

# THE VOICE

Love First *Caring, Sharing, Connecting*



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## FROM THE SENIOR PASTOR

It seems I've been doing a lot of packing and unpacking of books and files recently. Doing so has provided grist for the sermon mill as you have heard on a couple of Sunday mornings. This week it wasn't office books but "at home" books. One I picked up was a collection of poems compiled by Garrison Keillor given the simple title *Good Poems*.

I'm sure many of you know Keillor. He is creator and host of the long running program on public radio, *Prairie Home Companion*, and is most famous for telling stories depicting life in Lake Wobegon, a semi-fictional small town in Minnesota. I enjoy him in general, but especially his comments about Pastor Ingqvist and Father Wilmer. Fact is, he has a lot to say about religion, most of which is said with a measure of affection for all of us poor souls, but rarely without a little jab. He also does a five minute show every day called *The Writer's Almanac* which often includes a poem, and regularly, it is of the kind that I can get.

Tucked into my *Good*

*Poems* book was a copy of an interview with Keillor done in conjunction with its publishing. I came upon it at a moment when I wasn't feeling particularly thankful, and it served as a good reminder.

The first section of *Good Poems* is titled "O Lord." They are poems, mostly, of gratitude for sheer existence. In response to a question about this section, Garrison says this:

"Yes indeed. Gratitude is where spiritual life begins. Thank you Lord for this amazing and bountiful life and forgive us if we do not love it enough. Thank you for this laptop computer and for this yellow kitchen table and for the clock on the wall and the cup of coffee and the glasses on my nose and for these black slacks and this black T-shirt. Thanks for black, and for the other colors. Thank you, Lord, for giving me the wherewithal not to fix a half-pound cheeseburger right now and to eat a stalk of celery instead. Thank you for the wonderful son and the amazing little daughter and the smart sexy wife and the grandkids. Thank you that I haven't had alcohol in lo! these many months and thank you that it isn't as big a struggle to do without as I had so feared it might be. Thank you

for the odd delight of being 60, part of which is the sheer relief of not being 50." Keillor goes on in a brief moment of serious commentary to say that one should enumerate one's blessings and set them before the Lord. "Begin every day with this exercise... It is to break through the thin membrane of sourness and sullenness – though we should be thankful for that too, it being the source of so much wit and humor – and to come into the light and enjoy our essential robustness and good health."

Keillor's gift is finding the right way to put it. Face it, there aren't that many new ideas, not that many new sermon topics. The challenge is always finding the fresh way to say it, the way that will quicken it to our minds and spirits. You probably remember an old way of singing the exact sentiment of the preceding paragraph: "Count your many blessings, name them one by one... and it will surprise you what the Lord has done." Each verse of the old gospel song has an almost exact corollary in Keillor's thoughts: "when you are discouraged thinking all is lost – count your blessings, name them one by one."

It is true. There is so much darkness around us. A never ending quagmire in the Middle East; friends and congregation members

fighting for their lives against slim odds; or simply the weariness of moving. You name it. I needed to hear Garrison's reminder. Take a little time to express gratitude for sheer existence – for the gifts that surround us. It is a fundamental Christian practice, and in Keillor's estimation, "Where spiritual life begins."

*Pastor Jeff*



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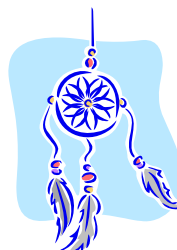
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## Women Alive in Faith September 12, 2009

The Bible Study Circle of United Methodist Women invites you to join us at Davis Park Saturday, September 12, at 9:30 am, for brunch and to hear Mr. Ed Breeden's presentation entitled "American Indians—the Forgotten People." The Native American culture has been the focus of one of the mission studies United Methodist Women have been focusing on in 2008-2009 at the UMW Conference School of Christian Mission.

Mr. Breeden has traveled extensively to many American Indian Reservations in the United States and is well qualified to speak on the subject of our Native Americans. Currently a postman, he plans to retire in the near future, and he and his wife will continue their work with the American Indian Reservations.

There is a \$6.00 cost for the brunch. Please call the church office (643-6977) during business hours to make your reservations.



## THE VOICE

### Worship Schedule ( Beginning September 13)

9:00 a.m.  
Traditional Worship  
Sanctuary

10:10-11:10 a.m.  
Sunday School  
Downtown  
Opportunities for all ages

11:10 a.m.  
Modern Worship  
Worship Center  
Lower Level

4:30 p.m.  
Community Café  
Free Meal, Brief  
Devotional Message  
And Music  
Fellowship Hall



## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN ACTIVITIES

Circle Activities pick up again in September as our schedules resume with fall activities:

Bible Study Circle—September 3, 2009 9:30 am  
Hostesses: Miriam Jones, Sue Wright  
807 Valley Spring Drive, Anderson  
Program: Lesson #1 - "Growing Older and Wiser" led by Harriett Wheeler

Friendship Circle—September 3, 2009 9:30 am  
Hostess: Lou Ann Brown  
1001 Oakdale, Anderson  
Program: Donna Goings

Lydia Circle—September 8, 2009 7:00 pm  
North-South Parlor, Downtown  
Hostess: Jill McDonald  
Program: Native American Culture—Peg Peter

Action Circle—September 9 9:30 am  
East-West Parlor  
Downtown



## MUSIC MINISTRIES BEGIN "TUNING" UP FOR FALL



**The Sanctuary Choir** will begin rehearsals with a pitch-in dinner on Wednesday, September 2 at 6:00 pm at Davis Park.

The Sanctuary Choir is open to anyone who loves to sing!

No auditions are required. The choir leads worship at the 9:00 traditional service several times a month, and rehearses on Wednesdays from 7-8 pm. Contact Sue Finger for more information, or come to the pitch-in.

**Adult Handbell Choir** will begin rehearsing on Wednesday, September 9 from 6-7 pm in the Bell Rehearsal Room on the church's third level. No musical experience is required to be a ringer.



Contact Rhea Parshall for more information about joining this group.

**First Light Praise Band and Agape Singers** provide the praise and worship music for the Modern Service at 11:10 am Sunday. The First Light Praise Band rehearses each Wednesday in the Modern Worship Area.

Contact Steve Thomas for more information about joining these groups.



## THOUGHTS ON WISDOM

Which headline would have run in the Bethlehem Times if you had been the editor at the time of David's death?

**GIANT KILLER LAID TO REST  
ADULTERER MEETS HIS FINAL JUDGE  
KING SAUL'S PROTÉGÉ IS DEAD**

David's life story was not so far removed from the lives of leaders today. Personal failures make headlines. A public figure may be remembered as "the man who slept with another man's wife" or as "the woman who lied to the press." Often we do not consider that the

prayer of that person's heart may be as deep as David's when he prayed, "Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me" (Ps. 51:11, KJV). We know that in spite of his moral failures, David wanted to be close to God and to experience God's forgiveness.

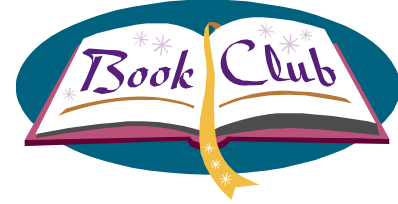
Political figures are not the only ones who experience this kind of judgment by others. What about friends, family and acquaintances who have had failures in their lives? There is an old saying that churches are not havens for saints but

hospitals for sinners. As we observe these sins in ourselves and in others, do we focus on the sin or on the sinner?

When we are the ones who sin, we want forgiveness and support from others and from God. Can we do any less-for those we know or those about whom we read in the news-than pray for these people and support them in their search for forgiveness? *Gracious Lord, fill our hearts with love and with desire for forgiveness for ourselves and for others. Amen*

Written by Janet Casterline, published in the book "Disciples 2009"

## BON AMI SCHEDULE



First UMC's Book Club will meet on Tuesday, September 1 at 9:30 am to discuss "The Gurnsey Literary and Potato Pie Society" by MaryAnn Shaffer and Annie Barrows.

Experiences from World War II and the saga of developing friendships are played out through correspondence between a young author in London and residents of an island in the English Channel that was occupied by Germany during the war.

Take an hour out of your schedule and join us in the library downtown to discuss this book—everyone is welcome.



## CHECK IT OUT!!

### The Truth Wars—John Macarthur

John Macarthur bemoans the fact our "modern" churches no longer claim we can know the "truth," even though Jesus said "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life."

Macarthur believes much of the church is engaged in an important world-wide war about truth. In his recent book, "The Truth War," Macarthur calls on all Christians to carefully compare the teachings of many modern church communities with the historical message contained in the Gospels. We continue to face heresies and other misguided teachings in our often growing, but highly secular denominations of the modern time.

Macarthur calls on all Christians, as did Jesus, to wage an ongoing battle against the many untruths found in the modern church movements we experience today. For great insight into modern heresies diluting the "Truth" found in the Gospels, and to see how we might faithfully battle for Biblical truth, read Macarthur's book, "The Truth War." This is great reading on an important subject.

Check it out—this book is available in our library!!

The Bon Amis travel group is headed to Indianapolis on Tuesday, September 22. The group will have lunch at Hollyhock Hills, a family-style restaurant with many beautiful hollyhocks on the premises. The original owners began serving friends special dinners at their then country cottage in northern Marion County in 1928, and the restaurant has provided dining experiences for customers from all 50 states and numerous foreign countries ever since. Lunch will include an appetizer and relish followed by a platter of Hoosier-fried chicken with good old-fashioned creamy chicken gravy and mashed potatoes, as well as vegetables, salad, cottage cheese, pickled beets, jelly, and dinner rolls. Dessert will consist of ice-cream with choice of toppings or homemade brownies.

After lunch (if we are able to move), the group will head down to the Children's Museum to view the King Tut exhibit. The exhibition features 50 objects from the tomb of Tutankhamun including the gold sandals that adorned the mummy's feet and a beautifully adorned canopic jar that mummified his internal organs. In addition to the treasures from the tomb of Tutankhamun, 80 ancient artifacts are featured, which highlight many

of the most significant rulers of ancient Egypt such as Khefren, whose great pyramid is the only remaining structure of the seven wonders of the ancient world and Hatshepsut, the queen who became king. Audio and/or written guides are available for the tour.

The bus will leave the church at 10:30 am and will return approximately by 5:00. The cost of the day for lunch, the tour, and the bus is \$35. Eight spaces are still available. Please call the church office (643-6977) to make your reservation today!

Bon Amis is a travel group targeted for adults fifty-five years and over in age; however, anyone is invited and welcome to participate. The group takes monthly trips to points of interest within the local area (most trips are within 1-2 hours radius) or to regional entertainment venues and usually include a meal at a good restaurant. Cost varies monthly and includes cost of bus, cost of meal, and cost of admission. The trips are open to individuals in the community. The contact person is Pastor Donna Goings. Please call the church office at 643-6977 to make reservations, and payment is requested at time of reservation.



### Help St. Mary's School Get Free Equipment and You Could Win Free Groceries!

The more you shop at Marsh or O'Malia's, the more chances you get to win Free Groceries\*.

Register by November 15, 2009 and receive an additional chance to win each time you scan your Fresh IDEA card or O'Malia's CouponPlus card.

Log on to [www.marsh.net](http://www.marsh.net) to register your Marsh Fresh IDEA card or O'Malia's

CouponPlus card for our school code: **28408**. This will automatically earn credit for the school, and earns you an additional entry every time you use your Fresh IDEA card or O'Malia's CouponPlus card. If you signed up for our school last year, you do not need to re-register and you will automatically be entered to win free groceries.

\* When you use your Marsh Fresh IDEA card or O'Malia's CouponPlus card and are enrolled in the Marsh Fresh Ideas for Education Program. No purchase necessary and void where prohibited. See official rules at [www.marsh.net](http://www.marsh.net).

THE VOICE

YOUTH NEWS / JAKES'S CORNER

Happy September, everyone!

This is my favorite time of year. Actually, October would probably be more of my favorite time, but September is the start of it all (and the end of the insanely hot temperatures). I'm a really big fan of the cool air, the changing leaves, the decorations, and all of the seasonal food and beverages associated with fall.

Pumpkin spice lattes are one of the greatest things ever! This time of the year also always reminds me of the cross country season, and so I get nostalgic thinking about when I used to run in high school and college.

It's also flabbergasting for me to think about how the September edition of *The Voice* last year contained my introduction to all of you. It has all finally come back full-circle. I believe my official start date here last year was September 7<sup>th</sup>, so by the time you read this it won't *officially* be one year, but trust me, it sure feels like it. Now that my first year has come and gone, everyone is allowed to complain about me. I could always use the whole "I'm new and I don't know what's going on" excuse, and

there was what I like to call the "youth director honeymoon" where everyone is excited for the new youth director and he or she can do no wrong. I think that's over now, so feel free to truly tell me what you think. I can take it. (Hopefully you picked up the humorous undertone to the previous statements.)

I would really like to start shaping the youth group into what I envision it to be and into what it *should* be this next year. Some of that has already started. The regular scheduled youth meetings have started to take on a new format. We're also trying to actually name our group, instead of just calling it "youth group." It would be a good way to give us more of an identity. If you have any ideas, let me know! I can also see more input coming from the youth themselves, which I feel is the key for growth. We've also started to foster relationships with youth from other United Methodist churches in the area. This is huge because we are no longer competing against each other for youth, but we are working together to serve the youth of Anderson and the town itself. All of our groups together can be an amazing force!

September also has a handful of events that have been spurred on by some of the youth in our church. We're

looking at possibly doing something for the anniversary of September 11<sup>th</sup>; we're going to have a few walkers in the Operation Love Walk-A-Thon on September 19<sup>th</sup>; we would also like to go to Dave and Buster's sometime. Finally, we want to travel to the Frisbee Golf course in Muncie to play some Frisbee Golf. If you would like to be involved in any of these things just let me know or keep a lookout for any e-mails or announcements in the bulletin.

This first year has had its ups and downs, but now that I'm on the verge of starting my second year, I am very happy to be here. I'm much more optimistic about the future of the youth ministry and the future of the church. I feel like this is definitely where I need to be in this stage of my life.

Thank you all for making this first year go really well and for helping me to settle in to Anderson and for making me a part of the church. Here's to year two!

*Jake*

Second Adult G.E.D. Class begins September 26

Do you know an adult who is trying to earn his or her G.E.D.? If so, encourage that person to attend classes right here at First UMC on Saturdays. An eight-week series of classes to prepare individuals to take the G.E.D. exam will be held on Saturdays, starting September 26, from 10am-2pm, in the east-west parlor of the church. A light lunch will be served.

These classes are being funded by a grant from the Madison County Community Foundation, so there will be no charge for the class or the class materials. The class instructor is Michelle Weatherspoon. Individuals can contact the church office (643-6977) to register for the class. The contact person for further details is Pastor Donna Goings.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank many of my friends here at First:

1. To all the many people who have helped to feed the youth on Sunday evenings. Your efforts are very appreciated.
2. To Jake, Pastor Donna, Richard Cassidy, Janet McDaniel and the church staff for my surprise party earlier in August. It was awesome, and I still can't believe how you pulled it off so smoothly.
3. To Tom Hart for all the help he provides me with the youth, as well as all the work

he does with them. You are truly a special man.

May God bless you all,  
Alice Baker



J.O.Y. LUNCHEONS AND PROGRAMS

The next meeting of the J.O.Y. (Just Older Youth) group is Friday, September 18. Lunch will begin at 11:30 am and will be followed by a musical program by Janet Casterline on the celtic harp.

Janet shares her musical talents in a variety of ways in the community, including playing piano for our Connections worship service monthly and also for worship services at seniors' facilities such as Harter

House.

J.O.Y. luncheons are opportunities for adults 65 years and older to gather for fellowship, entertainment, and education. Participants meet each month on the third Friday at 11:30 for a catered meal followed by a program featuring speakers or entertainment. A \$6 donation is requested for the cost of the meal.

The contact person for further details is Pastor Donna Goings. Reservations are requested—please call the church office (643-6977). These programs are open to individuals in the community.



## VISIT FIRST ON FACEBOOK

### BECOME A FAN

Anderson First UMC has finally caught up with the times. We have jumped onto the bandwagon and created a Facebook fan page for our church! If you are on Facebook, you need to look us up and become a fan! Just search for the FULL NAME of our church in the Facebook search box to find the page. There is also a link on the homepage of our website ([www.andersonfirst.org](http://www.andersonfirst.org)).

If you're not on Facebook, you should join simply to become a fan of our church! Check out some of our photos (or upload your own), share your thoughts on the message board, and get updates on the events happening in the church! This is a great way to create a community within our church and to relate to a new generation!



## FREERICE.COM



**Want to decrease poverty while you increase your brain?**

Check out [www.freerice.com](http://www.freerice.com). This site offers a chance to practice for your vocab test (in three different languages!), study the work of the world's greatest artists, practice your times tables and even brush up on world geography! According to the November/December WORLD ARK magazine this one site has donated more than 40 billion grains of rice and fed more than 1 million hungry people! Go to the [www.freerice.com](http://www.freerice.com) and answer the questions and for every correct answer you give, they give a grain of rice to the United Nations World Food Program. It is a sister site of Poverty.com and they partner with the Berkman Center for Internet and Society at Harvard University. They have two goals: to provide education to everyone for free and to help end world hunger by providing rice to hungry people for free. I urge you to go to [www.freerice.com](http://www.freerice.com) and challenge your family members and friends to beat your record! Good luck!

## FALL ADULT EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Fall is back to school time for children, as they continue their educational journeys. What an appropriate time for us as adults to continue our education in our faith! A variety of opportunities will be available on Sunday morning, Wednesday night, and other times during the week. Some of those opportunities will be listed below; others are still in the planning stages and will be announced in upcoming bulletins. Keep your eyes open for the opportunities God is calling you to be a part of.

Pastor Donna oversees the adult education program and is always looking for ideas for topics as well as volunteers for teaching and facilitating classes. What classes would you like to attend and what subjects would you like to invite a friend to join you in learning about? Share your thoughts and ideas with Pastor Donna—call the church office (643-6977).

### ✦ Sunday morning classes (10:10-11:00) starting September 13

- Joy N' US led by Frank Atteberry--North-south parlor
- Alpha Omega led by Doug Nelson—Room 219
- Path Finders led by Kenny and Connie Hall—East-west parlor
- Aging Successfully led by Ron McNabney—Room 217
- Covenant Community led by Dave Peter—Room 216

### ✦ Wednesday night Quest class (6:30-7:30) starting September 16

Many people have expressed interest in the content of the class Sunday morning during the summer on other denominations and other religions. We will be offering this same class on Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:30. The first part will be an eight week series exploring Christianity's family tree—what do other denominations believe and what can we learn from them? The course is a video-based program developed by

Rev. Adam Hamilton, pastor of the largest United Methodist church in North America. Come join us and bring a friend.

### ✦ Friday morning Beth Moore Bible study (9:00-11:00) starting August 14

Peg Peter is facilitating a new Beth Moore study on the book of Esther—"It's Tough Being A Woman." Both women and men are invited to join this group.

### ✦ Other opportunities

o We would like to offer the class on other denominations and other religions at another time and day, such as during the day on a weekday. If a certain time or day would work well for you, please contact Pastor Donna to let her know.

o We are also looking for individuals who would like to host a Bible study or class in your home. We would provide the teacher and you would provide the place. This would be an opportunity to invite friends and neighbors to get together and study and fellowship close to home!

Many of you have expressed interest in participating in a Bethel Bible study—a series of classes over a more extended period that gives you an overview of the Bible. We are hoping to provide such a class later this fall—look for further details in upcoming bulletins and Voice articles.



## THE VOICE

## FAITHBOOKING—MAKING A PICTURE PRAYER JOURNAL

We all want to grow closer to God and we want our children to grow closer as well. We want wisdom from heaven to help us and them make the best decisions with the day-to-day issues of our lives. The way to accomplish those things is to be connected to God through prayer.

If you feel your prayer life isn't what it ought to be and you don't feel confident enough to help others, here's an easy way to get started. If you try the following activity with your family and faithfully use the suggestion, I promise you within no time at all you will experience a jolt of stimulation as God touches you through gained confidence in



your prayers.

Here's an idea that can be used with your children regardless of how old or young they are. Make a "Picture Prayer Journal".

You'll need: a photo album or a three-ring binder (they're on sale now you know!) page protectors, art supplies and notebook paper. You'll also want pictures of every member of your family. Place one picture per page. On the opposite side, put a piece of notebook paper. Put the date you took the picture in your prayer journal and write on there the prayers you have for that person. You can also use pictures of our nation's leaders clipped from newspapers or magazines. You could include pictures of your

neighbors and teachers, even favorite sport stars or celebrities. Ask God what He wants you to pray for them.

Don't make so many pages you get bogged down, but include enough pages so you are praying for those important to your family. When God answers a particular prayer request, write on the notebook paper how He did it. See how long it takes. Recognize sometimes God will answer your prayers quickly and sometimes it may be years and years before you understand how He has answered your prayer. Happy Praying!

*Miss Mary Margaret*

## Volunteer Help wanted: Apply Here

We are searching for people interested in helping with sound for the 9:00 traditional service on Sunday mornings.

**Who?** Anyone age 13 or older

**What?** Learn to run the sound and light boards used in the Sanctuary

**When?** After return Sunday and throughout the year

**Where?** In the balcony of the downtown sanctuary

**How much time and what work is involved?**  
A short training session and approximately 1.5 hours every few weeks (depending on the size of the team) dedicated to taking the "Yuck" out of the sound for the service.

**What's in it for you?**

An out of this world benefits and retirement package and the knowledge that you've helped Pastor Jeff and the choir sound even better than they already do (and saving \$\$\$ too)!

Contact Brian Jones at 623-5005, 649-1598 or [bjones@kirbyrisk.com](mailto:bjones@kirbyrisk.com)

OR Church Office at 643-6977

**Training will be arranged based on response.**



## MISS MARY MARGARET'S MUSINGS

I was sitting on my porch last week when I hear a little voice. "Hey Neighbor! They came to walk home from school with me!" Walking down the street (we don't have sidewalks on my block.) was my next door neighbor and part of his family. His mom and two brothers had missed him so much they couldn't wait for him to get home from school so they met him there. His mom later informed me that he had begun telling them about his day at the school doors and was still going strong ten blocks later! Telling our faith story should be that way too. We should be so excited to see folks that weren't with us during the day that we just start telling them the great things God has done for us and keep on going.

It's good to invite our friends to come with us to church or camp or Bible Study but we all know we have friends who won't come with us no matter how many times we ask. Okay, so

they're not "joiners." Are you sharing what's happening to you because you're participating in faith activities?

Let's say you're a scrapbooker. Next time you meet up with your scrapbooking friends (because scrapbookers do tend to spend time with others of like minds!) talk about the prayer journal you made with your children. That might be just the impetus they need to tell you their troubles and you can then share how prayer has helped you make it through troubles.

Okay, so not everybody likes to scrap. Let's see. Your teacher asks you to write a report on some person of note. Choose a person from the Bible or maybe John Wesley who was quite a man of faith and changed history too. When your friends ask who you wrote about, tell them how John Wesley was homeless for a while (his house burned down while

he was still in it!) and overcame that to be a college graduate and establish a church that strives to be Christ in the world by taking care of homeless persons! You may find yourself on the steering committee for your school's toy drive for the local homeless shelter and look at how many people you will be able to bless and encourage.

I hope you find yourself doing so many exciting faith things this month that you start talking at the church door and keep going until you call out "Hey Neighbor...want to hear about my day?"

Faithfully yours,

*Miss Mary Margaret*

## J.A.Y.s!!!!!!! Calling All 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders!

We had such a great time together last year we're going to do it again! If you are in the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades, you are cordially invited to join with Lucas Mendel and Miss Mary Margaret on Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m. in the Discover Sunday School Room!

Are you not sure what a J.A.Y. is? Well, it's a boy or a girl in the 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> grade from our church or any of our cluster group churches or friends of any of our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders. We meet from 5 pm until 7 pm every other Sunday evening. We eat with the Youth group and we have our lessons, activities and games. We are learning what is required of members of the Youth group and we're learning how to do those things.

Call Miss Mary Margaret if you have questions or if you can't make the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.  
See You Then!

*Miss Mary Margaret*

## MEMORIALS GIVEN IN JULY, 2009

**John Miles**  
Betty and Meredith Church

**John Miles to Helping Hands  
Pantry**  
Bill Snider

**Martha Richeson**  
Nola Amos  
Robert Harruff

**Martha Richeson to Bus Fund**  
Mae Ellen and Jim Gale  
Virginia Musser

**Martha Richeson to  
Community Café**  
Shirley and Max Culler

**Mary Kitterman to  
Library**  
Heather Barrett  
Ruby Geeting

**Mary Kitterman to  
Community Café**  
Wilma Barrow, Ann  
and David Cook

**Mary Kitterman to Bus Fund**  
Deane and Jack Cunningham  
Virginia Musser

**Mary Kitterman to Davis Park**  
Jo Ellen and Wendell Hilligoss

**Chad Bailey to Bus Fund**  
Virginia Musser



## ADVENT WORKSHOP PLANNING

It's a little late for Christmas in July but, believe it or not, we are already planning our Advent craft workshop! We've penciled it in for the afternoon of Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup> – before the All-church Thanksgiving Dinner. We already have crafts for this year planned, but could use helpers for each table (6-7) and/or donations of necessary supplies. All of our crafts are pretty easy because they're planned for little hands.

If you'd like to help, please contact Leisa Jones at 649-1598 or [qualitymom@comcast.net](mailto:qualitymom@comcast.net). I'll contact you back with information about who and what we need for a successful afternoon. And be thinking of crafty ideas for next year!



## OPERATION LOVE

Operation Love is having a 'Saturday in the Park' event on September 19, 9:00 am to mid-afternoon, at Shadyside Park near the Shelter house. A Walk-a-thon is scheduled too.

Any group is invited to have a booth to hand out literature, sell food or goods. All monies taken in go to Operation Love. Last year they raised about \$17,000. If you are interested, or know of anyone interested, please call Operation Love at 644-2121.

## HELPING HANDS NON-FOOD PANTRY AND COMMUNITY CAFÉ UPDATE



Thank you to the anonymous donor of \$50 to the Helping Hands Non-Food Pantry. This donation will help the Pantry stock up on many much-needed items.

The Pantry was able to help 90 persons in August when they were open for two days. 30 of them were new families. Unfortunately, as our economy continues to struggle, so do many families in the Anderson area.

The Pantry continues to need non-food items such as paper towels, toilet paper, tissues, shampoo, diapers, deodorant, toothpaste, bath soap, dish soap, etc. Donations can be dropped off at the church during office hours, or at one of our services.

Donations of non-perishable food items are also needed for the Community Café. The cost of food from Second Harvest and other agencies continues to increase, so in order to keep costs down the congregation is asked to donate canned goods, crackers, cereal, etc.

A bag of groceries is offered to our café guests each week. The groceries are always greatly appreciated by our guests.



First United Methodist Church  
1215 Jackson Street  
Anderson IN 46016

Phone: 765-643-6977  
Fax: 765-642-5232  
E-mail: [mail@andersfirst.org](mailto:mail@andersfirst.org)

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## COMING EVENTS

- September 2** First Choir Rehearsal—Davis Park— 6:00 pm
- September 12** Women Alive in Faith—Davis Park—9:30 am
- September 13** 9:00 am Traditional Worship Returns to the Sanctuary  
Fall Semester of Sunday School Starts  
6:00 pm—JAYS and Youth meetings return downtown
- September 19** JOY Lunch 11:30 am
- September 19** Operation Love 'Saturday at Shadyside Park' 9 am to mid afternoon
- September 22** Bon Ami Trip 10:30 am—5 pm
- September 26** New GED Class begins 10:00 am to 2 pm