

First United Methodist Church

Stretching for the Finish Line



The winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, Korea have closed. Like many of you I stayed up late pulling for American athletes—especially Indiana’s own Nick Goepper—to excel. In the process I’ve learned a lot about sports I knew nothing about like Curling. One of the most exciting events to watch was an incredibly close Biathlon in which the leaders stretched at the finish line to get their boot across first for the Gold Medal.

great hardships in their goal.

The Apostle Paul had the same kind of courage and determination. In the face of incredible hardships (read 2 Corinthians 11:24-31 for what he endured) he never gave up.

At the end of his life Paul says, *“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful. ⁸ And now the prize awaits me-- the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give me on the day of his return. And the prize is not just for me but for all who eagerly look forward to his appearing.”*



I recently learned that Billy Graham finished his race at the age of 99. He impacted millions of lives with the Gospel of Salvation. A recent episode of *The Crown* showed his influence on Queen Elizabeth. My life was profoundly shaped by an international evangelism training event Graham and his organization put on in Amsterdam in 2000. I don’t think heaven hands out gold medals. But certainly Graham deserves one.

German Madrazo of Mexico finished dead last in the 15 kilometer cross country ski event in Pyeongchang. He came in 116th place, a full 26 minutes after the Gold Medal was won.



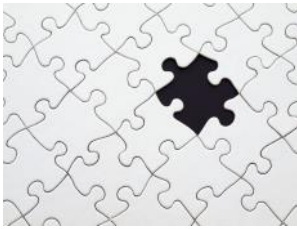
When Madrazo reached the finish line he was welcomed by his cheering friends and rivals from other warm weather countries including Colombia, Tonga, Morocco and Portugal. They handed him the Mexican flag and then lifted him on their shoulders to celebrate.

The Apostle Paul, Billy Graham, and others who have finished their race are now cheering for us. It is our time to carry the banner. It is our time to tell others the good news of Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. My prayer is that you and I will be tenacious in pursuing the prize. It’s time for us to stretch for the finish line.

Blessings and peace,
Pastor Beth Ann

* Phone: 812-550-4736 * Email: revbethanncook@gmail.com * Instagram: revbethanncook

The Finance Corner



Don't Be the Missing Piece

You still have time to register for the Leadership Retreat on Saturday, March 10th. This is going to be a great day of fellowship and planning for the future! Registration forms

are on the Welcome Table or you can call the church office.

For the first time in a couple years, our checking account ended in the red for the month of January - - and February also ended in the red. Giving has decreased to the point that a special Finance Meeting has been called for March 6 to, as Pastor phrased it, "realign the budget."

We would remind the Committees of the guideline adopted by the Finance Committee October 21, 2015 which is as follows: Any non-Trustee expenditure not budgeted needs approval of Finance Committee before purchase. Please note that no Committee is spending wildly out of control - it's just that giving is WAY DOWN - hence our monthly Budget is not being met/financed.

There could possibly be the thought that since we were the recipient of the \$100,000 Endowment we aren't in need of the normal tithes and offerings. Nothing could be further from the truth. It is not our intent to tap into that for normal operating expenses, but rather find ways to utilize those funds to propel us into the future.

We would welcome two things: first your prayers concerning our financial situation, and second any offerings you might feel led to give.

Your Co-Chairs,
Deb Binford and Scott Schafer

Holy Week Services



- Sun, Mar 25:** Palm Sunday
8:15 & 10:45 AM
Sanctuary
- Thurs, Mar 29** Maundy Thursday 7:00 PM
Sanctuary
- Fri, Mar 30:** Good Friday 12:00 PM
Calvary Presbyterian
- Sun, April 1:** Easter Morning 8:15 & 10:45 AM
Sanctuary
- Sun, April 1:** Easter Brunch 9:30 AM
Fellowship Hall
(Between Services)



Dear Friends,
I would like to thank everyone for all that you've done to help with Mom. She will be greatly missed.
Athena Eisan & Kendra Hall,
family of Catherine Grass

Dear FUMC Friends,
Thank you for the lovely altar flowers and for delivering them on a cold, icy day. It just happens it would have been our 55th Anniversary! Thank you, too, to Rich and Karen Wild for bringing bulletins to me, and other goodies too! Thanking you all, Blessings, Sonja Hanawalt

Dear Friends,
Thank you so much for he beautiful Altar Flowers! It made my day! Blessings, Jayne Sullivan

March Books of the Month

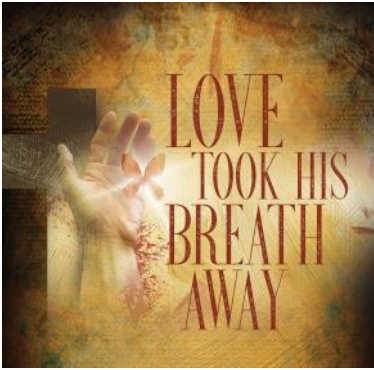
Love God Love People by Shane Bishop is a collection of stories that comprise our lives. Stories help us remember, infuse meaning and convey the pain and exhilaration found in the seemingly unremarkable act of daily living.

A Firm Foundation— Hope and vision for a New Methodist Future- This Wesleyan Covenant Association resource explores what it means to remain faithful disciples in the theological tradition of historic Methodism in our day and time.



Church & Community News

Join the Choir for Easter!



Want to sing with the choir on Easter? Practices have begun at 6:30 PM on Wednesdays for the musical "Love Took His Breath Away." We will also schedule a couple extra practices on a different day so that those who can't make Wednesday practice can

still be a part of our choir. Call Elaine at 574.398.2850 or just show up at practice. We would love to see you!

Loaves and Fishes

First Church is hosting Loaves and Fishes on Saturday, March 17, from 11 AM-12:30 PM. If you would like to volunteer, contact Luann Hamilton at hamilton@lcsc.12.us.



Little Children's Ministry Verse of the Month

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son
John 3:16

IMPACT 2018 Camps and Events

Impact 2818s Camps are designed to help children uncover their character and identity in Jesus Christ through friendships, exploration, worship, discovery, community, and hope.

Christian activities will help

children discover the gospel, explore big questions, and journey on discipleship steps. For additional information on camp schedules, please go to www.BeACamper.com.



Joy Circle

The Joy Circle takes seriously its purpose to expand concepts of mission through participation in local ministries of the church. The following is a list of ministries it has supported in 2018:

- ◆ Peak Community Services
- ◆ Salvation Army
- ◆ Habitat for Humanity
- ◆ Emmaus Mission
- ◆ Big Brothers Big Sisters
- ◆ AIM
- ◆ Local Domestic Task Force
- ◆ Kokomo Domestic Task Force
- ◆ LCM- playground equipment

Knotted Blanket Ministry:

Workers are needed for making fleece throws for domestic violence victims.



When completed the throws will be donated to the local Domestic Violence Task Force.

Anyone who attends First Church is invited. The work day is March 7, 2018, from 1– 3 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring sharp scissors, a ruler, and a pencil. Fleece will be provided or you may bring your own.

Directions will be waiting for you. If you have questions or plan to attend, please phone Elizabeth Billman at 722-3453.

Salvation Army Food Pantry Fundraiser

Shiloh Christian Church Women's Ministry is hosting a Hap's Chicken Bash on Wednesday, March 21. Call 242-1935, or 722-2074 for details.



Point of Grace Concert



Point of Grace will be at Cross America in Kokomo on March 17 at 7 PM. For tickets go to WFRN.COM.

Calendar, Birthdays, Anniversaries

March Bible Reading Plan



| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1 Deuter. 5-7 | 17 Joshua 18-20 |
| 2 Deuter. 8-10 | 18 Joshua 21-22 |
| 3 Deuter. 11-13 | 19 Joshua 23-24 |
| 4 Deuter. 14-17 | 20 Judges 1-3 |
| 5 Deuter. 18-20 | 21 Judges 4-6 |
| 6 Deuter. 21-23 | 22 Judges 7-8 |
| 7 Deuter. 24-26 | 23 Judges 9-10 |
| 8 Deuter. 27-28 | 24 Judges 11-13 |
| 9 Deuter. 29-31 | 25 Judges 14-16 |
| 10 Deuter. 32-34 | 26 Judges 17-19 |
| 11 Joshua 1-4 | 27 Judges 20-21 |
| 12 Joshua 5-7 | 28 Ruth 1-4 |
| 13 Joshua 8-9 | 29 1 Samuel 1-3 |
| 14 Joshua 10-11 | 30 1 Samuel 4-7 |
| 15 Joshua 12-14 | 31 1 Samuel 8-10 |
| 16 Joshua 15-17 | |

March Birthdays

| | |
|----------|----------------------------------|
| March 1 | Lacey Ogle |
| March 6 | Dale Sullivan Betsy Ulrich |
| March 8 | Tad Wilkinson |
| March 12 | Max Baker Steven Longnecker |
| March 14 | Sally Mauck |
| March 15 | Jerry Miller |
| March 17 | Jan Blackburn |
| March 19 | Phil Starkey |
| March 21 | Randy Hall |
| March 23 | Austin Peterson Leila Popejoy |
| March 24 | John Beachler Morgan Sailors |
| March 27 | Gary Provo |
| March 30 | Rosie Schafer |



March Anniversaries

| | |
|----------|-------------------------|
| March 14 | Bill and Angie Minglin |
| March 15 | Dale and Jayne Sullivan |
| March 23 | Duane and Lori Sailors |
| March 24 | Brad and Heather Platt |

Standing Meetings

Mondays

7 AM Men's Fellowship, Parlor
10 AM Staff, Pastor's Office

Tuesdays

11 AM Prayer Meeting, Sanctuary
9:30 AM Bible Study, Parlor
1:30 PM Women's Bible Study (Sep - May)

Wednesdays

5:30 PM Bell Choir (Sep-May)
6:00 PM Bible Study (Sep-May)
6:30 PM Worship Choir (Sep-May)

Wednesday Night Bible Study

The Wednesday Night Bible Study on Mark will not meet on March 14, 21 or 28. The study will resume on Wednesday, April 4.



March Special Events & Meetings

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Mon, Mar 5 | LCM Board Meeting, 5 PM, Parlor |
| Tues, Mar 6 | Finance Mtg, 6 PM Parlor |
| Wed, Mar 7 | Blanket Mtg, 1-3 PM, Fellowship Hall |
| Sat, Mar 10 | Leadership Retreat, 9 AM-4 PM Geneva Center |
| Sun, Mar 11 | One Great Hour of Sharing |
| Wed, Mar 14 | Joy Circle, 9AM, Fellowship Hall No Wed PM Bible Study |
| Sat, Mar 17 | Lenten Breakfasts (See pg. 7) Loaves and Fishes, 11 AM-12:30 PM FH |
| Wed, Mar 21 | No Wed PM Bible Study |
| Sat, Mar 24 | Lenten Breakfasts (See pg. 7) |
| Sun, Mar 25 | Palm Sunday |
| Wed, Mar 28 | No Wed PM Bible Study |
| Thurs, Mar 29 | Maundy Thursday Service, 7PM, Sanctuary |
| Fri, Mar 30 | Good Friday Service, 12 noon, Calvary Presbyterian |
| Sat, Mar 31 | Lenten Breakfasts (See pg. 7) |
| Sun, April 1 | Easter |

Concerns & Schedules



Prayer Concerns

- ◆ Bob Bartlett, Tammy and their mother
- ◆ Abigail Apperson
- ◆ Family of Pastor Michael Gonzales
- ◆ Art & Donna Cook
- ◆ Mike Burris
- ◆ Janice Gundrum
- ◆ Jen Mansberger
- ◆ Those effected by flooding

Military Service

Alex Karnafel
Matt Karnafel
Michael Kennedy
Joshua Lyons
Tim Strubell

Praying Together

To help us partner with you in prayer, please submit all requests in writing so we can add the names to our written prayer list. (Even if you have verbally requested prayer during a church service.) Thank you. Prayer concerns are usually listed for two weeks.

Church Leaders

OUR BISHOP
Bishop Julius Trimble

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT
Rev. Chris Newman-Jacobs

ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENTS
Rev. Lamar Imes
Rev. Kate Walker
Rev. Rob Seewald

Church Cluster

Crosswind UMC
Pastor Nick Robinson

First UMC
Pastor Beth Ann Cook

Main Street UMC
Rev. Damon Soper

Wheatland Avenue UMC
Pastor Michael Gonzalez

Nursing Homes

GOLDEN LIVING CENTER
Don Shaver

MCKINNEY PLACE
Donna Bartlett
Ruben Vizcarra

WOODBRIIDGE
Jim Hoffman

March Door Hosts

Sign-up Sheets are on the Mission Bulletin Board in the Café Area.

Educational Wing

8:15 Don & Cindy Collins
10:45 Karla Padfield

Nursery Hallway

8:15
10:45 Conna Kitchel

Narthex Hallway

8:15
10:45 Larry Kitchel



MARCH CAFÉ SCHEDULE



Thank you to our volunteers for baking and serving in our Café! Please provide 4 dozen baked items on the Sunday you have selected. Servers set-up and serve for our

Hospitality Time between services, and clean up after The Stand. Thank you!

Mar 4: Helen Gray
Mar 11: Conna Kitchel
Mar 18:
Mar 25:

Missions We Support

- Zoe Project
- Kev & Deb Vance, Zambia
- Clara Biswas, Cambodia
- UMCOR Global Refugees
- Kafakumba Tablet Program
- Kafakumba Water Project, Zambia
- Kafakumba Pastor's School, Zambia & Congo
- Little Children's Ministry
- Salvation Army
- Emmaus
- Kairos Torch
- Domestic Violence Task Force
- Kokomo Urban Outreach
- The Place to Be



Little Children's Ministry

Little Children's Ministry News

March 2018

Little Children's Ministry has lots of events approaching in the next couple of months. In March, we will be focusing on Easter. Nicole is preparing Chapel stories, projects, and lessons for the entire month of March. This will instill the true meaning of Easter in the minds and hearts of all of our little ones. We will be closed on Good Friday in observance of the Easter holiday.

Since candy bar sales started in February, we decided to postpone our February mission of collecting items for the Humane Society until March. Ms. Angel, a preschool teacher, is organizing the event. Her unique proposal is to have a bake sale which will raise items and money for animals in need. We would greatly appreciate LCM and FirstChurch families to bring in baked goods to be sold on Thursday, March 22nd and Friday, March 23rd. A picture of an animal from the Cass County Humane Society will be placed on each item. These items will be priced between \$1-3 OR an item (such as a bag of dog food, cat food, kitty litter, etc.) can be donated to receive a baked item of your choice. All proceeds will go to the Cass County Humane Society. The children are also participating in this event. Toddlers will be making cat toys and preschool will be making dog treats. This mission compliments the February Bible Verse, *"A friend loves at all times..."* Proverbs 17:17 (NIV)

Pastor Beth Ann is planning on hosting LCM Sunday on Sunday, April 29, during first service beginning at 8:15 AM. This will be a special Sunday that recognizes the staff of LCM. We are hoping to have the children who are attending LCM sing during the service. We will provide more details at a later date.

The "Project Playground" fund is well on the way to its \$15,000 goal! We began 2018 with \$3,000 from previous fundraisers. Candy bar sales were a huge success! The exact figure for candy bar sales will not be available until March 5; however, we have estimated a profit of \$4,000. Thank you to everyone who participated! Special thanks goes to a church member that donated \$100 for the playground fund and a \$100 donation from Joy Circle! The children and staff are very excited for the new equipment!

The Indiana Early Childhood Education Conference will be held on April 7. Twelve staff members have volunteered to attend this year's conference. This gives our staff the opportunity to receive 6 ½ hours of training. It is a wonderful conference that offers classes with a variety of subjects for different ages from newborn to 12 years old. We are excited to attend again this year!

Mission: Collect items for the Humane Society

Sincerely,

Belinda Jordan, Director

March Bible Verse: *For God so loves the world that he gave his one and only son*
John 3:16 (NIV)

LCM STAFF

Director - **Belinda Jordan**

Administrative Assistant - **Nicole Hacker**

Treasurer - **Tina Collins**



800 East Broadway • Logansport, IN 46947

Communication

Phone: 574.753.3491
Email: loganfirst@comcast.net
Web: www.loganfirst.org
Church Office Hours: M-F, 8:30 AM-12:30 PM
LCM Office Hours: M-F, 6 AM-6 PM

Sunday Services

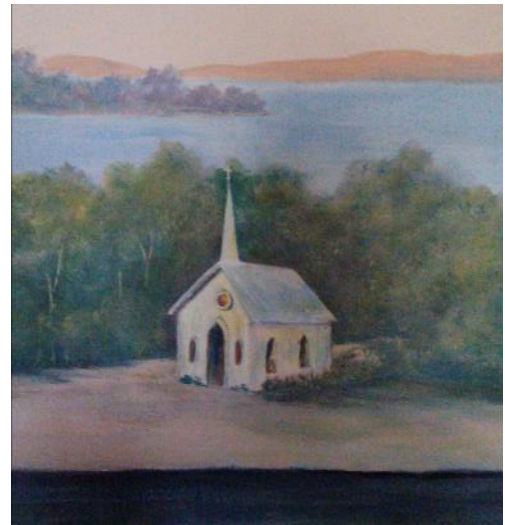
8:15 AM - Worship/Traditional
9:30 AM - Sunday School/Fellowship
10:45 AM - Contemporary Worship/*The Stand*
2:00 PM - Burmese Worship

Bible Studies

Men’s Monday Fellowship - 7 AM
Tuesday - 9:30 AM
Wednesday - 6 PM (Sep - May)

Church Staff

Pastor - Beth Ann Cook
Administrative Asst - Lori Shewman
LCM Administrative Asst - Nicole Hacker
Media Coordinator - Luann Hamilton
Treasurer - Elaine Hall
Financial Secretary - Penny Schaefer
Pianists - Deb Binford, Jeff Smith, Elaine Hall
Organist/Pianist - Gina Riendeau



Lenten Breakfast Schedule

- Mar 3: Women– First Baptist Church of Galveston
Men– Webb Chapel UMC
- Mar 10: Women– Royal Center UM Family Life Center
Men– Main Street UMC
- Mar 17: Women– First UMC
Men– Walton Christian
- Mar 24: Women– River of Life Christian Church
Men– All Saints
- Mar 31: Women– Shiloh Lutheran Church
Men– Calvary Presbyterian

Women’s Start Time: 8 AM, Men’s Start Time: 6:29 AM

Our Mission

The mission of the church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our Vision

REACH • EQUIP • SEND