

October 15, 2007
Volume 44, Issue 17



Inside this issue:

180th Celebration	1
Pastor's Prayer	2
Membership Class	2
Bon Amis	3
Community Cafe	4
Musings	5
Kid's Night Out	5
From our Library	7
Trick or Treat at the Park	8
Youth Highlights	8
A Success Story	9
Women Alive in Faith	10
Bible Sunday	10
What people are saying about Anderson First	11
Fall Break VBS	Back

Anderson First UMC celebrates 180th Anniversary

The First United Methodist Church of Anderson will be celebrating its 180th anniversary on **Sunday, October 21, 2007**. Just 89 short years after John Wesley had his heart warming experience at Aldersgate in London, England, hearts were being warmed by the Good

News of God's Grace in Anderson, Indiana.

Gary Robinson, church member, has composed a **special musical celebration for this occasion which will be presented during the 9:15 a.m. worship service**. Music written for this occasion will include the prelude, introit,

anthem, and offertory music. In addition to the Sanctuary Choir, the performance will include a brass quintet, percussion, piano and organ. Join with us in the festivities of worship and music as we celebrate 180 years of serving the Lord and our community.

“To God Be the Glory”

What's behind the special musical celebration composed by Gary Robinson.

MK: Were you inspired or commissioned to compose the music for our 180th celebration.

Gary: I felt called and, yes, inspired to do this. I actually went to the church personnel (music director and pastor) to propose this. Throughout my life God has used me and my musical gifts to create music for a number of groups and events. This is the latest.

MK: Is there anything significant about the piece? (i.e. special instruments/instrumentation, etc.)

Gary: In considering the "celebration" theme and then the "heritage" we have gotten from our predecessors and what we will leave to others (legacy), I dug deeper into these ideas. From that I searched the bible to come up with some scriptures that

might reflect that. Here are the scriptures I used as an inspirational foundation:

For the Anthem, "Celebrate This Day!", I used Exodus 12:14 (about celebrating and festival); 1 Peter 5 (about being servants and a living example); Psalm 119: 111 (about Gods statutes being our "heritage forever; the joy of (our) heart); and Ephesians 2:10 (being created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do)

For the Offertory music, I used John 3:16 (how God so loved the world . . .) which is the only biblical verse I used as a direct quote, which I added supporting text to in the song to reflect how we are God's face in the world and should live as Christ to "be as Christ is."

What is interesting is I had another whole set of lyrics I had written (for the offertory) based on the other bible verses, about service, etc. But I kept getting the sense I should use John 3:16. I hesitated because this is such a popular and well known verse. But ultimately, when I sat down at the keyboard to write, it just started coming out! From that, I infused some of the other ideas from my previous preliminary lyric work to come up with a second text in support of John 3:16. Then, in the music, I combine the two texts, with different musical themes, at on point, after both have been stated, and end finally, with the original John 3:16 text.

I also went on to write a **prelude** by combining ideas

(Continued on page 3)

Don't Miss Events!

- 180th Anniversary Celebration (p.1)
- Kid's Night Out
- Let's Get Acquainted with Pastor John & Linda (p. 2)
- Thanksgiving Dinner (p.6)
- Serengeti Trek—Fall Break Vacation Bible School (Back Page)

Pastor's Prayer

"Boomerang Principle" by Pastor John K. Wortinger

Clara Lapole lives in Hagerstown, Maryland. In 1960 she sent a Christmas Card to her sister Pearl Peterson who is 75 years old and lives in Westminster, Colorado. Pearl liked the card so much she sent it back to Clara in 1961. Neither of them can give the card away because it keeps coming back the next year.

Actually they do not hold the record for this kind of "boomerang" card. There are two brothers-in-law who started a similar thing in 1948. Irving Willis lived in Washington, D.C. he sent a card to Delbert Gibson who lived in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. When Delbert received the card from Irving, he thought it was so good he ought to send it back to him the next year. The card keeps going back

and forth.

Six years ago, at a church I was then serving, Ed gave a box of prayer cards to be sent by anyone who wanted to take a card from the chapel and send it to someone they were praying for asking that the recipient send it on to someone for whom they were praying, a chain card of prayer. A couple of those cards made their way back to Ed filled with names and prayers when he himself had a need for prayer.

There is a boomerang nature to the Christian Faith. The more of God's love we try to give back, the more we receive. We cannot give away God's love, because it keeps coming back in greater portions. We cannot out give God!

The reason lies in the nature of God's giving. At Christmas, he did not go out and purchase a gift to give, but rather gave Himself. We never have to exchange His Gift the day after Christmas. His Gift is a perfect fit for every need we have. God's greatest desire is the gift we give to Him is the gift of ourselves. The more we give, the more He gives!

There are many events at First Church where you can help participate in this "boomerang" giving. We will have over 100 persons coming next Sunday afternoon for a meal at Community Café who will be met by givers who give food and love in equal measure. A week ago Monday, 53 persons received some help making ends meet because of your sharing during the

communion service. Sunday, DeWayne Landwehr shared about the many ways in which First Church is giving to those in need in our community as an expression of our love for God.

Every Sunday we have an opportunity to put this Boomerang Principle into practice. The offering is an important part of our worship, because stewardship is what a person does after he says, "I believe."

See you at the "boomerang" place Sunday!

*Make us faithful, O God,
that we might bear the weight
of your calling upon our lives.
A author of love, help us share
the blessings you shower upon
us that love may multiple.*

A men

Let's Get Acquainted

An opportunity to share your thoughts about the church, challenges and opportunities together.

The Staff-Parish invite any, who have not yet had an opportunity to meet with Pastor John and Linda in a small group setting, to one of the last two gatherings which will be:

Saturday, October 20 at 10:00 a.m. in the Church Fellowship Hall or Sunday,

October 21, at 2:30 p.m. in the North and South Parlor

These gatherings are opportunities to get acquainted with the Wortingers and they with you. These gatherings have also been opportunities to share some of your thoughts about the church and the

challenges and opportunities we have together.

Sign up for the Membership Class!

What: Membership Class

When: Sundays, November 4 through December 2

10:30 a.m.—11:15 a.m.

Where: Room # 220

How to Enroll or get more information:

- Make a note on the "Glad You're Here" form
- Talk with Pastor John or Pastor Donna
- Fill out the tear-off form in the Sunday bulletin
- Call the church office 765-643-6977

Bon Amis

On November 28, the Bon Amis group will travel to Indianapolis and enjoy the morning at the Children's Museum. Lunch will follow at the Hollyhock Hill Restaurant. The bus will leave at 9:15. The cost for the day is \$27 and includes admission to the museum and the full cost of lunch at the restaurant.

It's time again to plan for the Yuletide Celebration at the Indianapolis Symphony

Orchestra. Principal Pops Conductor Jack Everly will lead the Orchestra through time-honored classics and family favorites. You will be delighted and inspired by five-time Grammy Award-winning vocalist Sandi Patty, and the renowned African Children's Choir. Heartwarming carols, thrilling orchestral arrangements, a visit from Santa, and show-stopping song and dance numbers

are all part of the show.

Due to the popularity of this trip, we have made reservations for 40. (We will take some cars along with the bus.) The date for this trip has been changed from the original one to Friday, December 7. We need to know your interest in attending by November 9, so we can get the final count to the Symphony.

The bus will leave the church at 12:30 pm. Please

eat before you come, as we will not be having a meal as part of this trip. The cost of the trip is \$40.

Please call the office to make reservations. We also need you to pay the fee for each trip as soon as possible after making your reservations. This helps us to have accurate numbers when making reservations for the meals.

"To God be the Glory"

(Continued from page 1)

from the hymns to be used at that service. We also should have a **choral introit** which uses the hymn and one verse from the traditional "The Churches One Foundation", which seemed appropriate for this occasion.

I have written the music to include a combination of a brass quintet and percussion (timpani or conga drums) to go along with piano and organ.

MK: Is this common or unusual to have someone compose a piece specific for an event such as ours? If common, anything significant in the past of Anderson First?

Gary: I can't say if it has ever been done at Anderson First. I have not personally seen any music with that under the title. However, it is not uncommon elsewhere. Often times we have selections of music that are "commissioned" or written for an occasion. Although I

have written and arranged music for numerous groups and occasions, I have only done so in this (sort of commission-type) role on several occasions.

MK: Have you composed other pieces? If so, how do they compare to those composed for our anniversary celebration?

Gary: I have written music for school competitions, special performances, and even the "alma mater" for a school where I once taught. What I have found is that while my writing has grown and developed over the years, it has also gotten more concise and focused. So while it has matured, it has also simplified, in a manner of speaking.

MK: What other interesting information about yourself, the piece, the history, etc. would you like to share?

Gary: Writing has been a passion of mine since I was a boy. I found myself writing and

arranging things by the time I entered junior high school. I would do pieces for school groups and then would get a chance to work on them with my peers (under the tutelage of my teachers) and, on occasion, direct them in performance. This set me up nicely for college to pursue this passion, where I majored in music education, with one emphasis on music composition, while studying voice and conducting. It also enabled me to pursue what would become my eventual career (until recently): directing school music groups.

My life is probably like most other people; very busy with little time to do what we often would like and sometimes should do. I have to look for and find purpose in writing, otherwise I might not work it into my schedule. Since I don't do as much as my heart desires, I often have a void and feel as if God is trying to get me to re-engage in this area; in the gift he

has given. I realize my music is just an extension of God - his words and feelings being expressed through me. As the saying goes, "To God be the glory."

I felt God's calling, in this instance and was able to take the initiative with the upcoming celebration. I knew if it was God's will, it would happen. And it looks as though that is the case.

MK: God is good! All the time! And we are so blessed to have Gary and Susan as part of our congregation. My thanks to Gary for taking time to answer my questions, for all the hours he invested in writing from his heart, with praise and thanksgiving, but most of all, for sharing his gift of music with us each and every week. My prayer for Gary is for more opportunities to arise for Gary to continue writing and sharing his music with others. Isn't that what it's all about? Sharing the Good News with the world!

Ministry Update: *Community Café*

Upon completion of the Community Café meal on September 29, that ministry will have completed three years of providing physical and spiritual nourishment to

the needy within our community.

We need additional volunteers to help fix and serve the meals now. If we don't receive more workers will

have to consolidate some of our teams. If you are interested in being a member of one of the dinner teams contact Bill or Deandra Roesch (649-2076)

Community Dinner Statistics

PERIOD	MEALS SERVED	GIFTS RECEIVED	TOTAL EXPENSE
OCT. ~ DEC.2004	802	\$ 3,620.07	\$ 2,941.51
JAN. ~ MAR. 2005	915	703.22	464.05
APR. ~ JUNE 2005	1078	590.50	726.97
JUL. ~ SEPT 2005	1113	253.00	621.81
OCT. ~ DEC.2005	1469	227.00	579.01
JAN. ~ MAR. 2006	1212	265.00	502.50
APR. ~ JUNE 2006	1266	300.00	1,057.50
JUL. ~ SEPT 2006	1524	305.00	1,291.41
OCT. ~ DEC.2006	1631	528.00	1,244.08
JAN. 2007	424	25.00	381.14
FEB. 2007	405	275.00	584.19
MAR. 2007	451	110.00	11.59
JAN ~ MAR 2007	1280	\$ 410.00	\$ 976.92
APR. 2007	620	52.00	343.46
MAY 2007	441	286.00	232.12
JUN. 2007	332	1.00	593.72
APR ~ JUN 2007	1393	\$ 339.00	\$ 1,169.30
JUL. 2007	472	40.00	250.42
AUG. 2007	508	210.00	395.15

First Quarter includes \$2,756.07 of gifts and \$2,173.70 in expenses relating to August and September 2004 Start-up activities. In April 2006 we began giving a sack of groceries in response to a federal grant committee by Second Harvest Central Indiana Food Bank. Beginning in June 2007 we discontinued providing carry-outs in response to Health Department Requirements.

Answers to Bible Challenge

Leviticus

Leviticus and Deuteronomy (Leviticus 19:18, Deuteronomy 6:5)

Deadlines/Publications

The Voice is a publication of Anderson First United Methodist Church. It is mailed the Tuesday following the second and fourth Monday of every month out of Anderson, Indiana. The deadline is the Tuesday prior to the second and fourth Monday of each month.

To receive your newsletter via email visit us online at:

www.andersonfirst.org

To be added or removed from the mailing list, please call 765-643-6977.

- Bishop**.....
The Rev. Dr. Michael J. Coyner
- District Superintendent**.....
The Rev. Craig LaSuer
- Senior Pastor**.....
The Rev. John K. Wortinger
john@andersonfirst.org
- Associate Pastor**.....
The Rev. Donna Goings
donna@andersonfirst.org
- Parish Visitor**.....
The Rev. Kaye Casterline
- Follow-Up Care**.....
The Rev. Bill Mathys
- Director of Christian Education**
Mary Margaret Willbanks
mmw@andersonfirst.org
- Director of Youth Ministry**
Becca Holdzkom
becca@andersonfirst.org
- Director of Contemporary Worship & Downtown Outreach Coordinator**
Steve Thomas
steve@andersonfirst.org
- Organist /Director of Traditional Worship Music**
Susan Finger
sfinger@acsc.net
- Accompanist**.....
Michele Murray
- Grief Recovery Program**.....
The Rev. Donna Goings
- Office Administrator/Finance**....
Karen Ambler
kambler@andersonfirst.org
- Accountant**.....
Wayne Simmet
- Membership Secretary**.....
Jill McDonald
jill@andersonfirst.org
- Publications**.....
Mary Kay Thomas
marykay@andersonfirst.org
- Childcare Coordinator/Program Director**.....
Michael Nicholson
- Sound Technician**.....
Mike Hoppe

“All You Need and Then Some” Musings from the office at the end of the hall.

It's the slogan for a cable company but today it really reached into my psyche! You can attend a Sunday morning worship service or you can be a part of a community of faith on Sunday morning and get all you need and then some. You can attend a Sunday School class and take home the story paper or you can get the paper and live the story some. We can read our children a Bible story before we put them to bed, which is all they might need, or we can help them live it all day long and then some.

We can make the building pretty and soft and comfortable or we can make the effort to give people that and then offer them Christ. Christ gives us all we need and then some! All He asks is that we give all we have and then some. What that means isI understand you taught while your children grew up, and I'm grateful you stepped out of your comfort zone then to do it but ...what about now! I understand you give your tithe of money (and then some!) so our church can

offer assistance to those less fortunate, but what about your tithe of time and what action you're doing? I understand you have many gifts and talents and you live your life with Christ, but I seldom see you offering those gifts to the church. Is living your life with Christ all you need, or is there something more? Before you think all I see is need and loss, I'm going to express my pride in all the "and some" ways I see my church family members being Christ in Anderson, Indiana. I am also pleased

to see parents showing their children the importance of Christian Education by bringing them even when the children don't want to come; to hear of teenagers praying for other teenagers of our church who ought to be in Sunday School but aren't; to watch people gathering together to form teams to cook meals and serve guests week after week. I'm sure you can give me examples of times or places when others have been "all we need and then some". Thank you and keep up the good work.

Kid's Night Out (KNO) and KNO Extreme November 9, 2007

KID'S NIGHT OUT

5:30 – 9:30 p.m.
Select Friday Nights

This program offers children ages 0 to 12 years a chance to learn different aspects of the Christian Faith and their lives and to have fun doing it!

KNO X-treme!

KNO X-treme is for pre-teens from the age of 10 –12 years old. Xtreme kids will have their own experience,

geared toward their age group. It will include age-appropriate movies, gym time, study and game time, snack time and an opportunity to hear the new and latest Christian Music in the youth area. Genres include, Rock, pop, country, rap, and more. All with a Christian message.

Mark your Calendar:

Friday, November 9

What's the cost?

Cost is \$5.00 per child if you register by the Friday before the event and \$6.50 at the door. Call the church office at 643-6977 for details.

A space to eat dinner!

For the convenience of our families, our East/West Parlor -Room 113 will be open from 5:30 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. each Kid's Night Out so your child can have a

place to eat the supper you send.

Kids

Night Out



SEND US THEIR NAMES!! Help us update our mailing list. We want the names of all children connected to Anderson First. They can be children, grandchildren, children of your neighbor, co-worker, best friend, etc. We want every child to receive a personal invite to our events and activities. Even if you think we have your information, please send us the following:

Childs Name: _____ Address: _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ Birthdate: _____
 Parent/Guardians Name: _____ Email: _____

Please email this information to Jill@andersonfirst.org or mail this form into the church office at 1215 Jackson Street, Anderson, IN 46016



Saturdays at the Park “Celebrate the Heroes”

Come join us at **5:00 pm Saturday, October 27, at Davis Park** as we look at Heroes throughout the bible and heroes in our own lives. Pastor John will be sharing the Good News “Called to be Saints?” Who are the heroes/saints in the Bible? Who has been a hero/saint in your life? Come share and

celebrate the saints!

For our fellowship time after the service several persons will be bringing their favorite fall desserts to share and we’ll be preparing items for our annual community-wide “Trick or Treat at the Park” event. We’ll also have a pumpkin

caring contest. Bring your pumpkin already carved or bring one and you can carve it following service.

Come join the fun and fellowship of our church family. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite friends to.



Thanksgiving Fellowship Night Saturday, November 10, 2007

Turkey, dressing, and all the trimmings along with friends, music, and spiritual inspiration, all of this is on the menu for our Thanksgiving Fellowship Night. You will not want to miss this great evening in the life of First Church. Circle November 10 on your calendar now and plan to join us in celebrating Thanksgiving with your First Church Family.

What: Thanksgiving Fellowship Night

When: Saturday, November 10, 2007

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Where: Fellowship Hall at Anderson First United Methodist Church - 1215 Jackson Street

What to bring: A dish to

share (salad, dessert or vegetable), and a big smile.

What is provided: Turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy, fellowship, and fun. See you at 5:30 p.m.!

In Recognition

The North Annual Conference United Methodist Church gratefully recognizes

Anderson First United Methodist Church

for 100% participation in connectional support for 25 consecutive years. 1982 - 2006

Bishop Coyner, Paul Arnold, D.S. Craig LaSuer

Unbinding the Gospel A Workshop on Faith Sharing - November 15, 2007

We plan to take a bus full of First United Methodist folks to A Faith Sharing Workshop to be held at the Greenwood United Methodist Church on Thursday, November 15. We will leave the First Church Parking lot at 7:15am and the New Horizons parking lot at 7:30am.

The Workshop will be led by Rev. Martha Reese who is the author of the new book “Unbinding the Gospel: Real Life Evangelism.”

Reese will share with participants ways to move toward relational, authentic faith sharing – without formulas, but hand-in-hand with God.

If you would like to be a part of this exciting workshop, call the church office for details and to get registered

New Books Now Available in our Church Library

Adult

Every Day A Chance - Max Lucado (NF)

3:16 - Max Lucado (NF)

A Heart Like Jesus - Max Lucado (NF)

Kabul Beauty School - Deborah Rodriguez (NF)

Suite Francaise - Irene Nemirovsky (F)

Sunrise - Karen Kingsbury (F)

Summer - Karen Kingsbury (F)

Pearl Harbor - Newt Gringrich (F)

Amazing Grace - Eric Metaxes (B)

The Glass Castle - Jeanette Walls (B)

The Quilter's Homecoming - Jennifer Chiaverini (F)

A Thousand Splendid Suns - Khalid Hosseini (F)

The Mighty and the

Almighty - Madeleine Albright (NF)

Mornings on Horseback - David McCullough (B)

A Man After God's Own Heart - Jim George (NF)

Einstein - Walter Isaacson (B)

Quiet Strength - Tony Dungy (B)

Snow Flower and the Secret Fan - Lisa See (F)

For The Love of Peony - Lisa See (F)

Saving Grace - Elizabeth Edwards (B)

Zacarias, My Brother - Abn Samad Moussoui (NF)

Gideon's Gift - Karen Kingsbury (F)

In An Instant - Bob Woodruff (NF)

Our Endangered Values - Jimmy Carter (NF)

Family Tree - Barbara Delinsky (F)

Young Adult

Travel Team - Mike Lupica (F)

Heat - Mike Lupica (F)

Children

Monday With a Mad Genius - Mary Pope Osborne

From Palestine to Seattle - Mary Davies

Junie B., First Grader, Aloha-ha-ha! - Barbara Park

I Am Invited To a Party - Mo Willems

The Longest Season - Cal Ripken, Jr.

Heat - Mike Lupica (F)

Library hours:

9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M

Monday - Friday

8:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

Sunday

We do not have evening hours, except by request

With Sympathy

Our sympathy is extended to the family and friends of

Rick Moore who passed away

September 2007;

son to *Don & Pat Moore* and brother to *Chris Moore*

Martha E. Roberts who passed away October 10, 2007

With Thanks

We would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards and gifts during our son's illness and subsequent death. They meant so very much to us.

Thanks,

Don & Pat Moore

“Check it Out”

Joyce Landorf wrote a great novel about two sisters, Mary and Martha, who were friends of Jesus and the sisters of Lazarus.

Landorf's book, "I Came to Love You Late" is about the relationship these two women had with Jesus.

As the fame of Jesus spread across the Biblical landscape, the untimely death of Lazarus brought

about great consternation for his sisters. Lamenting how Jesus could have saved the life of their brother if he had come on the scene in a more timely manner, the revival Lazarus experienced brought great faith to the women and others in the village of Bethany.

Viewing this miracle through the eyes of Martha brought it to life anew. As

the villagers saw this miracle take place, their faith in Jesus was kindled and began to grow. They certainly were not prepared for the events of Holy Week which soon took place.

For a first person look at this memorable time in the life of Jesus, look in the fiction section of our library.

Check it out!

What: “TRICK OR TREAT AT THE PARK” Community Event

When: Sunday, October 28

Time: from 5:00 -7:00 p.m.

Where: Davis Park—4507 Nichol Avenue

Cost: NO CHARGE

Free Gift for first 100

Shuttle: Pre-register for our Free Shuttle from our downtown facility (1215 Jackson Street) to Davis Park

Depart 5:30 p.m. Return 7:00 p.m.

Who’s Invited: All Children through age 12 are invited to participate in all the activities; however, everyone will enjoy walking through the various areas and watching the kids.

Activities scheduled this year:

- Pop-kin Patch
- Casper in the Corn
- Pumpkin Pull
- Hollo-Bean Toss
- Grab-A-Goblin
- H-E-Y Ride
- Candy Trails (Walk on the trail)
- Refreshments
- Story Teller
- MAGICIAN
- Bon Fire presented by the Boy Scouts of America

Flyers are available from the church office. Pick up several and help us spread the word.

How you can help with “Trick or Treat at the Park”

On Sunday, October 28, from **5 to 7 pm**, Trick or Treat at the park will again be hosted at our Davis Park facility and we need your help.

If you would like to volunteer a couple of hours to welcome our community by helping with the event, please contact Mike Nicholson at the church office or home at 617-6887.

If you are not able to assist on the day of the event, but would like to help, we are in need of two-liter bottles of pop and all the individually wrapped candy you can bring in.

If you would rather give a monetary donation to help defray the cost of this event, you may drop that or any other donations by the church office before Saturday, October 27.

Don’t forget to invite your friends and neighbors. This is a great opportunity to share your faith with the way we welcome and interact with one another.



Youth Highlights - Natalie Ann Griner

Favorite hymn/praise song and why: “Amazing Grace,” because it is nice.

Favorite activity in the

church: Pancake Breakfast

What else do you want the church to know about you? I work out at the horse farm.

Becca says: Natalie is a natural leader, and is fun to be around! Natalie’s spiritual gifts are administration, faith,

hospitality and leadership. She helps cook for the Pancake Breakfast, and has also helped with the Easter breakfast and the All-Church Picnic among other things. Her passion for horses is evident, and I know she’ll make a great vet one day. We’re lucky to have Natalie in our church.

A Success Story from Community Aid

Marylynn came to Emergency Assistance last month. She was an emotional wreck with good reasons. Her husband was out of work. He can't do the physical work he has done all his life and he isn't trained for anything else. He is having trouble coping with his life change which makes it hard on her. She was injured in a car wreck and isn't supposed to be working. But she hadn't been able to get on disability yet. So in the meantime she has been working at a fast food place and trying to get all the extra hours she can but she has constantly been in pain. Of course her fellow workers don't understand why she works so often and so hard if she is in so much pain. They don't understand her reality. She had a lawyer and court date coming up for her disability hearing but they were both in Indy and she didn't have a working vehicle. She was paying someone to drive her to her appointments. She also has a new Grandbaby who was born premature. The baby also had to have heart surgery. She has not been

able to visit because the baby and family are at Riley's in Indy and she has no vehicle. She had been having trouble with her grown daughters because they still expect things from her, finances and time, even though she has nothing to give. She feels guilty for not being able to provide. The world seemed to be crushing in around her.

We were able to help her a little with her bill and direct her to other places for additional help. I prayed with her in the chapel for 15-20 minutes. After we prayed she seemed to be a little better, a little more at peace, ready to take on one more day. I told her about our prayer chains and put her on the email prayer chain as well as our Thursday noon prayer list. That seemed to comfort her, to know that many people would be praying for her and her family.

I saw Marylynn yesterday at Emergency Assistance. She was smiling and happy. She isn't totally back on her feet but good things are happening. Her work is

going well. She heard some positive news about her Grandbaby. Her family relationships seem to be doing well. She was told through her Christian lawyer her disability case has been approved. This means she won't have to make some of the extra trips to Indy. She was still in need of a little assistance this month but she seemed like a different person than I saw last month. She had hope, she had faith, and she new she was loved, and was surrounded by the prayers of people at Anderson First.

In the grand scheme of things it seems like it took a little effort on our part to make a HUGE difference in her life. We gave \$40 or so to help pay a bill, we took the time to listen to her, and we prayed for her and her family. It doesn't seem like a lot but it made a world of difference to her. I pray Anderson First continues to be the hands and feet of Jesus in Anderson. We are making a difference.

What is Emergency Assistance Day? Anderson First offers financial assistance to those in need from our community, in particular, those on the verge of disconnect from gas or electric.

When is Emergency Assistance Day? The Monday following the first Sunday of each month.

Where does the money come from? The money typically comes as a gift from the congregation of Anderson First United Methodist Church. A special collection is taken on Communion Sunday, the first Sunday of each month. Donations are always accepted.

How can I help? You can contribute financially and/or serve. Help is needed to help answer questions, help illiterate individuals fill out forms, offer hospitality by greeting, making coffee, making and/or setting out refreshments, listening, and

The Christian Center needs the following supplies.

Please bring donations to the church office.

Kitchen

Cold cereal, sugar, green beans, corn, fruit, dishwashing liquid

Men's Shelter

Tylenol cold tablets, aspirin

Women's Shelter

Copy paper, deodorant, dishwasher detergent, size 4 & 5 diapers and pull-ups, manila folders

Christian Center Office Needs

Copy paper, specifically need white, bright yellow, light green, blue, pink, yellow

Development Office

New digital camera

General Need for both shelters

Liquid laundry detergent, fabric softener, bleach

AU Professor, Michael Mbito, Ph.D to speak at November Women Alive in Faith Brunch

The United Methodist Women and Women Alive in Faith Committee invite you to brunch **Saturday, November 10, 2007 at 9:30 a.m. at Davis Park** (4507 Nichol Avenue). The suggested donation, to cover the cost of the meal, is **\$6 per person which will be collected at the door.**

Our special guest is Michael Mbito, Assistant Professor of Sociology and Family Science

Department Director at Anderson University.

Dr. Mbito is fluent in three languages—English, Kiswahili and Kikuyu.

Dr. Mbito will discuss HIV/AIDS and its impact on child development in Sub-Sahara Africa. We'll learn three key factors in HIV Infection and learn about the work being done by churches and international mission groups

dealing with HIV/AIDS in Africa.

Dr. Mbito is founder of **Child Aid Africa**—a ministry for the support of HIV/AIDS orphan education in Africa and is currently leading a mission to Kenya to recruit the first bunch of orphans to be supported by **CAA (Child Aid Africa).**

Register online at www.andersonfirst.org

Bible Sunday

Third Graders, or older, receive their very own bible.

Our church gives Bibles to third graders who are connected to our church. This year we will be doing this on November 18, 2007, Bible Sunday. If you have a third grader or know of one, or know of other children who do not have their own bible, please contact Miss Mary Margaret with the child's name and the name of a significant adult for them (mother, father, aunt,

grandparent, friend in the church...).

For those third graders, we offer "Bible Mechanics" each Wednesday evening from 6:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. This class prepares third graders to use their very own Bibles to study and read on their own. We STRONGLY encourage all third graders to attend. If your third grader cannot attend on Wednesday

evening, please contact Miss Mary Margaret, 765-643-6977 to make arrangements for some other time.

The children can receive their own Bibles on November 18, without attending the Bible Mechanics class, but we believe it is in their best interest to gain the experience of studying their Bible in a class setting.



Bible Challenge

Since I'm working on gathering information about Bibles and studying it with the small folk, here are a couple of questions on small facts from the Big Book.

Which Old Testament book provides detailed instructions for holy living?

- Genesis
- Leviticus
- Isaiah
- Malachi

When Jesus stated the underlying Law of Moses ("Thou shall love the Lord thy God ... and your neighbor ..."), he was quoting from two books of the Old Testament. Which two?

- Genesis and Exodus
- Numbers and Lamentations
- Leviticus and Deuteronomy
- Judges and 1 Samuel

What people are saying about Anderson First UMC

The week of September 2, I got the chance to talk with some of the people in our surrounding area. I thought I would share with you what they are saying.

As I was passing out door hangers promoting Rally Sunday, I talked to two men who had concerns about churches and their walk with Christ. One had his Bible out and was looking at some scriptures. They had been told some very legalistic things and were weary of the church in general. I was able to spend about 15 minutes with them, explaining certain scriptures that had been "used against them." I had a chance to share the message of hope, that Jesus loves them and wants to be a major part of their lives. They left feeling a lot better about the churches and Christians in general, and thanked me for taking the time to talk with them.

At "Stepping Stones" home for veterans, I passed out some flyers to some men. They asked what church that was. As I was explaining where we are located, one of the men chimed in, "**That's where we have our AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) meetings on Friday. You guys have been good to us! Thanks.**"

Another man I ran into, who happens to frequent Community Café, told me, "**You guys help more than any place I know. I really mean it. Thanks.**"

The Rally Sunday Picnic was a HUGE success. We had a

good mix of First Church members and community people. I had many people talk to me about what a great thing we were doing, providing an opportunity for the community to come together. One woman in particular said she had been sitting at home feeling like she wasn't doing much and was thinking about getting involved in the community and church. I just happened to be passing out door hangers that day. She saw it as a clear sign God wanted her to start doing something. She came to the picnic. We talked for quite awhile about the community, God, and helping to make Anderson a better place. She was really excited she found a church willing to be a part of the community instead of just sitting on the sidelines complaining about "how bad things are today." If you happen to know of a guest who visited on Rally Sunday or any other Sunday, please give them a call let them know how much we enjoyed worshipping or visiting with them. Let them know we would love for them to come back to visit again and maybe even become part of the family.

We have community café guests who call Anderson First "their church." One guest in particular walked three miles to come to dinner so he could share with us that he was scheduled for surgery in the morning, because WE are his church. Pastor John was there with him at the hospital. We learned he has

throat cancer. We will be praying for him and trying to help in other physical ways, because he is a part of our church family.

The Jail team from Anderson First Church led worship for the women in jail on Thursday. Six of the women got their baptismal certificates. After worship one of the women accepted Christ and signed up to be baptized. God brings goodness out of the worst experiences. Sometimes it takes going to jail to see the love of God. But for me the most powerful moment came as the women were entering the worship area and finding their seats. A woman sat in front of me, started looking at her song sheet and talking to her friend, "They're from First United Methodist. That's that church downtown. Mary Kay's there. She's my girl!" I proudly told her Mary Kay was my wife. She said, "She's good people." I must agree she is good people. She works hard at reaching out to the community. She works hard at helping us be the welcoming community we proclaim to be. First church is doing some great things. It is starting to show in the way people talk about us. We have been known as the "rich church" and "the big church," wouldn't it be great to be known as "the church that cares." It's great we have wonderful music programs, preaching and teaching, but it is my dream when people are at town center and they look towards our church, they

can say, "That's the church that cares. They're good people." And maybe then we can let them know why we are different. Jesus cared enough about us to lay down his life. And the only way to respond to that love is to love others and share with them this great gift we have received.

Thanks for being Jesus to the people of Anderson.

Steve Thomas

Director of Arts for Contemporary Worship and Downtown Anderson Outreach Coordinator

Worship Schedule

(September through May)

9:15 a.m.

Traditional Worship

Sanctuary

10:30 - 11:20 a.m.

Sunday School

It's for Life!

Opportunities for all ages.

11:30 a.m.

Connections - Intimate Prayer and hymns

Room 120

11:30 a.m.

Modern Worship

Worship Center on lower level

Pastors:

Rev. John K. Wortinger

John@andersonfirst.org

Rev. Donna K. Goings

Donna@andersonfirst.org



First United Methodist Church is a community of Christians committed to the kingdom of God, focused on Loving First and inviting all to join us in Caring, Sharing, and Connecting through joyful service in Jesus Christ.

Caring, Sharing, Connecting

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 909
Anderson, Indiana

Downtown **Davis Park**
1215 Jackson Street 4507 Nichol Avenue
Anderson, Indiana 46016 Anderson, Indiana

Phone: 765-643-6977
Fax: 765-642-5232
E-mail: mail@andersonfirst.org

Visit us on the web at
www.andersonfirst.org

Serengeti Trek

Fall Break Vacation Bible School - October 25 & 26

Ready to travel on your Fall Break?

Children in grades K through 6 are invited to

go on a Safari at Anderson First UMC. The trip will begin on Thursday, October 25 from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., then we'll begin

again on Friday, October 26 at 8:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. There is NO FEE for this grand adventure but each child will need to bring a



sack lunch each day (drinks will be provided).

For more information contact Mrs. Justine Cook at 765-649-3116.

Pre-Registration Required!

How to Register:

- Make a note on the "Glad You're Here" form
- Fill out the tear-off form in the Sunday bulletin
- Call the church office 765-643-6977.
- Register Online at www.andersonfirst.org

Visit us on the web for details or call the church office 765-643-6977 to get on the mailing list.

Coming Events

- | | | |
|-----------|---|---|
| Oct 18 | Imagine Indiana—with Bishop Coyner | Mar 2008 UMW Jurisdiction Meeting |
| Oct 19 | J.O.Y. Luncheon | For updated and current calendar information, visit us on the web at www.andersonfirst.org . |
| Oct 25-26 | Fall Break Vacation Bible School | |
| Oct 27 | Saturdays at the Park | |
| Nov 5 | Church Council Meeting | |
| Nov 10 | All-Church Thanksgiving Dinner | |
| Nov 10 | Women Alive in Faith Brunch | |
| Nov 15 | Unbinding the Gospel: Real Life Evangelism Conference | |
| Nov 15 | Cluster Charge Conference at New Horizons | |
| Jan 19 | Leadership Retreat | |
| Feb 15-16 | United Methodist Spiritual Retreat | |