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World Wide Communion Sunday *Pastor's Prayer*

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Special points of interest:

- Bishop Coyner to visit Anderson First (Front Page)
- Serengeti Trek— Fall Break Vacation Bible School (Back Page)

Sunday, October 7, First Church will be celebrating World Wide Communion. In my mind's eye I see a very long table with Christians from all over the world sitting down together, feasting on the Lord's presence. The fellowship of this gathering sparkles with rejoicing in the bread which is Christ that gives substance to our faith and grounding for our hope. The moisture gathered in the corner of the persons' eyes tells the story of forgiveness received through the cup, while the smiles on faces tells the story of love and grace found in the depths of that cup. This is a Sunday for the whole body of Christ; you will not want to miss gathering with the family.

Among the things that will happen this Sunday will be the Commissioning of our Home Communion Servers. These are the lay persons who have volunteered to help the Pastors bring the elements of Holy Communion to the homebound members of

our congregation who indicated a desire to receive it. Our homebound can then share in the bread broken at the table in the Sanctuary and in the cup consecrated in our worship together. We believe this can be a powerful way of communicating to our homebound that we consider them a part of the family and share our love with them. If you would like to become one of those servers, contact Rev. Kaye Casterline at 643-4957. If you are homebound and would like to receive the sacrament when the Church celebrates this Sacred Supper, then contact Kaye or the Church office.

During worship on this World Wide Communion Sunday, we will also be commissioning those who will be leaving after lunch that day for a week of mission work in Illinois. This will be a vivid reminder to us that in the words of John Wesley, "The World is Our Parish."

The message for Sunday is entitled, "Growing in Grace," certainly one of the ways in which we do grow in Grace is to be in service in the name of Christ whether we do that here in Anderson, a neighboring state or halfway around the world. In fact, I do not believe we will find our faith growing or our relationship with Christ deepening unless we are in service in His name in some meaningful way.

See you Sunday, at the big, big table where Christ meets us to empower us to be in service for Him.

Lord Jesus, as we gather at Your big, big table give us a vision to see not only You, but to see the whole family that you love. Remind us that some you have invited to the table of Your Love have not yet heard the Good News that they are invited. Use us loving Lord to be messengers of your grace and love. Amen

Pastor John

Bishop Coyner to visit Anderson First “Imagine Indiana” - Thursday, October 18

This past June both North and South Conferences of the United Methodist Church voted to proceed in our working toward a joining of the two conferences in creating a new United Methodist Church in Indiana. A final vote will be taking place at the 2008 Annual

Conferences. On Thursday, October 18 at 7:00 pm, Bishop Coyner will be gathering the Marion District at Anderson First United Methodist Church for an “Imagine Indiana Evening.” The evening will bring us up to date with current planning as

well as give an opportunity for input into the process that is taking place as we move toward the time to decide in June 2008. You will want to be present for this great evening at our church. Childcare is provided.



Fall Membership Class Opportunity

Are you a visitor to First United Methodist Church who is looking for a way to deepen your connections with God and individuals in the congregation? Are you a long time attender who comes to worship each week and has considered joining the church yet never has? Are you a current member of First United Methodist Church who wants to refresh your knowledge of what it is to be a United Methodist? We have the answer to your needs—a fall membership



class!
 Starting Sunday, November 4, at 10:30 am, we are offering a fall membership class for individuals who want to explore what it means to be a member of Anderson First United Methodist Church. The class will meet for five Sundays (November 4-December 2) from 10:30 am to 11:15 am in Room 220. Pastor John will lead the class and guide the participants in learning about being a United Methodist and being a member of this United Methodist congregation.

All are invited and encouraged to attend the class sessions not only to learn about our church and denomination but also to meet and connect with individuals new to the church. Put these dates on your calendar now and come be a part of this learning opportunity in November.
 You may indicate your interest in a variety of ways: call the church to enroll; make a note on the Glad You're Here form; talk with Pastor John or Pastor Donna; or fill out the tear-off form in the Sunday bulletin. Please contact Pastor John or Pastor Donna with any questions.

What: Membership Class
When: Sundays, November 4 through December 2 10:30 a.m.—11:15 a.m.
Where: Room # 220
How to Enroll:

- 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
- Fill out the online form at www.andersonfirst.org
- Call the church office 765-643-6977

Unconditional Love....

Ponderings from Pastor Donna

Unconditional love...the love of God...I understood these in a new and fresh way in June, 1993, when I attended a Walk to Emmaus. It was not a physical exercise weekend but rather seventy-two hours of being loved, served, and healed. That weekend was a turning point in my life—I experienced for the first time what the unconditional love of God was. I had been a Christian for many years and I knew God loved me, but I never really appreciated what unconditional love was

until that Emmaus weekend.

The Walk to Emmaus is a 72 hour short course in Christianity. The weekend consists of talks given by lay and clergy on the themes of God's grace, the disciplines of Christian discipleship, and what it means to be the church. There are special times for worship and celebration of Holy Communion. Good food (and lots of it), wonderful music, and new friends are also important parts of the weekend. The weekend begins on

Thursday evening and extends through Sunday evening. Participants are sponsored by individuals who have previously attended a weekend event.

The purpose of the weekend is to strengthen the local church by developing Christian disciples and leaders. During and after the weekend, participants are encouraged to meet in small groups to support and encourage and challenge each other in faithful Christian living. Many members of our

congregation have attended a Walk to Emmaus or a similar 72 hour weekend, such as the Great Banquet or Cursillo or Chrysalis. Each of us who has attended invites you to pray about the possibility of God calling you to attend. Please contact Pastor Donna with any questions or for more information about the Walk to Emmaus or The Great Banquet.

Blessings,
Pastor Donna

Wanted : Decorators

The Trustees have approved the remodeling of two restrooms located on the first floor of the church.

The first is the women's restroom just north of the Wesley Room and the other is the small restroom, on the left as you walk in from the parking lot (close to the

library). The Trustees are looking for a few individuals who have talent in decorating. Carpet, paint color, counter tops, and cabinets need to be selected.

If you are interested, please contact Andrea Koepke at 765-641-4383 or

akoepke@anderson.edu
Thank you for your assistance!



Recognition of our Sunday School Leaders

Sunday School - It's for Life!

Sunday September 9th was Teacher Dedication Sunday for us here at Anderson First. As a church we charged our teachers to recognize God's call in their lives and to endeavor to develop their gifts in order to pass on the Christian faith to those in their classes. As a church, we also prayed for them to provide us with God directed guidance. Please post the following list of teachers and the classes they are leading and continue to pray for them all year long!

Nursery – Ms. Katie Rogers*
 Pick Me! – Mrs. Alisa Perrel

1,2, 3 Go! – Mrs. Ingrid Childs
 Ready To Grow – Mrs. Leisa Jones
 Discover – Mrs. Peg Peter
 Junior High – Mr. Andrew Murray, Mr. Kent Saunders, Mrs. Chrissie Saunders, Mr. Doug Berkey
 Confirmation – Ms. Becca Holdzkom*
 Senior High – Mr. Brian Jones
 Covenant Community – Mr. Ken Ward, Mrs. Donna Ward
 Balanced Life – Mr. Ron McNabney
 Men To Men – Mr. Dave Peter

Alpha Omega – Dr. Doug Nelson* Mrs. Karen Nelson*
 Pathfinders – Mr. David Perrel*
 Joy-N-Us – Mr. Frank Atteberry*

Make note: The names marked with * were not identified on Sunday morning. They are teachers and leaders for our Sunday School and I am sorry I forgot to introduce them as such.



“Al Capone Does My Shirts”

Check it Out! by Bill Mathys

Here's a children's book you might like to recommend to your younger children. "**Al Capone Does My Shirts**" is an account of children living with their parents on Alcatraz Island during the 1930s. Written by Gennifer Choldenko, the story centers on a young man and his autistic sister.

Living on an island away from their friends puts these children in an unusual environment. How they make the adjustments allowing fun living is the subject of this interesting story.

Coping with such adjustments could frustrate any family. To do the adjustments in the presence of the worst felons in America is even more difficult.

For an interesting look at growing up in a strange setting, get this book from the Fiction section of our library.

Check it out!

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.....
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Coordinator
Steve Thomas
steve@andersonfirst.org
- Organist /Director of Traditional
Worship Music
Susan Finger

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Program scheduled at St. Matthew UMC

Alternatives Incorporated in collaboration with

St. Matthew United Methodist Church and Church Upon the Rock invite you to share in an evening of Faith, Prayer, and Recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Date: **October 1, 2007**

Time: **6-7:30 pm-reception following**

Place: **St. Matthew United Methodist Church**

1512 North Madison Avenue

Guest Speakers: **Bishop Charles and Vivian Finnell**

Domestic violence touches all individuals, communities, and faiths. In the last year, domestic violence claimed 76 lives in Indiana. Recognizing this is a problem within our communities, Bishop Charles Finnell and his wife Vivian have worked to shatter the silence on domestic violence by educating their congregation at Christ Temple Apostolic Faith Assembly in Indianapolis and also holding forums outside the church.

Bishop and Mrs. Finnell founded the program "Not to Believers Like Us" after several pastors' and

ministers' wives confided their personal battles with abuse.

The Program will conclude with the dedication of a place setting to Alternatives Inc. "Empty Place at the Table" project in memory of Swann Latrece Hélene Sawyer. Swann died on October 15, 2006 in a domestic violence incident. Participating in the place setting dedication will be members of Swann's family including her mother, Deborah Sawyer and grandmother, Helen Poole.



Marriage Seminar

"3 C's" for a Successful Marriage

Saturday, October 13, Jerry and Joann Burand will lead a marriage seminar on the "3C's" for a Successful Marriage."

The focus will be on Commitment, Communication, and Caring. Discussion, written exercises, and handouts will be part of the day. The session, held downtown at the church, will start at ten o'clock and end at four o'clock with a lunch

provided at noon. Childcare is available upon request. It is open to all married couples from newlyweds on up.

Jerry and Joann have been involved in marriage enrichment programs for over 30 years. They have taught a class, "Courtship and Marriage," at Anderson University for fifteen years. The Burands have been married 51 years and have two grown

children. They look forward to helping our own church members celebrate their marriages.

What: Marriage Seminar "3C's" for a Successful Marriage

When: Saturday, October 13 from 10 a.m.—4 p.m. including lunch and handouts.

Where: Anderson First UMC—1215 Jackson Street

Cost: \$5 per person. Covers lunch and materials.

Pre-Register: www.andersonfirst.org or call 765-643-6977

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 it's 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 mssion to Kenya to recruit the first bunch of orphans to be support by **CAA (Child Aid Africa).**

Register online at www.andersonfirst.org

Connect With Other Women *For Mission or Bible studies and fellowship*

Friendship Circle

October 4, 2007
9:30 a.m.
Hosted at Members Homes
**

Next Meeting:
November 11, 2007

Bible Study Circle

October 4, 2007
9:30 a.m.
Hostess: Joyce McNeil
3418 Oakwood Drive
Co-Hostess: Willodean Dye
Program: Nola Amos
Lesson: 11
Matthew 7:13-20
**

Next Meeting:
November 11, 2007

Lydia Circle

October 9, 2007
7:00 p.m.
East/West Parlor #113
At First United Methodist Church
**

Next Meeting:
November 13, 2007

Action Circle

October 10, 2007
9:30 a.m.
Conference Room at First United Methodist Church
**

Next Meeting:
November 14, 2007

United Methodist Women's Conference "Celebration"

United Methodist Women's Conference "Celebration"

November 2 - 3, 2007
at St. Luke's UMC
100 W. 86th Street
Indianapolis, IN

For more information, contact Janet McDaniel,

765-644-1853, President of our local UMW program or Jill McDonald in the church office.

Schedule activities will be as follows:

Friday, November 2

\$5 registration fee / \$15 Banquet

Enjoy tea with Dana and later on tour the Lucille Raines Residence.

Saturday, November 3
\$15 Registration & Lunch

Days activities will include: worship, singing, recognitions, Dana Jones, guest speaker, and communion with Bishop

Coyner.

Speaker: Dana Jones, United Methodist deaconess and director of communications for the women's division of the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries

Kid's Night Out (KNO) and KNO Extreme October 12, 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, October 12

MarriedLife *Date Night* Couples left laughing hysterically

We were a small but mighty group of couples committed to just having fun on our recent *"Date Night."*

We enjoyed a wonderful meal even though Mary Kay managed to burn the dinner rolls.

We had an opening game which left us all laughing hysterically and there's proof (in the form of a picture) floating around someplace. Want to know more about it? Talk to Phil or Jill McDonald, Ken or Donna Ward, Steve or Mary Kay Thomas or Mike or Deb Nicholson —their kids

may even have their own stories to tell.

We ended the evening by playing an interesting version of the Newlywed Game.

We plan to gather quarterly and invite you to join us. We'd love to expand our circle of friends and invite others to do the same.

If you're interested in participating in our next gathering please contact the church office to be added to the mailing list.

Mary Kay Thomas

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.



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

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Visit us on the web at
www.andersonfirst.org

Serengeti Trek

Fall Break Vacation Bible School - October 25 & 26

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



Coming Events

- | | | | |
|-----------|--|-----------|---|
| Oct 5 | Bon Amis - Boggstown | Nov 15 | Cluster Charge Conference at New Horizons |
| Oct 7 | World Wide Communion Sunday | | |
| Oct 13 | MarriedLife Workshop - The Three "C's" of a Healthy Marriage | Nov 28 | Bon Amis - Indianapolis Children's Museum |
| Oct 18 | Imagine Indiana—with Bishop Coyner | Jan 19 | Leadership Retreat |
| Oct 19 | J.O.Y. Luncheon | Feb 15-16 | United Methodist Spiritual Retreat |
| Oct 25-26 | Fall Break Vacation Bible School | Mar 2008 | UMW Jurisdiction Meeting |
| 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 | | |

For updated and current calendar information, visit us on the web at www.andersonfirst.org.