



THE FIRST WORD

News from the First United Methodist Church
of South Bend, Indiana

In the heart of the city since 1831

September 21, 2011

Issue #443

YOUTH GROUP (UMYF)

Like anything in life, a group like the Methodist Youth Fellowship means different things to different people. So far as I can tell, what interests the youth about youth group is the opportunity to hang out with friends in a relatively stress-free zone. For a couple hours every weekend, our teens (seventh through twelfth graders) get to have some fun, do a good turn for one or more human beings, express themselves, meet God, encounter a new idea, discuss relationships and mutual friends, and take a break from homework and housework.... What interests me is that our youth possess hearts and minds and souls and are full of greatness - every one of them.

Normally, youth group meets Sunday evenings (this year from 5-7 PM) at the Church. Occasionally, we meet for a special activity or event at a different time or on a different day. We communicate the details of time and place on the FUMC-SB Youth Group Facebook page, as well as the church website. Our goal is to devote one meeting per month to some form of service, a second meeting to something fun off site, and often a third meeting to a cultural event that opens up to us the richness of life. Other evenings we discuss the nature of living "right here, right now" and examine how genuine spirituality can help us live meaningfully and well. Sometimes we use a movie, song, or some other form of story to help us see things clearly.

This year on Sunday morning, we will be reading and discussing essential Bible passages in Sunday School. We meet at 10 AM in the Fireside Room.

All youth are invited to participate in any youth activity. We welcome your presence, look forward to getting to know who you are, and anticipate the unique contribution you will make to our group just by being you.

If youth is not the first word that comes to mind when you think of yourself, you can still join the youth group in spirit. Please occasionally remember our teens in your prayers, asking God to reveal in them the glory of love.

David W. Frey
Coordinator of Youth Ministries

Worship Schedule

Worship, Chapel
9:00 a.m.

Sunday School
10:00 a.m.

Worship, Sanctuary
11:00 a.m.

Church Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

7:00 a.m. - Noon

12:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Friday: 7:00 a.m. - Noon

Phone: (574) 233-9463

Fax: (574) 233-9478

First Staff

Mary L. Hubbard
Senior Pastor

Robert Lewis
Associate Pastor

Marsha Dollar
Administrative Assistant

Wishart Bell
Director of Music

Leora Nauta
Organist

Lou Anne Wilson
Financial Manager

David Frey
Coordinator of Youth Ministries

Ben Noell
Building Manager

John Jung-Zimmerman
Upper Room Director

**HAVE YOU REMEMBERED
FIRST CHURCH IN YOUR
WILL?**

INVITATION TO THE OLD TESTAMENT

<u>Sessions:</u>	<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
	0	Introduction	Sept. 18
	1	The Making of the Hebrew Bible	Oct. 2
	2	The Creation Story of Israel	Oct. 9
	3	Out of Bondage	Oct. 16
	4	Promise & Problem in the Land	Oct. 23
	5	Israel has a King	Oct. 30
	6	Division & the Rise of Prophecy	Nov. 7
	7	Exile and Renewal	Nov. 13
	8	Restoration & Renewal	Nov. 20

Day – Sunday (however, if there is sufficient interest, a second class will be initiated)

Facilitator – Pastor Bob

Format – Discussion

A short Bible Study (8 weeks) that will survey the creation story, the lives of the patriarchs, the work of the kings, and the prophets, as well as the period of time the Israelites were in exile. Each session will involve an introduction to the weeks material, two short videos, and discussion about the daily Bible Readings.

Location – Room 26 b – i.e., The Picture Show Room

Meeting Time – 10 a.m. (however, if sufficient interest, we will offer a 2nd class).

Participant Book

A paperback available from Abingdon Press.
List for \$11.50

Can be viewed at Abingdon's web site <http://www.abingdonpress.com>

Questions – contact:

Bob Lewis, Associate Pastor

bobsiwel@sbcglobal.net

Church phone # (574) 233-9463

Cell phone # (574) 252-9151

Musical Arts Indiana presents

Lisa Bloom, Mezzo-soprano

Carol Shamory, Soprano

and

Wishart Bell, Piano

in a recital featuring songs by Strauss, Berlioz, DeFalla, Dvorak, Bellini, Mozart, and others.

Sunday, September 25, 2011, 3:00 pm

Kern Road Mennonite Church

18211 Kern Road, South Bend

Admission is free, but donations to Musical Arts Indiana will be most welcome.



During the hot days of July and August, Scouts from Boy Scout Troop 422 and Venturing Crew 422 enjoyed horsing around - proving once again that if learning is done correctly, it just seems like fun.

Seven Boy Scouts participated in earning their Horsemanship Merit Badge. Six male and one female Venture Crew members are currently finishing up their Equestrian Elective. Our group had a few riders with previous experience but most had never been on a horse prior to starting the Horsemanship Merit Badge and/or Equestrian Elective. One amazing accomplishment was when a brand new Scout completed the riding test the second time he was ever in the saddle. Congratulations John!

One way to measure the achievement of any activity is in terms of how dirty the Scouts get while participating. Pride and sense of accomplishment are other indicators. No matter which you choose, the Horsemanship and Equestrian activities were a great success! Laughter echoed at each meeting when one horse managed to slime the back of Angie Cavalieri's shirt - every time! As always, Dave Loughlin was present to ensure the Scouts remained properly hydrated and innumerable other matters.

On behalf of the Troop and Crew 422, we'd like to issue a special THANK YOU to the members of the First United Methodist Church for their continued support of the Boys Scouts of America and for enabling us to make memories that last a lifetime for youth in our community.

PRAYER LIST

Following is a prayer list. Please remember to include these people in your regular prayers:

Brandon Berger - Deployed to Afghanistan	Mary Lou Gordon - Health concerns & loss
Elijah Jones - In military service	Ron Florey - Health concerns
Michael Pershell - In military service	Marilyn Prue - Health concerns
Stephen Gramza - In military service	Carol Goodhew - Health concerns
Jonathan Mayers - In military service	Mary Jo Beemer - Health concerns & loss
Jeremy Martin - Special needs	Christyne Woolridge - Health concerns
Betty Haines - Loss	James Pennington - Health concerns
Bill Soderberg - Loss	Karen Werner - Health concerns
Margaret Grant - Loss	Jim Pickens - Health concerns
Betty J. Byers - Health concerns	Willa Pickens - Health concerns
Miriam Olsen - Health concerns	
Thorin Grey Yeager (Deb Mayers' Grandson) - Health concerns	

Also remember to pray for our members in long-term care, assisted living, and independent living:

Martha Abernethy	Betty Byers	Mary Jo Beemer	Mary Etta Rees
Ruth Garen	Virginia O'Hair	Rich Daniels	JoAnn Ballard
Clem Gramza	Hannah Messersmith	Jo Perkey	Betty Barnes
Hugh & Lois Warren	Marian Wilson	Jim Borden	Thair Best
Melvena Stenger	Betty Fisk	Jeanette Koehler	Margaret Wickizer
Margaret Grant	Miriam Olsen		

Additionally pray for:

Our Bishop Mike	Our Church	Our Pastor Mary
Our District Superintendent, Cindy	Our Church Staff	Our Pastor Bob

A NEW SIGN IS COMING

This sign was made possible by a gift from the Jack Fassnacht estate. Jack was a much loved, long-time member of First Church. Jack loved this church and the Memorial Committee felt this was a suitable remembrance in his honor.

Our new sign will actually be on the building where the current sign is located; but it will be a LCD Neon Sign with graphic capabilities.



CHANGES IN WORSHIP COMING UP

This summer has been a rich time discussing worship, what is working and what is not. Over the next couple of months, I am hoping you will notice some changes in the second service; if you like what you see, please be sure to mention it! If you don't please let me know another way we can accomplish the intended goal.

We have had so many wonderful people stepping forward to help; liturgists, soloists, communion servers, ushers, greeters, and ALL the work that Aaron Johnson has done with our visual and audio aids!

Building upon that, we are going to do what businesses do – strive for Continual Quality Improvement.

If you would be interested in helping to serve communion (either on a regular basis or on a particular month), please call the office to let us know; 233-9463.

Mary L. Hubbard

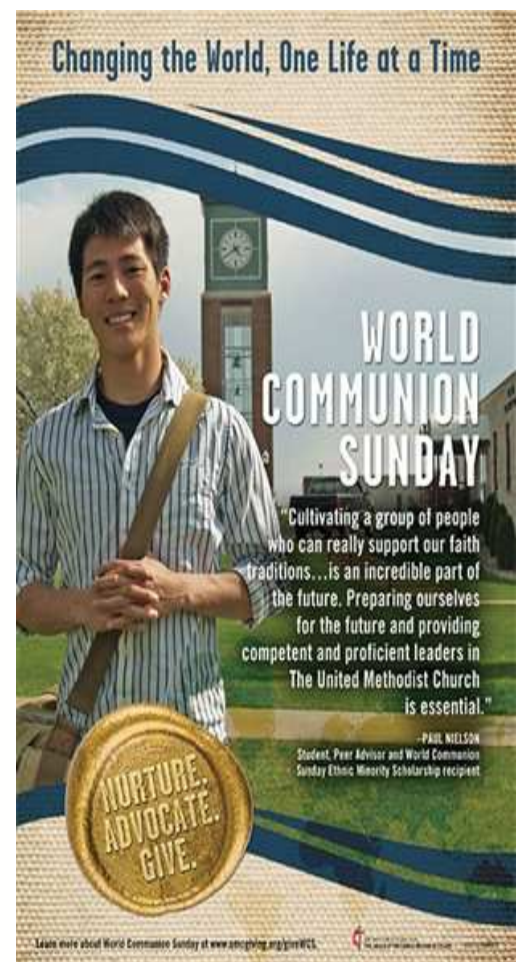
PLAN NOW FOR WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

**World Communion Sunday will be celebrated
on Sunday, October 2, 2011.**

The World Communion Sunday offering provides for three areas: World Communion Scholarships, Ethnic Scholarship Program and Ethnic In-Service Training Program. This support is a lifeline for many United Methodist students. Gifts are divided as follows:

- 50% – World Communion Scholarships (At least half must go beyond the United States)
- 35% – Ethnic Scholarship Program
- 15% – Ethnic In-Service Training Program

Your generous support through the World Communion Sunday offering prepares leaders for The United Methodist Church and the world.



CHOOSING WHAT TO BECOME

There is a great deal of evidence to support the thesis that we are heavily dependent upon what we choose to become. This is the *Good News* (which is what the word *gospel* means). We are not predetermined creatures. We can make decisions that can modify our behavior and make us into new creatures.

“Ultimately, a Christian is somebody who wants to become a new person and who realizes that this is a possibility through committing his or her life to Christ and being willing to become whatever Christ wants him or her to be.” [*It's Friday, But Sunday's Comin'*, by Anthony Campolo]

Our decisions about financial stewardship help us to make that choice, then remake the choice when we lose our way in the wilderness of materialistic options that compete with God for the control of our destiny.

Herb Miller

MESSIAH DVD'S ARE NOW AVAILABLE

Professionally recorded DVD's of the landmark Vesper Chorale performance of Handel's *Messiah* in March of 2011 are now available for public purchase. Order now to reserve your copy of this limited-time offer!

Cost is \$20 (includes shipping/processing)

**Orders and payment must be received by
Friday, September 30, 2011.**

Please mail payment to: Vesper Chorale
18211 Kern Road
South Bend, IN 46614



BEGINNING EXPERIENCE WEEKEND RETREAT FOR WIDOWED, DIVORCED, AND SEPARATED PERSONS

The next Beginning Experience Weekend will be held at Lindenwood Retreat Center, Donaldson, IN, from 7 PM Friday, Oct. 21 to 3 PM Sunday, Oct. 23, 2011. This Christian-based program assists persons to work through deep feelings of grief, anger, depression and loss. Register by Oct. 7! Call Teresa at (574) 261-0123 (day) or Marilyn at (269) 684-0882 (night time) or send an e-mail to greenlight7113@sbcglobal.net.

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Check out the website:

www.firstumcsb.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

A GREETING FROM THE CELTIC MUSICIANS



*May your home always be too small
to hold all your friends.*

**Join us for Worship Sundays at 9:00 a.m.
and hear the Celtic Musicians play.**



The People of The United Methodist Church

- Help people in their community
- Accept you for who you are
- Offer a place to belong
- Care for and support each other
- Show respect for other religions
- Support people facing difficulty
- Welcome diverse opinions and beliefs
- Guide others to find deeper meaning