



First United Methodist

FAITH FIRST. FAMILIES FIRST. ANDERSON FIRST.

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The Trinity
Just like the leaves
on each shamrock I see,
there are three parts
to the Holy Trinity.
First is God the Father,
then Jesus, His only Son,
and the Holy Spirit
together as One.



Happy St. Patrick's Day!

ASH WEDNESDAY

March 2 at 7 p.m.

Service of Communion & Ashes

All are encouraged to begin your preparation for Easter with this inspirational experience.



THE VOICE

A Newsletter of First United Methodist

In Recognition of Service: Steve Anderson



In 2007 Steve Anderson had an idea. People living in our community were struggling to keep their utilities from being disconnected. At that time, Pastor Derek Weber helped as he could with money from his pastor's discretionary fund. But with a little organization, more could be done. Steve knew how to organize the sourcing of contributions and distribution of those funds and so, he volunteered to do so for this congregation. Emergency Utility Assistance as a ministry of Anderson First United Methodist Church was born.

At first, it was five chairs in the lobby near the office window and an interview in the workroom. In 2010, Charity Tracker set-up through United Way, along with computer access was added to facilitate the process. As more people needing assistance came through our doors, Steve reached out for additional help. Jim Wessar, Frank Cramer, Kay McConnell, Sandy French, Bill Brown, Charlie and Miriam Jones and lately DeWayne Landwehr and Debbie Manifold all joined in helping.

Coffee and cookies were added as people waited. Interviews were conducted that assisted people in finding other sources of financial and emotional help. Pastors were available for prayer and spiritual encouragement. Thrive, a United Way budgeting and counseling support group sent volunteers who were available to provide additional services.

In addition to funds allocated for Outreach from investments, this congregation also contributes to Emergency Utility Assistance once a month in a special offering taken on Communion Sunday. From its inception to date, this congregation has generously given a total of over \$273,375. From 2012, when records for both the number of households and the number of people in those households was kept, we have helped more than 2,500 households representing about 6,000 people in need of utility assistance.

Stepping down after fifteen years of leadership in this congregation's Utility Assistance Outreach to our community, we recognize Steve Anderson for his compassion, his vision and his faithful service. Thank you, Steve, for your ministry among us and for encouraging us to remember and care for our neighbors in this important way.

A plaque has been designed which honors Steve Anderson's ministry through this congregation. It will be permanently hung in the church narthex.



We Worship Together

Worship Schedule for March, 2022

CALLED TO MORE

Lenten Sermon Series

When we take a step back and look at our lives, we may find ourselves wondering, "Is this really it?" Are we just going through the motions or perhaps worse, living in chaos? This Lenten series explores the actions, habits, and systems that separate us from God and looks to the cross of Jesus to discover that we are called to so much more.

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, March 2 ~ 7 p.m.

Passages from Joel 2, Amos 5, Isaiah 1 and Luke 14

Music: Sanctuary Choir

Sometimes we think we know what God wants from us, but we still find ourselves disconnected from God or stuck in a spiritual rut. The Lenten season is meant for taking a closeup look at our lives and listening with purpose to hear where God is calling us to make change. It is time for a spiritual re-boot.

- March 6 HOLY COMMUNION
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
Called to Abundant Life
John 10:7-11
Music: Sanctuary Choir
- March 13 SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
Facing the Dark to Reach the Light
1 John 1:3-10
Music: Alpha Brass
- March 20 THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
You Are Not Your Sin
John 8:1-11
Music: Wesley Bells
- March 27 FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
Pastor Don Deena preaching
Music: Sanctuary Choir

Adult Ministries

Adult Sunday School Classes

Class	Location	Led By
Pathfinders	North/South Parlor	Kenny Hall

New Books in Library

Adult

- The Gondola Maker** - Laura Morelli
- The Last Garden in England** - Julia Kelly
- The Personal Librarian** - Marie Benedict
- The SecondLife of Mirelle West** -Amanda Skenandore
- The Bookshop of the Broken Hearted** - Robert Hillman
- Magic Hour** - Kristen Hannah
- Apples Never Fall** - Liane Moriarty
- It's Better This Way** - Debbie Macomber
- The Difficult Words of Jesus** - Amy Jill Levine
- The Finishing School** - Joanna Goodman
- The Language of Butterflies** - Wendy Williams
- The Stolen Lady** - Laura Morelli
- The Wish** - Nicholas Sparks
- When Harry Met Minnie** - Martha Teichner
- The Code Breaker** - Walter Isaacson
- Miss Julia Happily Ever After** - Ann B. Ross
- An Irish Country Yuletide** - Patrick Taylor
- The Giant** - Laura Morelli
- The President and the Freedom Fighter** - Brian Kilmeade
- The Stranger in the Lifeboat** - Mitch Albom
- The Mystery of Mrs. Christie** - Marie Benedict
- Churchill's Secret Messenger** - Alan Hlad

Children

- Diary of a Wimpy Kid** - Jeff Kinney
- The Boy Who Changed the World** - Andy Andrew's
- Monarch Butterflies** - Ann Hobbs
- Senorita Mariposa** - Ben Gundersheimer
- Tyler the Pterodactyl** - Matt Sydney
- The Adventures of Sophie Mouse: The Maple Festival** - Poppy Green
- The Kingdom of Wrenly:A Ghost in the Castle** - Jordan Quinn
- The Adventures of Sophie Mouse: Looking for Winston** - Poppy Green



Time to Spring Ahead!

**Sunday, March 13, 2022
at 2 a.m.**

LENT

The 40 days leading up to Easter can be the most life-giving, perspective-changing, hope-filled days of the year.

Purpose of Lent is to hunger for God and grow closer to him...by recovering the space and freedom from the many activities and desires that normally rule our lives.



Outreach Ministries

HELPING HANDS PANTRY

The Helping Hands Non-Food Pantry will again be open on March 9 to distribute non-food items to the community. Currently the pantry needs toilet paper, body wash, shampoo and cleaning supplies (sponges, Pine-Sol, disinfecting wipes) to replenish their supply.

Thank you for your generosity—Linda Verhulst and Juanita Slattery

Other Church News

Moving Forward with ADAPT

An overwhelming majority of the sixty-two votes submitted were "YES." As we now move into the Action Plans, many of you have questions.

TOWN HALL MEETING #2

Sunday, March 20 in the Sanctuary at 11:30 a.m.

Next Steps will be shared and answers to your burning questions about action items will be offered.

This meeting may last about 45 minutes.

You may discover where God is calling you to serve!

NOT NEW

Have you been attending this church for years, participated in its many ministries, supported it with your prayers, presence and gifts

BUT

never made the commitment of membership?

Don't remember if you did or not?

Check out the latest Church Directory (March 2021).

A *next to your name

Indicates that you did take the membership vows.

Pastor Corinne Boruff desires to meet with a group of Not New persons to discuss your thoughts on membership.

Lunch is Pastor's treat on Sunday, March 13 at noon in NS Parlor.

Please RSVP to corinne@andersonfirst.org or 317-902-1843



In an attempt to reduce costs for the church, we are investigating sending the VOICE as an email, rather than mailing it. There are advantages and disadvantages to both methods. A few people have requested the newsletter by email, and we will begin emailing them a copy this month. If you are interested in receiving the VOICE via email, please email peg@andersonfirst.org with your current email address.



Miriam and Charlie Jones would like to thank everyone at church for their prayers and generous assistance during Miriam's recovery from her most recent surgery.



Lenten Study

Francisco de Zurbaran, "Agnus Dei" (1635-40)

Behold, the Lamb of God

A Five-Week Lent Bible Study on Jesus' Atonement for our Sins

When John was preaching repentance and the forgiveness of sins Jesus came to meet him and be baptized. John looks at him and says, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world." In these words, he capsulizes the mission of Jesus and gives us a clue to understanding the significance of Jesus' death and resurrection. Join Pastor Corinne Boruff in this five-week series as we study the concept of Jesus as our atoning sacrifice for sin. As you study you'll be amazed and thankful -- and a more thoughtful and faithful disciple as a result.

Free materials are available at the church office window.
Sessions are Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in the N.S. Parlor.
March 9, 16, 23, April 6 & 13 (no session March 30)
ALL are Welcome!

United Methodist Women



	Bible Study Circle	Friendship Circle
Leader:	Merrilyn Vance	Mary Falkenberry
Meeting Date:	Thursday, 3/3/22	Thursday, 3/3/22
Time:	1:00 pm	9:30 pm
Location:	North/South Parlor	North/South Parlor

BON AMIS

March

"The Church Basement Ladies" will play at the Paramount on Thursday, March 31 at 3 p.m. Registration for this event has closed, but if you missed it and would still like to attend, please contact Pastor Don Deena. The cost for this event is \$40.



April

Join the group for a wonderful spring visit to the Muscatatuk Wildlife Refuge in Seymour, Indiana on Wednesday, April 27. This wetlands area was once covered over and used for farming until the last owner donated the land to the Indiana Conservancy to be reclaimed as wetlands. An auto tour of the grounds with short walks to viewpoints makes this a perfect visit after lunch at Café Batar, a destination restaurant in Indiana. The cost of this trip is \$45 per person. The café sets its group limit to 26, so register early to secure your place. The registration and payment deadline is Friday, April 1.



J.O.Y. LUNCH

Friday, March 18 is the next monthly JOY Lunch. Our friend, Peg Peter will share with us a program called, "Quilts and Quilting." An avid quilter, Peg will give us insight into her beloved avocation, telling stories of her quilting experiences and showing us some of her favorite work.

Lunch begins at 11:30 a.m. and costs \$10. Please register by Wednesday, March 16. We order lunches based on those who have registered. Thank you for doing so in a timely manner.

SMALL GROUPS

Step by Steppers

On Saturday, March 12, our walk will begin outside the Visitor's Center at Mounds State Park. We will gather at 9:30 a.m. for a walk around the perimeter of the park. Those who would like to meet for breakfast before walking, we will meet at Becky's Happy Mule at 8:00 a.m. This is an open group. Everyone is welcome to come, share a meal and enjoy getting some fresh air with a walk along the White River and through the trees. Bring a friend along. Come once...come often!

Sermon Talk-Back

Did you ever leave worship on Sunday morning and wish you could talk about what you experienced or heard in the sermon while it was still fresh in your mind? Beginning in March, on Sunday the 27th, the last Sunday of the month, Pastor Don Deena welcomes any who would like to join her for lunch at Riviera Maya to talk about her sermon that day. Are there any questions? Any thoughts on the implications of the message for your life? What did you learn? What troubles you? Let's talk about it!

ANDERSON AREA LENTEN BREAKFASTS

All are invited (men & women) All Lenten Breakfasts Begin at 8:00 am

March 5	United in Christ Church	Dr Glen Cox , George Smith
March 12	Ford Street UMC, Lapel	Kyle Bloom, Ron Eiler
March 19	St Mary RCC	Pastor Louis Jackson, Mark & Michelle Murray
March 26	New Horizon UMC	Doug Anderson
April 2	Frankton UMC	Rev. Roger Gardner Terry Cunningham, Allie Greer
April 9	Anderson First, UMC	John Pistole AU Women's Choir

FIRST KIDS Next Generation Ministries

Each week we "Dig Into the Bible" to learn how God worked in and through ordinary people just like us! Here's what we will be learning this month...

March

6th - Children remain in worship

13th- Godly Play- All Children "Jesus' Birth and Growth"

20th- Godly Play- All Children "Jesus' Desert Experience"

27th- First Kids- older "God Sends Rahab to Protect the Spies"

Godly Play- younger "Jesus as Healer & Parable-Maker"

Calling all 3rd, 4th and 5th graders...

Invite a friend and join us on Sunday, March 27th from 11:30 to 1:00 as we celebrate "National Joe Day."



What is National Joe Day? Well... National Joe Day is a chance to change your name, if only for today. Many people do not like their given name. They wish they could change it. A few actually do. On National Joe Day, it is perfectly okay to have everyone call you "Joe". Why Joe, and not Bob or Mike or Radcliffe? Simply, because everyone likes the name Joe, and on National Joe Day, everyone gets to be "Joe Cool." What will we do for "National Joe Day?" Well.. we will all wear "JOE" name tags, eat sloppy "joes" and hang out in the gym shooting some hoops, playing dodgeball, wiffle ball and maybe just running in circles! Be sure to let Pastor Peggy Jo know you'll be attending!



It's time to begin planning and preparing for summer camp! So, mark your calendar for the following dates...

June 26-28 Early Elementary (K-2nd grade) @ Camp Rivervale
June 26-July 1 Elementary (3rd- 6th grade) @ Camp Rivervale

Did you know camp isn't just for children and youth? There are opportunities for adults to join us at camp to serve in a variety of roles as well. If you would like more information about how you or a child you know can attend camp, contact Pastor Peggy

Donations Needed! We are in need of individually wrapped Easter candy. Donations may be placed in the large baskets located outside the sanctuary and the church office. Donations will be accepted through Sunday, April 3rd. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

