

# POPLAR LEAVES

Memorial United Methodist Church

September, 2023

2701 Poplar Street  
Terre Haute, Indiana 47803  
(812) 234-0776  
office@umcMemorial.org

## Sundays

Worship, 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.  
Prayz Worship, 11:15 a.m.

## Office Hours

Tuesday-Thursday  
9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

## Livestreamed Services

MemorialSunday.org

## Calendar

MemorialEvents.org

## Website

umcMemorial.org

## Giving

GiveMemorial.org

## Prayer Requests

PrayingMemorial@gmail.com

## Memorial Staff

**Ron Branson**, pastor  
**Michael Walker**, administrative assistant  
and financial secretary  
**Linda Lutz**, treasurer  
**Logan Williams**, music director  
**Jinhee Kim**, accompanist  
**Joe Cresgy**, media director  
**Lydia Bridgewater**, family  
activities director  
**Tobie Wrightsman**, nursery attendant  
**Alfred VanGilder**, building custodian  
**Christy Cresgy and Missy Wilcox**,  
preschool co-directors  
**Paula Metheny**, Kids Hope USA  
**David M. Peter**, certified lay minister  
and lay leader



All are welcome

## Reflections

Have you ever woken up in the middle of the night and lay there with your mind full of concerns about what was going to happen tomorrow? This is different than those numerous thoughts which fill your head when you first lay down about whether or not the alarm clock is on, or if you turned the lights off downstairs ... no, these are deep dark fears surfacing in the quiet of night that make you wonder if something awful is about to happen and, if only you did this or that, it would all be ok. I believe these fears are the Enemy's way of undermining the Kingdom of God.

In the past few years, global pandemics, social unrest, and a renewed fear of nuclear holocaust have buried themselves deep in our psyches and caused us all to be this kind of afraid at our very core.

I have recently had the opportunity to renew my understanding of these fears because of my Mother's recovery from brain trauma. At present, she is trapped in a series of unrealistic nightmares that make her afraid of almost everything. While this is heartbreaking to her family, after many hours of reassuring her that everything is going to be ok, Janette told her, "Peggy, you need to pray more and worry less." While this seems like simple advice, it's really quite complex because these fears from the Midlands of our being (as described by Eldredge from his book *Resilient*) are the fears that the Enemy uses to make us doubt God ... on the other hand, the Deep parts of our being are the places where we

draw our strength from God. When fear assails us, we need to go deep, seeking the inner peace of God, and that means praying more so we can worry less.

You and I aren't suffering from the same physical issues that my Mother is, but we are suffering from unrealistic fears. Not that trauma and pain aren't possible, and not that disappointment and sorrow aren't inevitable, but that we are living without hope.

"... we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal." 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

Our hope is in Jesus, and Him alone ...

"Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you."  
1 Peter 5:7

Friends, pray more and worry less, God is with you just as he has been with all those who have come before ... trust that he has you in His hands and rest easy.

Shalom, Shalom,

  
Pastor Ron





## *Lay of the Land* "Patience"

*David M. Peter, Certified Lay Minister*

Time does really fly by, or so most would say. Seems like it was May not that long ago. School was ending. Plans were being made for the Summertime activities: swimming, sleeping late, reading for fun, cook-outs and so much more. And then it became September: back to school, back to those things we took a "break" from for a brief period of time.

Patience may be in short supply as things change. It's hard to now wake up "early" and get ready for the day. It's even harder to get back into the pattern or routine of these days.

***Patience leads to abundant understanding,  
but impatience leads to stupid mistakes.  
Proverbs 14:29 CEB***

The first half of that verse is easy to grasp, but the second might just create some bad feelings, or even intolerance. It is so easy to become impatient, or anxious even, and want all of our problems to be solved NOW.

I strengthen my patience as part of my morning devotional time. Time to just stop, be still, and ....

***We were saved in hope. If we see what we hope for, that isn't hope. Who hopes for what they already see? But if we hope for what we don't see, we wait for it with patience.  
- Romans 8:24-25 (CEB)***

From the Greek, patience can be expressed as: bear (or suffer) long; endure; fortitude.

So you see, having patience is something for the long haul. It's not something for a

brief period of time. We have patience until patience while ... not quickly, but in time. As September arrives, and gives way to October, November, December, and much more, have patience. Walk with patience. Wait with patience. It is possible. Have patience!

"God of us all, You have been such a patient Father of us. You are always here with us. Help us be patient with ourselves. Help us increase our patience when we are troubled. Show us how to walk with patience, each and every day. In your Name. AMEN"

David  
Be grateful  
Be joyful  
Be filled with the Spirit



***Elizabeth Maurey, soprano  
Ron Maurey, collaborative pianist***

**Saturday, September 16, 2023 at 6:00 pm**

Join us for an evening of local, professional talent! Elizabeth and Ron Maurey are a father-daughter duo from Brazil, IN! Ron Maurey is the piano professor and staff accompanist at St. Mary of the Woods College. Elizabeth Maurey first performed a recital with her father as part of the Visiting Artist Series at the Indiana State University School of Music. She studied Opera at the University of Kentucky and could have gone on to Juilliard. The duo has performed and done well at many vocal competitions!

You won't want to miss this event!





Welcome Fall! School has started and things are beginning to settle down, the air is crisper, and the colors around us a starting to change. I have added a couple new opportunities to get together this month so make sure to listen to announcements on Sundays and come join us.

Lydia Bridgewater  
Memorial UMC Family Ministries Director

### **9/10 Fizzy Fuel Fun 3pm**

Come join us at Corsair Cafe and enjoy their Fizzy Fuel drinks (caffeinated or non-caffeinated) they have so many flavors to pick from including flavor of the month!

### **9/24 Culver's Custards 3pm**

Want an afternoon treat meet me at Culver's for a quick sweet treat we can sit on their patio and enjoy some time with our Memorial family.

### **9/30 Breakfast and Planes 9am**

Come join us for our monthly breakfast and planes at the Corsair Cafe for their delicious food and fun atmosphere.

### **Walking dates**

9/6 ISU Stadium 6pm  
9/13 ISU Stadium 6pm  
9/27 ISU Stadium 6pm



***Deadline for the October  
Poplar Leaves is September 17.***

Reminder that any weekly bulletin materials need to be received by noon on Tuesdays.

It's early fall and time to start planning for another school year with our Kids Hope friends at Sugar Grove. We only lost one of our kids last spring because he graduated on to middle school, and a couple others changed schools. Most everyone else is back from last year and ready to see their mentors. Our hope is to get started soon after Labor Day and any newer partnerships, soon after that. More information coming.

If you are thinking you might like to be involved in Kids Hope this year we could sure use you! Mentors are needed but so are substitute mentors. Subs are important because their willingness to see a child when the mentor can't be there means no interruptions with weekly visits, and that is so important to a child who really counts on those regular one-on-one sessions. No training necessary!

Thanks to all our mentors and prayer partners who have said yes to another year of nurturing these children – they are in such need of our love and care! And thanks for the continued support from those who donate in any way to this very important ministry. It is much appreciated.

Think you might be interested in mentoring? Substitute mentoring? I'd love to talk to you!  
---- Paula



We have a new look! Check out the front page and other formatting changes throughout the "Poplar Leaves" A standing ovation and huge THANK YOU to Ted Wilson who designed our new look. Great job!



### Faith In Action

This year's *Alzheimer's Walk* takes place at 9am on September 23<sup>rd</sup> at ISU Memorial Stadium. Memorial will again be registered as a team. If you would like to join us, you can register online at alz.org. Team name: MemorialUMC. Let's engage our community in this walk that shows we stand with those in need. If you can't walk with us you can still join the team and donate. For those uncomfortable with donating online you can donate in person at the church, and we will post your promise flower on our Alzheimer's board in the Narthex. Any questions please contact the office at 812-234-0776



*"The first survivor of Alzheimer's is out there, but we won't get there without you."*



**OCTOBER 20** in the Church Narthex. Go to RedcrossBlood.com to sign up



### M-CARD NEWS

Summer is ending, school is back in session and now you are wondering what DIY projects can be completed this fall. Let the M-Cards help you with your projects or in sending a thinking of you to someone.

Wendy's is available again! However, they are only available in \$25.00 amounts. If you would like a Wendy's card, we can order it but we will not be keeping them in our Grab N Go inventory. We do have McDonalds. These are available in \$10.00 amounts. We will have a few of these in our Grab N Go inventory. Stop by the table on Sundays or in the office during the week to see what we have on hand. We are always happy to order cards from over 700 vendors too.

We have a couple of people interested in helping with M-Cards. We thank them for the interest and support with the M-Cards. If you would like to assist with M-Cards let us know. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to Bruce & Missy Wilcox or Kevin & Sandy Sell.

### Join Our Golf Outing



### Church Wide Golf Outing *Saturday, Sept. 23, 2023*

The Landing Golf Course  
Sign in at 8:00am. Tee off at 8:30.  
4 Person Scramble- sign up as a foursome or as an individual and we will put a team together. Lunch will be provided  
Please contact Steve Metheny to sign up or with questions.



Memorial Preschool  
A Smart Choice

### CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

Memorial Preschool will be starting on Tuesday, September 5 with some very excited students and teachers. Please be aware that parents will be learning the drop off and pickup procedures in the parking lot the first couple weeks of school. It will probably be a mess so please be patient with us. Hopefully the orange traffic cones that we put out will help us "teach" the parents the proper traffic flow. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

We would like to welcome two new staff members. Tobie Wrightsman will be our Extended Threes teacher and Allison Pitzer will serve as our 2-year-old teacher. You might recognize Tobie from the church nursery on Sundays.

Our annual Fall Anderson's Plant and Produce Sale will be Friday, September 1 - Tuesday, October 31. This year they will be open 7 days a week and have expanded their gift shop. We will get a percentage of anything bought. Be sure to mention Memorial Preschool when you check out.

We would like to thank everyone for their support during the Second Mile Giving and for your prayers and support throughout the year. We could not do this without you.

Now for some exciting news. If you have not noticed all the classrooms have been updated with new paint and carpet and two of the little bathrooms have been updated as well. Thank you for bearing with us as we went through this process. This was a huge, stressful undertaking as it all

happened within a few weeks of school starting. Thank you to everyone that made it happen.

If you happen to go by the playground or into the garage you will notice that there are four new benches and the caps are gone out of the garage. Thank you to Kar-rum Nasser and Wabash Valley Waste Management for picking up and delivering the caps and benches. They also provided two of the benches to us as part of a matching grant.

We would like to ask for continued prayers as we begin the new school year and thank you for your support and kind words.

In Ministry Together,  
Christy and Missy



### PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am  
Please join the Preschool Directors, Christy and Missy as you see all of the wonderful improvement that have been made to the classroom and learn more about this outstanding program.

Don't Miss It!



### RICE MEAL PACKING EVENT

**Saturday, September 16**

We need teams of 8 to 10 people that will help with this mission project. The Midwest Mission Center in Pawnee, Illinois will be bringing all the materials needed to provide the world. Earlier in the year, Memorial did a fantastic job of collecting money to fund this project and now it is time to put it all. You may sign up on Sunday morning, contact Nancy Brentlinger or call the office.

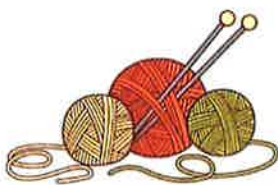




## United Women in Faith

The Next UWF meeting Will be on Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 11am. Remember that all women are invited to attend. If there is something you want to be discussed in the planning meeting, please contact Vicki Certain.

A special thank you to all the women who helped make the breakfast a success. The men enjoyed the meal and the women enjoyed providing the meal for them.- Vicki



**YARN MINISTRY**- Will meet in the parlor at 1:00pm on August 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> and at 5:00pm on August 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. Time and place for August 31<sup>st</sup> TBA.

**SEWING STICHES** will meet monthly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 10am in the Parlor. Contact Freda Hocking for more informaion

### Line Dancing!



**COUNTRY LINE DANCING** with Sue Paulin. Every Thursday in the Narthex from

11:am-12:00pm. All are welcome.

On September 9, 2021 we had our first class. We have had ladies come and go but that's ok—it's not for everyone!! Those that are my regulars are amazing. We have learned 44 dances. So here's to many more years of dancing. Someday we may even demonstrate a dance for you all!! -Sue



Thank you to the United Methodist Men for providing our coffee time snacks for August. The month of September is sponsored by the church staff.

### CHILI SUPPER

Mark your Calendar for The UWF annual chili supper on Friday, Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> from 4-7. Signup sheets will go out in October!

**Margaret Circle** will meet at 10:00 am on Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am in the Chapel. We will be discussing I Just Wanted You to Know by Ed Vaughn. If you have any questions, please contact Joanie Kendall at 812-298-4276



**YOGA with Devaki** will be back at Memorial on Thursdays starting September 5<sup>th</sup> At 4PM in the narthex. All levels are welcome!



### Triple-F Lunch and Program Friday September 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:45am

The program will be Jac Padgett, sponsor for Ukraine families from Maryland Church The menu for September will be Pulled Pork and Baked Beans

You are asked to bring the following:  
A-I Veggies J-P Salads O-Z Deserts  
Please sign up in the narthex.

## FALL CRAFT FAIR

### CALLING ALL CRAFTERS

We are gearing up for our annual craft vendor fair on November 3-4. Do you have a craft that you love for others to see and possibly purchase? Then join us at our Craft fair. You may participate in one or both days. This event is always well attended by our church members and community. If you are interested in being a vendor, please pick up an application and letter in the office or contact Sandy Sell at 812-230-2407.



**ANNE DEMCHAK**

**Anne** worked as Memorial's Summer Missioner at the Swope Art Museum's Kid's Summer Art Program. She helped, on behalf of our Church, this charitable organization provide a creative experience for children in our community. She shared her loving spirit as kids learned of one of God's greatest gifts: the world of Art.

**Amber** worked as Memorial's Summer Missioner at 14<sup>th</sup> & Chestnut Community Center. On behalf of our church, Amber was very busy sharing God's love through her compassionate personality. She supported kids in need of mentorship in this vital children's summer program.



### The Laura Winkel Summer Missioners Program

This program selects a young adult that serves on behalf of the church as a Christian missioner in a charitable agency in the Terre Haute community. Our missioners positively impact our community through services and at the same time experience spiritual growth while sharing God's love with others. This program honors the memory our very first summer missioner, Laura Winkel.



**AMBER KENNEDY**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>27</p> <p>9:30am - First Worship 10:30am - SS Classes 11:15am - PrayZ Worship</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Labor Day</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Praschool First Day</p> <p>4pm - Chair Yoga 6pm - Dinner Church: The</p>	<p>30</p> <p>First Day of Early Drop Off</p> <p>9:30am - Bible Study - 4:30pm - Newcomers 6pm - Chapel Bells 6pm - Walking at Stadium 7pm - NA - Library</p>	<p>31</p> <p>11am - Line Dancing 1pm - Yarn Ministry 6:30pm - NAMI 7pm - Chancel Choir</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:30am - Joyful Noise</p> <p>8am - Men's Breakfast at</p>
<p>10</p> <p>9:30am - First Worship 10:30am - Preschool 10:30am - SS Classes 11:15am - PrayZ Worship 1:30pm - Newcomers 3pm - Fizzy Fuel and Fun</p>	<p>11</p> <p>5:30pm - Communication 5:30pm - Member Care</p>	<p>12</p> <p>4pm - Chair Yoga 5:30pm - Staff Meeting 7pm - Bowling League 7pm - Talzé Prayer</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:30am - Bible Study - 11am - UNW Planning 6pm - Chapel Bells 6pm - Walking at Stadium 7pm - NA - Library</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10am - Margaret Circle: 11am - Line Dancing 5pm - Yarn Group 5:30pm - Mission Team 7pm - Chancel Choir</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9am - Mission Event 6pm - Music Series:</p>
<p>17</p> <p>9:30am - First Worship 10:30am - Memorial 10:30am - SS Classes 11:15am - PrayZ Worship</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6pm - Preschool Advisory</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Poplar Leaves Due</p> <p>10am - Sewing Stitches 4pm - Chair Yoga 6pm - Dinner Church: The</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:30am - Bible Study - 6pm - Chapel Bells 7pm - NA - Library</p>	<p>21</p> <p>11am - Line Dancing 1pm - Yarn Ministry 7pm - Chancel Choir</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9am - Alzheimer's Walk 9am - Men's Golf Outing</p>
<p>24</p> <p>9:30am - First Worship 10:30am - SS Classes 11:15am - PrayZ Worship 3pm - Culver's Custards</p>	<p>25</p> <p>5:30pm - Admin. Board 7pm - Education Team</p>	<p>26</p> <p>4pm - Chair Yoga 6pm - Dinner Church: The</p>	<p>27</p> <p>6am - Walking at Stadium 8:30am - Lifeline 9:30am - Bible Study - 6pm - Chapel Bells 7pm - NA - Library</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9am - Fold Poplar Leaves 11am - Line Dancing 5pm - Yarn Group 7pm - Chancel Choir</p>	<p>30</p> <p>8am - District Lay 9am - Breakfast and</p>