



## First United Methodist

FAITH FIRST. FAMILIES FIRST. ANDERSON FIRST.

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andersonfirst.org and  
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### Summer Worship Schedule

DOWNTOWN & DAVIS PARK

On Sunday, May 29 two worship services begin!

9:00 a.m. Outdoors at Davis Park  
4507 Nichol Avenue

10:45 a.m. Downtown in Sanctuary  
1215 Jackson Street  
All are welcome!



# THE VOICE

A Newsletter of First United Methodist

**OUTREACH MINISTRIES**

**Highlight: Community Café and Food at First**

COVID has changed much in our lives over the past two years or so. None of us has been unaffected. Not all the change has been welcome. But in some circumstances, the frustration of dealing with COVID has opened-up opportunity for positive change, opportunity to re-imagine and to re-organize in ways that have proven beneficial. That has been the case in our congregation's ministry to our neighbors, many of whom live in Tent City along White River.

The first dramatic change came when we closed Community Café down. Not wanting to put anyone at risk, either ourselves or our neighbors, we did not serve a meal from mid-January 2020 until the summer of that year. During that time, we began imagining how we might with safety, offer a meal to people once again. People were still hungry. COVID did not change that. So, in June of 2020, Community Café Grille opened every Sunday afternoon at 4:30 p.m. outside under the portico off the church parking lot. Hot dogs and hamburgers were grilled and along with chips, a cookie and a drink, were boxed to carry away.

Then winter came and grilling outside was impossible. People were still hungry and so Food at First was born. A small bag of groceries was handed out each Saturday morning. It became a drive-by grocery pick-up and it didn't take long for us to recognize the "regulars" who came by.

As the summer of 2021 approached, we added a couple of new things to our Community Café Grille out under the portico – tables and chairs for people to eat-in if they wished and the distribution of a small bag of groceries to each person who came for a burger or hot dog.

It was not an easy decision to make at the time, but one we felt was absolutely necessary. In November 2021, we decided to begin serving meals once again in the Fellowship Hall. But we didn't have as many cooking teams as we once did. Could we make this work? Teams were reorganized and new teams came into being, but it was decided to serve a full, hot meal only on the first and third Sundays of the month. On the alternate Sundays, our guests are invited into the narthex for coffee, hot chocolate and donuts at which time they are given a bag of groceries.

With Community Café and Food at First, our goal has always been to provide needed food. But much more than that, we want folk to find our welcome and our space comfortable and safe enough that they will sit and linger, building community with each other and slowly but surely getting to know and trust us in a personal and meaningful way. We hope that they will think of us as family, too.

On Easter Sunday, Pastor Peggy was handed a card from one of our guests. On it was written: "We are certainly very Blessed to have such wonderful and generous people like yourselves to help the entire community." There were pictures of a smiley face and a cross drawn at the end of the message and it was signed: Gus – Tent City.

*(Continued on Page 6)*

# We Worship Together

## Worship Schedule for May, 2022

May 1	CHOIR SUNDAY HOLY COMMUNION What's in Your Lunchbox? John 6:1-15 (NLT) Music: Sanctuary Choir, Wesley Chorale and Children's Choir
May 8	MOTHER'S DAY NEW MEMBER RECEPTION — Bob Ballenger When Someone You Love Is Hurting - Philemon 1:4-18 (NLT) Music: Wesley Bells
May 15	FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER COVENANT OF BAPTISM: Jackson Taylor What's Water Got to Do with It? John 2:1-11 (NLT) Music: Anderson Youth Ballet Academy
May 22	SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Pastor Don Deena Johnson preaching Music: Alpha Brass
May 29	FIRST SUNDAY OF SUMMER SCHEDULE Outside at Davis Park -- 9 a.m. Music: Jazz Combo Downtown Sanctuary -- 10:45 a.m. Music: Michele Murray

## Adult Ministries

### FOOTSTEPS OF PAUL CRUISE



Have you ever wanted to experience the places St. Paul visited, the cities and communities where the earliest churches began? Join Pastor Peggy and Rev. Chris Nunley on a 13-day Footsteps of Paul Cruise. In September 2022, we will travel to Rome, Athens, Corinth, Ephesus, and some additional places along the way. It will be an amazing journey. For

more information contact Pastor Peggy or pick up a brochure outside the church office. I hope you will consider joining us.

### J.O.Y. LUNCH

#### Grief: Being an Overcomer – May 20

Misty Novak and Debbie Barry will be our speakers for JOY Lunch this month. Knowing the grief of losing a son in a tragic airplane accident, Misty speaks from her own experience. She has shared her story in countless settings over the years and will speak to us of hope and overcoming in the face of our own grief. Please sign-up in the church office by Wednesday, May 18. The cost of lunch is \$10.

### CARE CONNECTION CALLS

Pastor Don Deena and team are making Connection Calls with members unable to attend worship and activities in person.

It is now time to include all members in our Care Connection Calls!

These caring connections will begin this Spring.

The intent is that everyone affiliated with this congregation will receive a monthly phone call to say "We care. How can we pray for you?"

If you are willing to participate in this meaningful ministry, please contact

Debbie Millikan at [dk.millikan@comcast.net](mailto:dk.millikan@comcast.net) or 765-621-6620.

### BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS

New Health Ministry

"Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health..." 3 John 1:2

This new ministry will begin soon with monthly checks offered by nurses (active or retired). This is a gift because we care about your health.

If normal it is a great way to continue that peace-of-mind.

If too high or too low, the team will recommend a visit with your doctor.

Interested in helping launch this new ministry?

Contact: Carol Hardacre (765-623-5821) or Bonnie Belangee (765-64-8786)



Sunday, May 8

We recognize all those who

"mother" us --

Biological mothers

Adoptive mothers

Grandmothers

Friends

Teachers

Women of Christ

Receive our gift of a carnation which represents our love and gratitude for YOU!

### HELP US BID A FOND FAREWELL AND GODSPEED:

Please join us at an Open House to say goodbye and honor our friends Millie and David Dewar as they return to Nova Scotia in June of this year. The Open House will take place on Tuesday, May 24, at Davis Park from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

*(Your presence is the only present required (but farewell cards would be nice))*

Dear People of Anderson First United Methodist,



Thank you very much for letting us use the beautiful church facility and piano for our concert on this past Friday. You all helped us a lot to make the event to happen, Grace and I truly appreciate your generosity.

We appreciate your hospitality and tuning the piano for us. It was a great turn out with a few church members attending our concert in-person, which made the event extra special.

Thank you very much again, and I hope you all have a wonderful season of Easter.

Best, Robert Gross and Grace Lee

# Outreach Ministries

## HELPING HANDS PANTRY

The Helping Hands Non-Food Pantry will again be open on May 11 to distribute non-food items to the community. Currently the pantry needs toilet paper, and cleaning supplies, such as dish soap, Pine Sol, Comet and toilet bowl cleaners. Thank you for your generosity—Linda Verhulst and Juanita Slattery

## EASTER OUTREACH OFFERING

Your desire to live out the compassionate and loving ministry of Jesus Christ is so evident, not only in your personal service but in the financial gifts that you give. As of April 21, we have received \$6,614 in our Easter Outreach Offering. If you have given already, thank you so very much. If you have not yet given, there is still time to designate an offering that will go entirely for missions in our

### Highlight: Community Café and Food at First *Continued from cover page*

On Memorial Day Sunday, May 29, we will once again move outside under the portico for Community Café Grille. We will serve outside through the month of September. You're always welcome to stop by see what's up. And, if you are interested in joining one of our teams, please contact Pastor Corinne Boruff. Thank you for helping make this ministry possible.

# Other Church News

## SOUND TECH NEEDED

**Brian Jones is retiring from his 40-year ministry as Sound Tech for Sundays, special services, Davis Park and Coyner Lodge worship & events. His final day is Sunday, May 22.**

**We NEED YOUR ASSISTANCE in securing a future sound tech team as it will take a team to replace Brian!**

**PLEASE make this a priority for your prayer, referrals and your interest in serving. God is calling these persons. Let us help them hear their call! Contact Pastor Corinne at [corinne@andersonfirst.org](mailto:corinne@andersonfirst.org) Or 317-902-1843 (call or text).**

## Easter Lilys

My apologies are extended to Horace and Evelyn Chadbourne, who's lily purchased in memory of their parents was missing from the 2022 Easter Lily booklet—Peg Peter

## PRAYER BEARS

will make their debut in May! These are teddy bears (new) that will carry our prayers to those who need comfort in whatever they are facing. Congregation and pastors will distribute the Prayer Bears among members and in the community.

Contact Dee Ann Williams (765-620-1399) to assist with this ministry.

# United Methodist Women



United Women in Faith

Leader:  
Meeting Date:  
Time:  
Location:

**Bible Study Circle**  
Merrilyn Vance  
Thursday, 5/5/22  
1:00 pm  
North/South Parlor

**Friendship Circle**  
Mary Falkenberry  
Thursday, 5/5/22  
Off-Site

## BON AMIS

**May** Beef and Boards – Wednesday, May 25

Registration for this event is closed, however, if you missed it and would like to go, please sign up on the waiting list. Occasionally there are unexpected openings

**June**

Fort Wayne Zoo and Lunch at the Happy Gnome – Wednesday, June 15

Join us for lunch at the Happy Gnome followed by a visit to one of the nation's top ten zoos for children of all ages. The zoo's mission is to connect kids and animals, strengthen families and inspire people to care. Vans will leave the church parking lot at 9:15 a.m. and return around 6 p.m. Registration and payment must be made in the church office by May 27. The cost for this event is \$65 and includes lunch.



**July**

Symphony on the Prairie: Star-Spangled Symphony – Friday, July 1

Celebrate the Fourth of July with your friends on the Connor Prairie Farm grounds. The Indianapolis Symphony will perform many of your favorite patriotic songs. Veterans will be honored. There will be the usual flag parades and the sounding of canon as the 1812 Overture is performed. Fireworks over the night sky will end our evening. We have tables reserved and everyone will receive a box supper.



Vans will leave the church parking lot at 5 p.m. and return around 11:00 p.m. Registration and payment for this event must be made in the church office by Friday, June 3. The cost is \$85.

## ONLINE BIBLE STUDY

Never studied the Bible before or need a refresher? Join Pastor Corinne each week beginning Tuesday May 24 - June 28 at 7 p.m. Join Zoom Meeting <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84706951917> for "Crash Course Bible Study" by Christianbiblestudies.com Materials will be emailed to you.

OVERVIEW: Study 1: Adam and Eve Study 2: Abraham and Sarah Study 3: Moses Study 4: David Study 5: Jesus Study 6: Us

## Adult Sunday School Classes

**Class**  
Pathfinders

**Location**  
North/South Parlor  
*Classes begin at 9:00 am*

**Led By**  
Kenny Hall

## SMALL GROUPS

Led by Pastor Don Deena Johnson

### **Step by Steppers Walking Group – Saturday, May 14**

This is an open group. Everyone of all ages is welcome to join in. This Saturday, we will gather at the Mounds State Park Visitors Center – 9 a.m. Time to enjoy a spring morning walk in a beautiful setting close to home.

### **Step by Steppers Walking Group – Saturday, May 28**

This is an open group. Everyone of all ages is welcome to join in. This Saturday, we will gather in the church parking lot at 9 a.m. and will carpool to Fort Harrison State Park. This walk will be a bit more strenuous than the earlier walk this month, but also very beautiful as plants and flowers come to bloom once again.

### **Sermon Talk-back – Sunday, May 22**

This is an open group for anyone who wishes to think further about and discuss the sermon of the morning while it is still fresh on your mind. At 11:30, following the worship service, we will meet together at Riviera Maya (Meridian Street) for lunch

## Body Life

### **Wired Word Bible Study – Wednesday, May 4, 11, 18, 25**

Meeting in the church library, this Bible study group is open to anyone who wishes to think about the current events of our world in light of God's Word.

We meet from 6 -7 p.m. Pastor Don Deena leads this study.

### **Going Green: Garden Series – Wednesday, May 4, 11, 18, 25**

Calling all Gardeners and Want-to-be Gardeners!

Come to Body Life on Wednesdays in May at 6:00 p.m.

We will be talking flowers in the E/W Parlor. Come to one session or come to them all. Fun time guaranteed!

Questions? Call Ann Bull (coordinator) at 765-643-2520.

Scheduled Topics:

May 4 Jerry Burand — Roses

May 11 Sharon McNabney — Orchids

May 18 Mary Mendel — Hostas

May 25 Marnie Tupling — Annuals

## PRAYER FIRST

"Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful." Colossians 4:2  
There are times when I want so desperately to help someone who is struggling, but I find I don't have much help to offer. It is in moments like this that I find myself thinking, "well, the least I can do is pray." Have you ever felt this way? The truth is, the best thing we can do is pray!

You are invited to join Pastor Peggy each Sunday morning at 9:15 in the Chapel to pray for the needs of our congregation. We will pray for our members, our staff, our ongoing ministries, and new ministries. Pray for our community. Pray for those we serve through Buddy Bags, Community Cafe, Food at First, and Utility assistance. We will pray for those who have yet to come through our doors. If you are unable to join us on Sunday mornings, you can still pray! Pray for the concerns listed above. You can also receive the prayer list each week by contacting Pastor Peggy to be added to the email list. Let us, "devote ourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful." Colossians 4:2



## 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

### **May**

1st- Children remain in worship

8th- First Kids-older- "God Wins Joshua's Battle" Co-leader-Nina Kline  
Godly Play- younger-"Knowing Jesus in a New Way: Known in the Morning" Door Person- Richard Cassidy

15th- First Kids- younger- "God Wins Gideon's Battle" Co-leader- Debbie Manifold

Godly Play- older-"Knowing Jesus in a New Way: Known in the Waiting" Door Person- Ingrid Childs

22nd- First Kids- older- "God Gives Ruth and Naomi a Good Friendship" Co-leader- Ruth Parker

Godly Play- younger-"Knowing Jesus in a New Way: Known By the Holy Spirit" Door Person-Candy Short

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.



We Need YOUR Help! At the beginning of 2020 those students who participated in Sunday evening Pulse received a new Bible. Our goal was to mark up those Bibles with what we were studying and our favorite verses. Upon graduation each student would take their Bible with them as a reminder of their faith journey here at First UMC. As you all know, these past couple of years have not gone as we had planned and our Bibles don't have nearly as many marked verses in them as we had hoped! So, we need YOUR help!



This year we have 2 seniors, Ryan Barnett and Reagan Ashley, graduating. We would like to fill their Bibles with the favorite verses of all those who have made an impact on her life and faith. So, we need you to email YOUR favorite Bible verse to [peggyn@andersonfirst.org](mailto:peggyn@andersonfirst.org) by May 22nd. Please be sure to note who's Bible you would like your verse added to. Oh! Don't mention this to either Ryan or Reagan, it's a secret!

### **Honoring our High School and College Graduates**

Each year we like to honor those students who are graduating. If you have a high school or college graduate, please contact Pastor Peggy Nunley so they can be added to our list.