm (library)	3 UMW Executive Meeting 4:30pm (301) Worship Meeting 6:30pm	4 Cub Scouts 6:30 (303)	5	6 Hulalujah 8am (Narthex) Birthday Party 1pm (basement)
7 Guest Speaker Dr. Peterson 8 & 10:30, 2 p.m.	8 Nominations Meeting 6:30pm Susanna Wesley 7pm (library)	9 Crock Pot 4:30 (basement) Trustees 6:30pm Missions 7pm	10	11	12	13 Hulalujah 8am (Narthex)
14 Stewardship Sunday	15 Nominations Meeting 6:30pm	16 Crock Pot 4:30 (basement) Congregational Care 6:30pm (301)	17 Finance 5:30pm	18 Cub Scouts 6:30 (303)	19 Movie Night 6pm 'God's Not Dead 3: A Light in Darkness' (basement)	20 Hulalujah 8am (Narthex)
21	22 Ad-Council 6:30pm (basement)	23 Crock Pot 4:30 (basement)	24	25	26	27 Hulalujah 8am (Narthex)
28 Harvest Festival of Music 6pm	29	30 Crock Pot 4:30 (basement) Alzheimer's Support Group 6pm (library) Nominations 6:30	31			