

# November 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> 6:30 pm - Leadership & Development	<b>2</b> 4 & 5:30 pm - Yoga 6:30 pm - Group Study	<b>3</b> 9:30 am - Bible Study 9:30 am - MOPs 6:00 pm - Bell Choir 7 pm - PrayZ Band	<b>4</b> 11 am - Line Dancing 1 pm - Yarn 6:30 pm - NAMI 7:15 pm - Chancel Choir	<b>5</b> 4 pm - Craft Fair  4 pm - Chili Supper 	<b>6</b> 9 am - Craft Fair 
<b>7</b> 8:45 am - Traditional Service 10:00 am - Sunday Schools 11 am - Casual Service	<b>8</b> 5:30 pm - Outreach & Marketing 6:30 pm - Preschool Board	<b>9</b> 10 am - Sewing Stitches 4 & 5:30 pm - Yoga 5:45 pm - Missions	<b>10</b> 9:30 am - Bible Study 11 am - UM Women 6:00 pm - Bell Choir	<b>11</b> 10:00 am - Margaret Circle 11 am - Line Dancing 5:00 pm - Yarn 6:00 pm - Euchre 6:00 pm - Scouts 7:15 pm - Chancel Choir 	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 8 am - UM Men's Breakfast 
<b>14</b> 8:45 am - Traditional Service 10:00 am - Sunday Schools 11 am - Casual Service	<b>15</b> 5:30 pm - Member Care 6:30 pm - Worship 7:30 pm - Trustees Poplar Leaves info due 	<b>16</b> 4 & 5:30 pm - Yoga	<b>17</b> 9:30 am - Bible Study 9:30 am - MOPs 6:00 pm - Bell Choir 7 pm - PrayZ Band	<b>18</b> 11 am - Line Dancing 1 pm - Yarn 7:15 pm - Chancel Choir	<b>19</b> 11:45 am - Triple F 	<b>20</b> 6:00 pm - Hymn Sing @ Memorial 
<b>21</b> 8:45 am - Traditional Service 10:00 am - Sunday Schools 11 am - Casual Service	<b>22</b> 6 pm - Ad. Council	<b>23</b> 4 & 5:30 pm - Yoga Fold Poplar Leaves	<b>24</b> 9:30 am - Bible Study 6:00 pm - Bell Choir	<b>25</b> OFFICE CLOSED 	<b>26</b> OFFICE CLOSED 	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 8:45 am - Traditional Service 10:00 am - Sunday Schools 11 am - Casual Service 	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 4 & 5:30 pm - Yoga 6:30 pm - Advent Study	<b>ONLINE SERVICES AT</b> <a href="http://MemorialSunday.org">MemorialSunday.org</a> <b>TITHES &amp; OFFERINGS AT</b> <a href="http://givememorial.org">givememorial.org</a>		<b>Hanging of the Greens</b> Nov. 26 and/or Nov. 27th  Watch for more details in the Sunday Bulletin	



Memorial United Methodist Church

# Poplar Leaves



November 2021

## MEMORIAL STAFF

**Ron Branson** Senior Pastor  
**Tim Voll** Associate Pastor  
**Kevin Sell** Admin. Assistant  
**Linda Lutz** Treasurer  
**Pat Friday** Financial Secretary  
**Christy Cresgy** Education Director  
**Logan Williams** Music Director  
**Joe Cresgy** Media Director  
**Lydia Bridgewater** Family Activities Director  
**Christy Cresgy & Missy Wilcox** Preschool Co-Directors  
**Paula Metheny & Lydia Bridgewater** Kids Hope USA, Co-Directors  
**Alexis Klug** (temporary) Custodian

**Ministers:**  
All the People of Memorial

**Sunday Worship Times:**  
8:45 / 11:00 AM

**Sunday School:**  
10:00 AM

**2701 Poplar Street**  
**Terre Haute, IN 47803**  
**(812) 234-0776**

**OFFICE HOURS**  
**Monday - Friday**  
**9:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

"Do all the good you can in all the ways you can in all the places you can at all the times you can to all the people you can as long as you ever can."  
*John Wesley*

## Reflections on Our Journey:

I struggled with what to write about for what ought to be our Thanksgiving edition. After a physician friend shared how overwhelmed rural Indiana caregivers are because Covid patients are still filling the hospitals, I thought about sharing my story dealing with long-Covid. While many with mild Covid symptoms recover quickly, some have long-term difficulties that include fatigue, breathing difficulties, insomnia, pain, and brain fog for many months; in my case, these are only now beginning to abate after a year and a half. It has been a long season for me, and I wondered if talking about long-Covid might help people make better decisions regarding vaccinations.

But I'm tired of talking about Covid and would rather focus on how much better I feel!

*Seize life! Eat bread with gusto, Drink wine with a robust heart. Oh yes—God takes pleasure in your pleasure! Dress festively every morning. Don't skimp on colors and scarves. Relish life with the spouse you love Each and every day of your precarious life. Each day is God's gift. It's all you get in exchange for the hard work of staying alive. Make the most of each one! Whatever turns up, grab it and do it. And heartily! Ecclesiastes 9:7-9 (MSG)*

The preacher here is not encouraging hedonism but suggesting you should be grateful for your life because it a gift from God, **made for you to enjoy!**

Brothers and sisters, like my physician friend I beg you to make smart choices. Educate yourself. Be smart, wise and above all be kind to one another, but please stop living in fear. Over the past few weeks both our *Drive Thru the Gospel* gathering on Tuesday evening and *The Story* in our Casual Worship service have reflected on the resurrection of Jesus where we were freed from fear in the here and now by the gift of eternal life.

I was so grateful for an evening a few nights ago when twenty or so gathered around a campfire near the shelter house behind Memorial for songs, hotdogs and smores. I was so grateful for the twenty or so who came together and walked through the Exotic Cat Sanctuary to see the big cats. I have been so grateful that I have had the chance to sit and read Dr. Seuss books to the children in our Preschool. I'm so grateful for backyard cookouts with my kids and for breakfasts at Bob Evans with my parents. I am so grateful for Janette and our pets who love us unconditionally. My gratitude list is long, and for this too I am so very grateful.

What are you grateful for? I'd like to suggest it's time to put Covid on the back burner. That doesn't mean we shouldn't be alert; it simply means we need to put first things first. Remember, you are a beloved child of God who has been given so many blessings. I encourage you to "Eat your food with gladness and drink your wine with a joyful heart" (NIV).

*Grace and Peace my friends, Pastor Ron.*

I GIVE ALL THE GLORY TO GOD. IT'S KIND OF A WIN-WIN SITUATION. THE GLORY GOES UP TO HIM AND THE BLESSINGS FALL DOWN ON ME.

Gabby Douglas

email - [mumcoffice@umcmemorial.com](mailto:mumcoffice@umcmemorial.com)

[www.umcmemorial.com](http://www.umcmemorial.com)

## Ramblings of the Associate Pastor

"Animation"

Looking around, it is easy to see that autumn colors will be arriving late this year. During our trips to the Parke County Covered Bridge Festival, we were a bit disappointed with the lack colored leaves in the trees. Of course, as we all expect, the fall colors will eventually emerge, and we will be blessed with some spectacular scenery. The annual transition reminds me of a hymn titled, *The Trees of the Field*. You may or may not be familiar with this hymn, but if you are then I am sure you would remember the rhythmic metering. My first encounter with it resulted from a Bible study discussion about Isaiah. The hymn is based on Isaiah 55:12, "Yes, you will go out with celebration, and you will be brought back in peace. Even the mountains and the hills will burst into song before you; all the trees of the field will clap their hands." The 1950 hymn was written by Steffi Karen Rubin and his lyrics tell the following story:

*"You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace,  
And the mountains and the hills will break forth before you.  
There'll be shouts of joy and the trees of the fields  
Will clap, will clap their hands.  
And the trees of the fields will clap their hands,  
And the trees of the fields will clap their hands,  
And the trees of the fields will clap their hands,  
While you go out with joy."*

There are a handful of scripture references which describe nature's response to the sovereign power of God. The wind and the sea obey God (Mark 4:39). The pounding waves obey God (Psalm 89:9). The stones of earth obey God (Luke 19:40). The movement of the sun obeys God (Josh 10:12-14). Numerous additional passages tell the story of God's dominion, overwhelming the powerful forces of nature.

We live in a world where frustration is common. Circumstances in life can lead to depressing outcomes. Too often, it seems like the powerful forces that surround and paralyze our efforts to do good, are too mighty. However, scripture reminds us that God truly owns the power of the entire created order.

As I imagine the changing color in the trees, I think about their lively joy and how some trees seem to embody a visible touch by God. The hymn describes an animated effort by God to celebrate humanity. So, autumn signals a reminder to me about the mighty power of God. During the coming few weeks, as the leaves change from green to gold or red, stop and look. Maybe this annual experience is inevitable for higher reasons than previously considered. Perhaps God decides the coloring of every leaf on every tree. Perhaps God decides when every leaf on every tree lets go of the limb. Perhaps God decides which direction every leaf from every tree flutters away. Perhaps God decides where every leaf from every tree comes to rest. Perhaps the power of God is closer than expected. If I could take one moment to stop and look, maybe I could see the power of God at work in my life too? Maybe those forces that seem to paralyze our efforts to do good, are not so mighty after all.

~Tim

~~~~~  
"Thanks for your prayers, cards, and gifts during pastor appreciation month."

Tim and Donna

## RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE



Memorial UMC has partnered with the American Red Cross to host blood drives here at Memorial. These blood drives will be open to members of Memorial and the community.

**The next blood drive is: Thursday: Dec. 2nd from 1—6 pm, in the Narthex.**

**You can sign up by** - Calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit **RedCrossBlood.org** and enter: MEMORIALUMC (or your zip code) to schedule an appointment.

You can always call the church office for help or questions (812-234-0776)

## Praying Together - Judy Hoover, Prayer Line Co-Coordinator

### **Help!!!**

As some of you may know, Keith and I have spent most of the month of October at Gulf Shores. We feel so very blessed to have found a beautiful condo at a great rate, and the weather has been amazing. However, life will never be perfect, this side of heaven. The first time Keith ventured out into the Gulf, the waves were too high. When he tried to come back to shore, he kept getting knocked down but was too embarrassed to cry out for help. Finally I caught the attention of a nearby young man, who was more than happy to rescue my husband.

Asking for help: How often do we hesitate to do that? The Daily Guideposts devotion for October 14<sup>th</sup> describes the plight of a lady who spilled a carton of blueberries while in the grocery check-out lane. I empathize with this poor soul, having knocked berries out of our refrigerator on numerous occasions! She was scrambling to chase down each berry when Kim Henry, the author of the devotion, observed the scene and sent for an attendant, who easily swept up the mess. God showed Kim two important truths from this encounter: "First, when I'm trying all alone to pick up the 'dropped blueberries' in my life, God stands ready and equipped to help. I just need to ask. Second, when others are so entangled in their problems they forget to seek His help, I can ask for them."

Sometimes, in the midst of life's stormy waves, the only prayer we can manage is "Help me, Jesus!". Fortunately, He always hears the desperate cry of His precious children. Then God also gives us the gift of prayer warriors, like the members of the Memorial Prayer Line, who gladly come alongside us in support, to pray the words we may be unable to utter. What a blessing to know that we don't have to pick up all of our "blueberries" alone, or rescue ourselves from the turbulent sea! What a comfort to know that a team of friends stands ready to come to our aid whenever our humble cry for Help, in the form of a simple prayer request, is heard! Thank you, Jesus, for the gift of intercession!

## Margaret Circle

Margaret Circle will meet on Thursday, November 11th, at 10:00 am in the chapel.

We will be reading: "The Red Address Book" by Sofia Lundberg

Questions? Call the church office

## 14th & CHESTNUT

### **Annual Holiday Food Basket Drive, Offering Food Baskets to Families this Thanksgiving & Christmas**

Items needed to fill One Holiday Food Basket



2 cans of corn  
2 cans of green beans  
2 boxes of macaroni and cheese  
1 box stuffing  
1 can sweet potatoes  
1 can/jar gravy  
1 package dinner rolls  
1 box instant mashed potatoes

1 cake mix  
1 can of frosting  
1 can of pumpkin  
1 can pie filling  
1 can evaporated milk  
1 can cranberry sauce  
2 pie crusts  
1 foil roasting pan



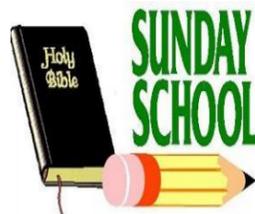
Collect items to fill one basket OR collect 1-2 items in bulk.

Bring non-meat items to 14th and Chestnut by Friday, Nov. 12, 2021 and Monday, Dec. 13, 2021

Due to limited freezer space, please bring: (ONLY ON DAY of Distribution)

8-10 lb. Turkeys - Thurs, Nov. 18th .... 6-10 lb. Hams - Thurs, Dec 16th

**Volunteers needed at the Center.** The center is in need of additional help especially in the month of December. Many of the staff are college students and the majority of them go home for Christmas Break. Volunteers are needed from 3-6 pm. We are looking for anyone high school age and older to help us out during that time. If you are interested, please let the center know! Contact Heather Slee – 812-232-3126



### Church Nursery, Jr. Church

#### **Jr. Church/ Nursery Help**

We are in need of help with Jr. church and the nursery. If this is something that you might be interested in, please see Christy Cresgy.



### Advent Sunday



The Education Committee is busy making plans for Advent Sunday. Please watch the bulletins, announcement screens, and the December Poplar Leaves for more information.

### Youth and Family Ministries

October was a great month. We had a lot of fun at our cookout hoedown with beautiful weather. We gathered some pumpkins and had an outing at Hobson Adventure Farm. Thank you to everyone who came out in support of our events this month and we can't wait to see you next month!

#### November

**11/11** Euchre Night 6:00pm – Do you play Euchre? Do you want to learn? We can show you, on the second Thursday each month we have a Euchre Night at 6 pm in the Narthex of the church. Bring a dish to share, I will provide the drinks and cards. Sign up in the East hallway.

**11/20** Hymn Sing. See information at the top of page 3

#### December

TBD - Caroling to the homebound – Sign up is in the East Hallway



### Blessing Bag update

We are still collecting items for blessing bags to pass out to help those in need. Items we need are:

Tuna foil packs also Mini shampoo and conditioner (travel/hotel size).

### Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS)

Moms everywhere, come join our NEW Mothers of Preschoolers group! We meet the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month at 9:30 am. Meeting begins after preschool drop-off and last as long as we want. We have snacks and coffee available! We talk about everything from the blessings and struggles of motherhood to things going on at home. Bring a friend if you want all mothers are welcome.

Currently, we do not provide childcare outside of registered families of Memorial Preschool. Babies in arms are welcome to join.

We are also looking for Mama Mentors, a Mentor is someone who walks a few steps ahead and brings perspective on mothering, womanhood, and relationships. Through teaching and one-on-one relationships, you communicate with vulnerability and honesty, and provide a foundation for acceptance and trust.

MOPS Meetings- 11/3, 11/17, 12/1, No MOPS 12/15



Thank you to everyone that participated in Trunk or Treat. A lot of fun was had by all. We are sorry that we were unable to hold the Pete the Cat Book Walk due to the books not arriving on time but we are looking forward to this event in 2022.



### HYMN SING

Do you miss singing the old, classic, traditional hymns or don't get to sing them enough? Join us for a Hymn Sing in memory of Memorial United Methodist's former Music Director, David Gibbs. Food and fellowship will begin in the Fellowship Hall at Memorial United Methodist Church at 5:00pm on Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. The singing will begin at 6:00pm in the sanctuary. Please share your favorite hymns with Logan Williams at [lwilliams36@icloud.com](mailto:lwilliams36@icloud.com) (or let the church office know) as he compiles a program of Memorial congregation's favorite hymns for this special occasion!



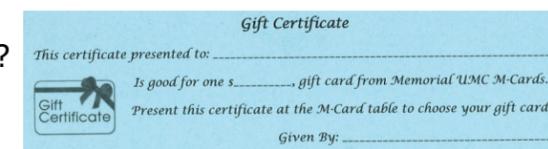
### M-CARDS

Gobble, Gobble, Gobble! The holiday season is upon us. Let us help with all those Thanksgiving dinner shopping adventures! We have the following vendors in \$25, \$50, and \$100 amounts, Walmart, Baesler's and Meijers.

It's never too early to plan for Christmas gifts. Have someone who is hard to shop for? A gift card might just be the best solution.

Remember, we can order any card you need. Check out our list of over 750 vendors you can order from. A list of vendors is available at the Grab N Go table and you can find it on-line at [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com). Orders can be picked up on Sunday or in the church office on Thursday or Friday. There is also a list of the gift cards that we usually keep on hand at the table as well.

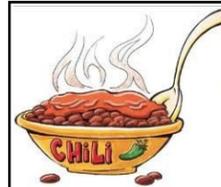
*We do offer gift certificates!* Did you ever want to purchase a gift card for someone, but did not know what they might like? Well then, purchase a gift certificate from M-Cards and then let the person you give it to, come to the M-Card table and pick out the gift card they want.



**The m-cards are available at the church office during the week.**

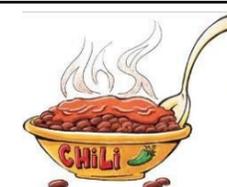
*M-Cards made a \$1000.00 donation to the church in October. Thank you for your continued support.*

### UMW Chili Supper



**Friday, November 5th. from 4 - 7 pm**

Come out and enjoying an evening meal of chili. Sit and visit with friends.



Don't forget to shop at the Craft Fair on Friday and Saturday November 5 - 6, 2021. Friday will be from 4 - 7 pm in conjunction with the Chili Supper. Saturday will be from 9 - 1 pm.

There will be a wide range of hand made items

### Annual Craft Fair

Come to the annual Craft Fair on **Friday November 5th from 4 - 7 pm or on Saturday November 6th, from 9 - 1 pm.**

There will be a variety of vendors selling their homemade items. There will be decorations, knitted, crocheted, sewn items, baked goods and more.



## ADVENT STUDY



Tuesday November 30<sup>th</sup> we will begin our four-week Advent study based on Adam Hamilton's book *Faithful: Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph*. We will be at Memorial meeting in person at 6:30 for each of the Tuesday sessions and we will simultaneously connect folks online via Zoom.

At this time of year, we often think about baby Jesus or Mary but what about Joseph. From his beginnings as a humble carpenter to his all-important role as the earthly father of Jesus Christ, Joseph's place in the nativity story is sometimes overlooked but contains valuable lessons for all of us. Join Adam Hamilton as he examines Christmas through the eyes of Joseph. Absent from much of the biblical narrative, Joseph never spoke a word, but his courageous actions were crucial to the birth of Christ and God's salvation plan for humanity.

Through this study you will understand how Joseph's story is much like our own. In life, we encounter circumstances that we would never have chosen for ourselves. At times it can be tempting just to walk away. Joseph provides us a great example of humbly obeying God even when we don't understand and faithfully moving forward in the strength that God provides.

Exchange your doubt for courage this Advent and Christmas season. The story of Joseph provides us a great example of humbly obeying God even when we don't understand and faithfully moving forward in the strength that God provides.

Because we have heard deliveries are going to be extended it won't be necessary for you to have the book, but you are welcome to order one if you wish. And finally, please call the office to let Kevin know if you plan on joining us so we can get you on the list for a Zoom link and so we can prepare for the event.

Time flies! It's time to start planning for the **Kids Hope Christmas Party**, to be held at Sugar Grove on Wednesday, December 8. The 5<sup>th</sup> graders will remember our past Christmas parties ("epic" as it was described by one student!) but the little ones have yet to experience one.



It requires a lot of items to make it successful – cookies and supplies to decorate them, craft supplies, and most important, lots of small gifts that the kids will choose for giving another child in the Kids Hope program at Sugar Grove. They *LOVE* this part of the Christmas party, and it's heartwarming to watch them thoughtfully pick out gifts for their chosen child.

Want to be part of the fun? Here's how you can help:

- ~ Visit the Kids Hope board in the narthex after November 21
- ~ Choose one or more slips of paper and purchase those items.
- ~ Return the items (unwrapped) to the Kids Hope Christmas box in the narthex.

Thank you, as always, for your support and for helping to make this year's Kids Hope Christmas party a happy experience for our children. Questions? Want to help with the party? Talk to Paula or Lydia. Enjoy your shopping!

### Order your poinsettia for the Altar for Christmas Eve Service

Place your order form in the church offering plate on Sunday, with the following information.

This will be in Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

**OR**, This will be in honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Ordered: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$10.00 per poinsettia = \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Please order by November 22nd.** (Additional order forms are available in the Narthex)

*Please make your check payable to Memorial United Methodist Church. (Payment must be included with your order.)*



## Missions



**Love. Grow. Serve.**

Memorial has been a very missional church for as long as I can remember and before. Covid-19 has wreaked havoc on that. Attendance is down, online attendance is a good supplement, however giving amongst online attenders is little to non-existent. Pledges are down and those that have pledged seem to have forgotten their tithe. In order to make up for this shortfall, missions no longer receives any stipend from the church budget. For these reasons, Second-Mile giving is more important than ever.

The doors are open for worship and masks are not required if you are fully immunized. With a sanctuary that seats nearly 500 and an attendance in the second service of 35 to 40 there is plenty of space for social distancing. While online worship is a suitable alternative, there is no better place to worship than in God's House.

Missions meets on the **second** Tuesday at 5:45PM **all are invited to join the conversation**. If anyone has a charity or mission that you feel we should act on, **please feel free to join us**. We can use the input of all to determine where best to place our missions.

Please continue to bring in peanut butter for 14<sup>th</sup> and Chestnut. **We are the "Peanut Butter Church"**.

Remember there are always ways to donate without attending church. The first is to drop by the church office and drop off a second mile donation. The second is electronically. You can now give at [GiveMemorial.org](http://GiveMemorial.org) or open to the Church website ([umcmemorial.com](http://umcmemorial.com)) and tap on the menu button in the upper right corner. Then select GIVING from the menu. If you have not donated this way before, create a profile. If you have, simply login. Then you can select where you want to give (2<sup>nd</sup> Mile Giving is the second selection) and the amount. After you complete the first page the second page allows you to enter all your donation information, including a NOTE to be more specific about this donation. (Note if you use VPN you must disable it before entering the giving site.) One final note, all Memorial services are available at [MemorialSunday.org](http://MemorialSunday.org)

Do no harm, do good, and stay in Love with God revel in the Fall colors.

### DECORATING THE CHURCH FOR ADVENT

The Hanging of the Greens will take places on November 26<sup>th</sup> and/or 27<sup>th</sup>. Times to be determined. Everyone is welcome to participate. The more hands the quicker the work gets done. Watch for more details in the Sunday bulletin



### UM MEN PANCAKE SUPPER

On Tuesday, December 7 from 4:30 to 6:30, the UM Men will be having their Annual All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Supper. Planned during this time of the year so you can grab a quick bite to eat and then go Christmas shopping, school functions, or simply a night you don't have to cook. A free will donation will be accepted and will go to the UM Men Scholarship Fund which comes back to help a Memorial Youth on their way to college. Plan to come and enjoy.



### Church Golf Outing

Our church wide golf outing was held on Saturday September 25<sup>th</sup> at The Landing at Fort Harrison. We had a great morning of golf, fun, food and fellowship. Twenty eight golfers played in the outing. Thanks to all who came out to play and raise support for the men's scholarship program. Thanks also to everyone who came out and helped with set up, cooking, serving and cleanup. A special thanks to our hole sponsors listed below.

In Memory of Jim Waugh- Lila Waugh, Williams Law Firm- Steve Williams  
Tofaute and Spelman -Phil Tofaute, Holler Family Dentistry- Jess Holler  
Terre Haute Savings Bank- Ted Kraly, Prox Lawncare -Travis Norris  
Edward Jones-Mark Metheny, Tabco- Steve Metheny



## Lay of the Land

### **"What We Leave Behind"**

I had fully intended this month, when we celebrate Thanksgiving, to focus on the history of Memorial United Methodist Church and the broader history of the Methodist church in Terre Haute. In a sense, the column would examine what we have left behind and how it has served as a highly valued foundation for our future.

It was a topic first suggested to me by Dick Becker, who for decades has served in countless roles at Memorial: as historian and photographer (I especially cherish the photos he gave me from my kids' confirmation ceremonies), and in mission after mission, including building houses with others from Memorial for Habitat for Humanity, sewing thousands of school bags (along with Memorial's David Peter) for the Midwest Distribution Center so the bags could be filled with school supplies for children in Africa, and so on. Dick gave me pages that contained key local milestones of the Methodist church with photos of various buildings dating back to the 1800s, but I didn't see how I could add to the wealth of information that was already there.

That led me to the history section of our own church website ([umcmemorial.com](http://umcmemorial.com)) and its account of how less than five years after Memorial was built at our Poplar Street address, a fire on January 28, 1973 destroyed the entire building except for the sanctuary; the congregation immediately made plans to rebuild, and a reconstruction service was held on February 24, 1974. Dr. Norman Vince Peale presented Memorial with a Guidepost Church Award on October 10, 1976 in recognition of the church's courage and dedication in the face of tragedy, and the November 1976 *Guideposts* article described Memorial as "the church that rose from the ashes." Decades later, with the help of Bishop Julius Trimble and Pastor Scott Johnson, we celebrated Memorial's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and its commitment to ministry, mission, and music.

I next learned from several people at Memorial that Lila Waugh could be very helpful in sharing church history. Lila has served in many leadership roles at Memorial over the years, including through United Methodist Women (where I've gotten to know her) and her most recent initiative to create a Big Brothers/Big Sisters program at Memorial for students at nearby Woodrow Wilson Middle School. Whenever I see Lila, I also remember her husband Jim, who (ever the teacher and coach) long led our Open Door Sunday School class between the first and second service.

By the time I'd taken all these steps, I realized that the history that I wanted to highlight in this column was not so much to be found in stone or brick buildings (however important they are) but in the people behind them: the people who helped Memorial rise from the ashes, like the legendary phoenix (a symbol of resurrection); the people who for decades since have made Memorial come alive through ministry, mission, and music; and the people who now and in the future will come together in our building on Poplar Street, online, and in the community to be the hands and feet of Jesus to transform the world.

As Pericles said over 2,000 years ago, "What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others." This Thanksgiving, we remember that the important things in life are not things. Instead, it's the rich tapestry we each create through our family, friends, and so many other people ... and that we collectively at Memorial create, thread by thread, wonderfully and meaningfully connected to so many others. That is what leave behind. And that is how we keep moving forward.

*Lay of the Land* is a column (by Lay Leader Ruth Hill Bro) designed to spotlight Memorial's commitment to Ministry, Mission, and Music, the people who make that happen, and opportunities to get involved. Do you have questions or ideas for a future column? Contact Ruth at [ruth.hill.bro@gmail.com](mailto:ruth.hill.bro@gmail.com) or 812-877-4488.

## Memorial Preschool News

October was a fun month for the preschool. We celebrated Community Heroes by talking about different everyday heroes. A Police Officer visited with the children and talked to them about being safe. He even gave them a tour of his police car and of course had to show them how the sirens work. The preschool staff participated in Trunk or Treat, and we finished off the month with our Halloween parade and class parties.

Look out for a lot of little turkeys, Pilgrims, and Indians as we celebrate Thanksgiving dress up day on Wednesday, November 17. The preschool will not be in session on Thursday, November 11 in honor of Veteran's Day. We will also not be in session the week of November 22 – 26 so families and staff can celebrate Thanksgiving.

We would like to thank everyone for their support with the Anderson's Plants and Produce fundraiser.

As this is the time of year when we reflect on our blessings, we count you as one of ours. Thank you so much for all your support and prayers. We are truly grateful.

Happy Thanksgiving!

In ministry together



Memorial Preschool  
A Smart Choice

### Facebook Users

Please mark interested and share Facebook events to help promote our activities at Memorial. If you plan to attend an event please mark as going to help us better plan for attendance.



Many thanks to everyone for the prayers and cards we received upon the passing of Doug's mom. We so appreciate the loving concern of our church family!

*The Keiser Family*

Thank you to Doris Williams for the generous donation to the Endowment Fund in honor of for Daniel's 95th Birthday. *The Endowment Committee*

A letter from 14th & Chestnut was received thanking Memorial for a recent donation of \$620.00

### Advent Readers Needed

Individuals or families are needed to read an Advent devotion and light the Advent candle(s) on a Sunday during Advent.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone or email: \_\_\_\_\_

(Circle times available)

|               |           |            |
|---------------|-----------|------------|
| November 28th | 8:45 a.m. | 11:00 a.m. |
| December 5th  | 8:45 a.m. | 11:00 a.m. |
| December 12th | 8:45 a.m. | 11:00 a.m. |
| December 19th | 8:45 a.m. | 11:00 a.m. |

**Drop this form in the offering plate on Sunday morning.  
Additional forms will be available in the Narthex.**

Thank you! Paula Metheny will call or email you to confirm.



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- |                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 2 Herb Bailey      | 20 Carolyn Diss    |
| David Hines        | Megan Kendall      |
| Megan Hinze        | 22 Emily Burdick   |
| Sue Paulin         | Kris Henderson     |
| 6 Francis McFadden | Travis Mason       |
| 8 Leah Shimer      | 23 Chris Koszewski |
| 10 David Peter     | Tim Voll           |
| 11 Steve Smith     | 25 Greg Reeson     |
| Jan Cockrell       | 26 Erica Austin    |
| 12 Janet Ring      | 27 Vicki Certain   |
| 14 Alexis Klug     | David Pettyjohn    |
| Connie McCammon    | Freda Hocking      |
| 15 Cindy Holler    | 28 Vicki Bailey    |
| 16 Peggy Luttrell  | 29 Betty Porter    |
| 17 Don Brown       | 30 Nora Metheny    |
| Scott Johnson      | Jamie McDowell     |
| 18 Norma Beymer    |                    |
| Bruce Wilcox       |                    |



## Happy Anniversary

### November Anniversaries

- Larry and Lyle Howard - 27th  
 Stephen and Eneicy Seitz - 27th

*We apologize if we've left off your birthday or anniversary. Please contact the church office and we will be happy to include it in the future.*

### From Thoughtful Studies Sunday School class

"Come and visit with members of Thoughtful Studies Sunday School Class at the Chili Supper and Craft Fair on Nov 5! For one day only, a variety of snacks and treats will be available for a free will donation. All funds collected will be presented to our neighbors, the Covered in Love Diaper Bank of the Wabash Valley, as we put faith into action for our community. We hope to see you there!"

### December Poplar Leaves

Please submit your articles and request for the December Poplar Leaves to the church office by Monday Nov. 15th.

**The earlier date is due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.**



**Prayer** is an important ministry of our church! You are welcome to be a part of our internet prayer ministry at Memorial. Maybe having a loved one on the prayer chain has comforted you. You are welcome to join in this service to another in need of prayer. Judy Hoover and the church office are facilitating this prayer ministry and you may send your email address to be added to this group.

Just send a message to Judy Hoover at [hoover@rose-hulman.edu](mailto:hoover@rose-hulman.edu) or to the church office at [mumcoffice@umcmemorial.com](mailto:mumcoffice@umcmemorial.com)

Please Pray for those listed below and for the struggle/s they are dealing with...

### Requests made in October:

- Gene Johnson**, cancer treatment  
**Sally Manning**, health issues  
**Alvin McFadden**, melanoma, surgery  
**Gloria Morris**, health issues  
**Ruby Pearce**, health issues  
**Dan Klug's mother, Marilyn Klug**, heart surgery  
**Michael Walker**, heart issues

### MILITARY:

- Sgt Curtis Korby**, Ft. Campbell, Clarksville, TN;  
**John Peters**, U.S. Air Force,  
**Bryce Wilcox**, U.S. Marines

### Condolences to:

- To the family of Mary Kate Miller upon her passing.  
 To Doris Williams, Margaret Swank and their sister, upon the passing of their brother, Ron Shaffer  
 To Pam & Ken Crane and family upon the passing of Pam's brother, Gordon Tucker.



**The church office will be closed on November 25th & 26th for the Thanksgiving Holiday**



## United Methodist Women News

The next UMW meeting is *Wednesday, November 10th at 11:00 am.*

Remember that all women are welcome to attend.

If there is something you want to be discussed in the meeting please contact Joanie Kendall.

### Yarn Ministry

Meeting dates in November are:

- 4th - 1-3 pm
- 11th - 5-7 pm
- 18th - 1-3 pm

### Sewing Stitches

Will meet on the following days at 10 am.

November 9th

See Freda Hocking or call the church for information.

### Yoga at Memorial UMC with Devaki

Tuesday 4:00 - 5:00 pm  
Chair Yoga

Tuesday, 5:30-6:30  
Yoga - stress Management

**Everyone is welcome**

### Country Line Dancing

With Sue Paulin

Every Thursday  
From 11am - 12pm

In the Narthex

**Everyone is welcome**

A special thank you to everybody that helped out with the UMW WEST DISTRICT MEETING on Saturday, September 25th. It was a huge success and we got many compliments from visiting churches. The decorations; favors and John P. Blair's music were beautiful. Irma Davis spoke about Building & Managing Healthy Relationships in our Older Years which was interesting and informative.

A big note of appreciation goes to Bob Baesler who provided 65 yummy box lunches for us!

Thanks to Pastor Ron for the opening and closing prayer.

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The UMW Christmas soup luncheon is scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 2nd. The Pre-School will sing for us and we will install officers for 2022. We will also have a Memorial Service for the ladies that have left us this year.

### Triple F Monthly Luncheon

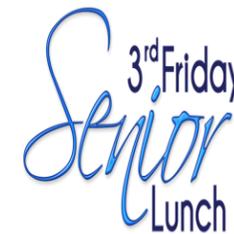
Our monthly Triple F Luncheon will be held on Friday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at 11:45.

Program: Kevin Orpurt of WTHI TV

Menu: Turkey & Dressing

You are asked to bring: A - H Veggies ..... I - P Desserts ..... Q - Z Salads

Please call in your attendance in to the office by Wednesday, November 17th.



### United Methodist Men's Breakfast

The United Methodist Men breakfast will be on **Saturday, November 13th at 8:00 a.m.**

We will meet at Memorial.

Come out and enjoy a wonderful breakfast and fellowship.



### Fellowship Coffee/Snack time

We are asking different groups, committees and Sunday School class to supplies snacks for Sunday mornings between service. The church will continue making the coffee. We ask that each group provide individually wrapped snacks (these can be homemade items). Items may also be placed in small (4oz) drink cups. We do not want "open" bowls or plates of snacks available. Snacks & Coffee will be available in the kitchen.

### Fellowship Coffee Hour:

Will be hosted by the following.

- January - Worship Committee
- February - Education Committee
- March - UM Women
- April - Trustees
- May - Koinonia Class and the Thoughtful Studies Class
- June - Kids Hope

- July - Open Door Class
- August - UM Men
- September - **To Be Determined**
- October - Finance Committee
- November - Mission Committee
- December - Member Care

