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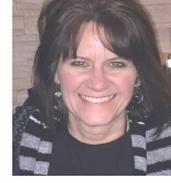
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Top Story Headline: Pastor Beth Ann Cook



Isaiah 35:1-2 Even the wilderness and desert will be glad in those days. The wasteland will rejoice and blossom with spring crocuses. Yes, there will be an abundance of flowers and singing and joy! The deserts will become as green as the mountains of Lebanon, as lovely as Mount Carmel or the plain of Sharon. There the Lord will display his glory, the splendor of our God.

As I write this most of the snow in my yard has melted away with the exception of a the big pile from cleaning off the drive. I feel like that melting snow is a metaphor for life right now. It feels good to walk out of the house in a light jacket and sense Spring is near. (Yes, I know. This is Northern Indiana and there is at least a month left before we are really past the risk of snow. But never the less it feels good!) The whole world seems to be re-emerging—not just from snow but from COVID 19 restrictions.

March brings the one year anniversary of the beginning of the COVID pandemic. Our lives have been completely upended by it. Everything we took for granted was changed.

Yesterday I did something for the first time in a whole year—I visited a patient in the hospital to pray with them. Visiting the sick is such a part of my identity as a pastor that not doing that was inconceivable. Yet for an entire year it has not been possible for me to be there with people who are having surgeries, in crisis or even near the end of life. Being able to do that was a huge milestone for me.

More people are returning to in person worship each week. On Sunday, Coffee Hour and Sunday School will resume which will feel like another huge milestone. COVID is not completely gone—but the snow is melting. And it feels good.

As I give thanks to God for all of these things I'm reminded that He is at work redeeming and renewing the whole world. That is the message of Lent and Easter. Praise God.

Blessings and peace,
Pastor Beth Ann

Finance Corner- Jerry Miller, Chair



In the Life of our Church we are beginning to see some return to normalcy with in-person Church and now Coffee Hour. Halleluiah!

It was a year ago that our lives changed. Actually, March 15, 2020, my birthday was the last time our family gathered for months. I am sure many of you had a similar experience.

I think the good Lord had to have a hand in helping researchers develop not one but three vaccines.

This pandemic has brought both good and bad news to the financial ministry of our Church. Fortunately, the good news is that we have many faithful and caring members who have continued to financially support First Church. Some have even gone a step above in supporting LCM, so the staff could be paid when they were closed for several weeks. The bad news is that we still have a few that have gone from being consistent to being inconsistent in their giving. I am prayerful that a return to normalcy will encourage all of us.

Trustee Report- Steve Longenecker, Chair



This last month we have all been dealing with winter and Covid 19. Both seem to be on the way out so we can be thankful for that glimmer of hope.

Items we have been working on this last month include:

Reducing heat in the building during the closure of LCM in order to save money.

Sandy Stuart's brother installed new handrails to the prayer room.

Replaced an emergency light in the hallway of the Education building.

Replaced cable on phone in the office.

Cass County Tire replaced the Alternator on the original church bus. They informed us that someone had attempted to cut off the catalytic converter. CCT was able to weld it back into operating condition. The frame is very badly rusted and the AC compressor is also making a significant amount of noise. CCT believes it is not worth replacing it due to the condition of the frame of the bus. Because we have more LCM students than can be serviced by one bus, we will have to replace that bus in the future.

Thank You



Dear First United Methodist Church, Thank you for "Love gift" while I was sick and off work waiting for Covid test results. Thankfully, the test came back negative, and I am back to work!

Sincerely,
Beth Nethercutt

Prayer Requests



- Herb Bowman
- Cheryl Lynn Orin
- Brad Helvey
- Cindy Mills
- Persecuted Christians

Lauren Hanawalt
Ed Hanawalt
Sharlene Arnold
Tim Taylor

Email your prayer requests to the church office at loganfirst@comcast.net or call 574-753-3491.

Nursing Homes



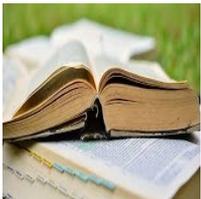
McKinney Place: Beverly Hess & Beverly Vietti
Woodbridge: Mike Doering
Milner Community Healthcare: Bev Bartunek

Active Duty Military



Braxton Baker Jacob Kaley Alex Karnafel Matt Karnafel
Oakley Lewellen Joshua Lyons Tim Strubell

March Daily Bible Reading



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

Birthdays



- March 6** Dale Sullivan
- March 12** Max Baker & Steven Longenecker
- March 14** Sally Mauck
- March 15** Jerry Miller
- March 17** Jan Blackburn
- March 19** Phil Starkey
- March 23** Sophia Hamilton
- March 24** John Beachler & Morgan Sailors
- March 27** Gary Provo
- March 28** Beverly Vietti
- March 30** Rosie Schafer & Erica Yerkes

Anniversaries



- March 15** Dale & Jayne Sullivan
- March 23** Duane & Lori Sailors
- March 24** Brad & Heather Platt

March Schedule:



Weekly Schedule:

- Sunday:** Coffee Hour, 9:15 AM, Fellowship Hall
Sullivan Sunday School Class, 9:15 AM, Parlor (Starting March 14)
(Class will gather briefly on March 7 @ 9:15 in Fellowship Hall)
- Monday:** Staff Meeting, 10 AM, Parlor
- Tuesday:** Bible Study, 9:30 AM, Parlor (Starting March 9)
Prayer, 11 AM, Sanctuary
- Wednesday:** Dial-up Devotion & Prayer with Pastor Beth Ann
Call 605-313-5919 Code: 635572

March Events/Meetings:

- Wednesday, March 10:** JOY Circle, 9 AM, Fellowship Hall
- Saturday, March 20:** Loaves and Fishes, 11 AM-12:30 PM
- Sunday, March 28:** Palm Sunday & Passover

The Importance of the COVID Vaccination– Heather Platt



The Pfizer and Moderna vaccinations have been found to reduce coronavirus infections by almost 95%, which is an outstanding statistic for vaccinations. Both were studied in trails of tens of thousands of volunteers and most people experienced no symptoms to mild symptoms such as site soreness. Some had mild flu like symptoms such as fever, generalized lethargy and weakness, fatigue, or headache occurring more commonly after the second dose. Reactions to vaccinations are a sign that our immune system is reviving up in recognition of the protein used inside the vaccination.

This vaccination is a messenger RNA vaccination. This vaccine is not made by a dead or live version of the virus, it is actually a protein that the body detects and forms antibodies to fight off an invasion. The injected protein tells our RNA to replicate and fight off future invasions by the coronavirus. It is clinically impossible to acquire a COVID infection from the vaccine.

Severe reactions to the COVID vaccine are extremely uncommon. Only 11 people in one million have had a severe reaction such as anaphylaxis. But because of this remote potential for an adverse event, people are asked to stay 15-30 minutes after receiving the vaccination to be monitored for symptoms.

According to health experts, approximately 75% of the population needs to be vaccinated to protect us from this pandemic. When we achieve this mark, we will have what's called "herd immunity" and our community will be protected from aggressive spreading. The current age of vaccine administration availability was dropped to 60 years of age, and we currently have openings at the health department for individuals interested in this protection.

We've seen mass devastation from this virus, so please consider doing your part to protect yourself and others from severe disease or death. Always wear a mask, disinfect your hands often and stay 6 ft away from people not within your household, when possible. Together we will overcome the great loss of life and the isolation we have felt during this time.

Take care,

Heather

Daylight Saving Time



Daylight Saving Time is a sure reminder that Spring is almost here. Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour on **Saturday, March 13**. Spring officially arrives six days later on Saturday, March 20, at 5:30 AM.

Little Children's Ministry: Belinda Jordan



LCM had to close for a period of 2 weeks in mid-February. We had 2 staff members and 1 child test positive for Covid. We were not able to contain the exposure to a classroom. Therefore, many staff were exposed, and we had to close the facility.

We were able to get a Temporary Assistance Grant from The Office of Early Learning Indiana in order to cover most of the payroll cost during the closure. Prior to closing, we had hired new people and were in the process of training them. These employees will now be able to work and allow us to successfully execute our COVID plan to keep all children separated as much as possible. Now, in the event of an exposure we can close a classroom or area and not the entire facility.

We continue to strive to do what is best for our LCM families and staff. We are grateful to God for all the donations and grant opportunities that we have had during this pandemic to allow LCM to survive. We are a big part of our community childcare services, and we pray that we remain strong for another 30 years. Thank you for all your support!

Prior to closing, the classes were able to have their Valentine's Day Parties. Most classes had Valentine's card exchange, cupcakes, candy, and lots of other sweet treats. The LCM parents are wonderful in providing goodies for their child's classroom!

Lifetouch will be visiting on March 16 and 17 to take Spring pictures. This is a great sign that spring is around the corner and the kids will be able to once again go outside and run off some of that energy! COVID has kept many students in their rooms. We are looking forward to them getting out of their rooms and playing!

LCM follows the Logansport School schedule. Therefore, we will also be offering all day care to school age children during Spring Break, March 22-26.

The *Come Back Stronger* Grant allowed us to purchase certain items that can be easily cleaned, individual items, make structural changes to open new rooms, etc. One of the purchases we made was for mats to go under the tables in classrooms with carpeting. Since the children have been required to eat in their rooms this past year we were able to use grant money to purchase mats that can be easily sanitized. The mats have arrived and are in preschool rooms and the Frog room.

Little Children's Ministry has started chapel time with some schedule changes. All classes have chapel time in their rooms. However, once a week they will go into the church Chapel. The children seem to love the opportunity to go back to Chapel. It is also nice to start getting back to normal!

Please continue to pray for LCM and our families throughout this Pandemic.

Sincerely,

Belinda Jordan, LCM Director

First Church Staff, Contact Information, Service Times



First United Methodist Church

Pastor: Beth Ann Cook, **Email:** revbethanncook@gmail.com

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Treasurer: Elaine Hall, **Email:** loganfirsttreasurer@comcast.net

Financial Secretary: Nancy Hamilton

Worship Leader: Ali Williams

Media Coordinator: Luann Hamilton

Pianists: Deb Binford, Jeff Smith, Elaine Hall

LCM Director: Belinda Jordan, **Email:** fumlcm@gmail.com

LCM Administrative Assistant/Treasurer: Stormie Riveria

Email: lcmsec@comcast.net



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(574-753-3491)

Email: loganfirst@comcast.net

www.loganfirst.org

Facebook Logansport First United Methodist

Service Times

Traditional In-person and Virtual Service on Facebook: 8:15 AM

Contemporary In-person and Virtual Service on Facebook: 10 AM

Haitian In-person Service: 11:30 AM

State/Regional Leaders Church Leaders



Bishop: Bishop Julius Trimble

Conference Superintendent: Rev Lori Blinn

Associate Superintendents: Rev Rob Seewald & Rev John Randall

Church Cluster

Crosswind UMC: Pastor Rick Robinson

First UMC: Pastor Beth Ann Cook

Main Street UMC: Pastor Doug Thomas

Wheatland Avenue UMC: Bert Stover