



First United Methodist

FAITH FIRST. FAMILIES FIRST. ANDERSON FIRST.

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**ANDERSON FIRST
EASTER EGGS-TRAVAGANZA**

MARCH 23RD @ 10:30-12
DAVIS PARK
4507 NICHOL AVE, ANDERSON, IN 46011

FREE COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT, INFLATABLES,
CRAFTS, GAMES, AND LOTS OF CANDY!!



THE VOICE

A Newsletter of First United Methodist



Holy Week

EASTER EGG HUNT

March 23 at 10:30 a.m., Davis Park

PALM SUNDAY

March 24 at 10 a.m.

HOLY THURSDAY

March 28 at 7 p.m., Sanctuary

GOOD FRIDAY

March 29 at 7 p.m., Sanctuary

LENTEN BREAKFAST

March 23 at 8-9:30 a.m., Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall

EASTER

March 31

Easter Sunrise at 7 a.m. in Coyner Lodge/Davis Park

Easter Breakfast at 7:30 a.m., Coyner Lodge

Traditional Easter Celebration at 10 a.m., Sanctuary

*"God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us
while we were still sinners." Romans 5:8*

Adult Ministries

LENT

The Series continues....

"Come back to me, with all of your heart," our Lord calls. It is an extraordinary invitation to each one of us. In a personal, individual way, God invites us to drop the defenses that we hold up between ourselves and God. God offers an entire Lent season, an entire lifetime, of loving us unconditionally, no matter what we have done or left undone or how good we think we are.

March 3	HOLY COMMUNION More Than a Bad Day John 2:13-22 Music: Children's Choir & Sanctuary Choir
March 10	LENT 4 Embarrassing Visits John 3:14-21 Music: Wesley Bells
March 17	LENT 5 Seeing What We Don't Want to See John 12:20-33 Music: Alpha Brass
March 24	PALM SUNDAY Text Message from Jesus Mark 11:1-11 Music: Children's Choir & Sanctuary Choir
March 28	7 p.m. - HOLY THURSDAY Feet and Hearts John 13:1-17, 31b-35 Music: Michele Murray
March 29	7 p.m. - GOOD FRIDAY
March 31	EASTER 7 a.m. Sunrise Service & Breakfast -Davis Park (inside) 10 a.m. Traditional Easter Celebration - Downtown Going Where Jesus Goes Mark 16:1-8 Music: Sanctuary Choir & Brass



MARK FINGER—HOOSIER MUSICIAN

Mark Finger was named "Hoosier Musician" by the Indiana Music Educators Association. This is the highest award given by IMEA. The award is designed to give recognition to an individual who has contributed to the advancement of music education in the state of Indiana and who has contributed outstanding service to local, state and national music organizations. Mark was cited for his lifelong commitment to music education in his role as a high school band director as well as his support to the music education program as a high school principal. He has continued his support by serving as the State Chair of Future Music Educators at the IMEA Conference for many years. This role was to help high school students considering the field of music education as a career and Mark provided leadership and thoughtful programming to these students. Mark also served as the State Chair for the high school Honor Band for IMEA for thirteen years and in this capacity served on the IMEA Board of Directors. He also served two terms on the Board of Directors of the Indiana State School Music Association as the Administrator Representative. Mark served as the chair for Music in the Statehouse. He has served as a facilitator for various seminars at Ball State, Butler, Anderson University and the University of Louisville. At the local level Mark was recognized for establishing and directing Alpha Brass, a music ministry of First United Methodist Church. He was recognized for his continued work in many other musical organizations including the church Sanctuary Choir, Wesley Chorale and Handbell Choir. He is also one of four founding members of the Directors jazz Orchestra, a community jazz band. Congratulations to Mark Finger on receiving this prestigious award.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN NEWS



	Bible Study Circle	Friendship Circle
Leader:	Merrilyn Vance	Mary Falkenberry
Meeting Date:	March 7,	March 7,
Time:	1:00 pm	10:00 am
Location:	North/South Parlor	North/South Parlor

Other Church News

CANDLES OF LENT vs. ADVENT CANDLES

Each Sunday a candle will be extinguished. Lent is a season which tends to grow darker as we approach the time of Good Friday – Jesus' death on the cross. When Easter arrives, Light returns!

Advent (days before Christmas), by contrast, grows lighter from week to week as we anticipate Emmanuel being born. Therefore, we light a candle each Sunday of Advent

CONNECT@FIRST

Sunday, March 17 @ 11:30-1 p.m. in North/South Parlor

ALL who want to know more about

Anderson First UMC are encouraged to meet with Pastor Corinne for lunch, information about this church, membership, ways to be involved and a tour of the building. You will also get to know Pastor Corinne better!

Whether you are a long-time member or a new attendee, you are encouraged to attend.

Please RSVP your participation with a text or call to 317-902-1843 (Pastor Corinne) or sign up at the office window or Welcome Center.

YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO BE MORE CONNECTED!

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION UPDATE

Has your email address changed? Have you eliminated your phone landline and only use a cell phone? Has your cell phone number changed? Has your address changed?

These are all questions Kathy Kean is trying to update in our membership data base. If you answer any of these questions "yes" and you have not filled out a membership update form, please contact Kathy Kean at 765-643-6977 OR Kathy@andersonfirst.org 9-4 Tuesdays & Thursdays or 9-12 Fridays to update your information. That way we can stay in contact with you.



MEETING JESUS AT THE TABLE

A Lenten Study – continues

AND YOU ARE STILL WELCOME TO JOIN!

Lent is a season in which we are invited to reflect on the immensity of God's love made known in Jesus and his victory over sin, evil, and death. In Lent we are invited to recall what it means to be disciples, followers of Jesus, each and every day. Join Pastor Corinne Boruff in a study of the "table stories" as we draw closer to Christ and one another in study, as well as, tasting, smelling and making bread.

Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in North/South Parlor

March 6

Surprised by Grace: Dinner Interrupted

Luke 7:36-50

March 13

Excuses and Invitations: Empty Chairs at the Table

Luke 14:15-24

March 20

A Meal of Memories: Not the Last Supper

Matthew 26:17-30

March 27

Easter: Revived by the Breaking of Bread

Luke 24:13-35

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

The Men's Fellowship Breakfast will not meet in February or March, 2024. You are encouraged to attend the Saturday Anderson Area Lenten Breakfast instead.

J.O.Y. LUNCH

(Just Older Youth)

March promises to be another delicious meal and enriching program! Everyone is invited to join us the March 15 at 11:30 a.m. for the meal followed by a new program created for the 140th Celebration of the Historical Society by Steve Jackson. This presentation with many pictures included is entitled: "The Building of a Dream: The Story of the Madison County Historical Society.

Reuben Sandwiches will be served for lunch.

Make your reservation by Wed. March 13 by notifying the church office, 765-643-6977.

Cost of the meal is \$12 per person and is paid upon arrival.



Family Ministries

FAMILY MINISTRY REPORT

Hey Anderson First families! This month in First Kids, our Simple Truth is "I Am Loved" and our theme is *No Limit*! We want our kids to know and remember that there is no limit to God's love, and we see this in how God's love never gives up on us, God loves everyone, God's love is powerful, and God's love gives us hope! We will wrap up this month celebrating God's love with Easter and the truth that Jesus is alive!

Our Easter Egg Hunt is coming up, and we need people to donate candy and their time to volunteer for the event. Check out the details of those needs listed below.

Take time this month to show each other acts of love and try to be intentional about sharing God's love with others!

FIRST KIDS GAME NIGHT

First Kids Game Night is Back!

All children are invited to join us on Wednesday, March 6th for a game night. This is a time for kids to bond and have fun together. Snacks will be provided, and the Kids' Choir will be at its normal time. We can't wait to hang out and play games with our awesome Anderson First Kids!

EGG-STRA, EGG-STRA!

Easter is almost here and Anderson First UMC is hosting a community Easter Egg Hunt. Join us out at Davis Park on March 23rd from 10:30-12 for a morning of free games, crafts, inflatables, and three egg fields! This is a great way to connect with our community and celebrate that Jesus has risen. We are accepting non-chocolate candies, stickers, small toys, pencils, and similar items for the egg hunt. We will also need volunteers to help welcome guests, run craft and game stations, and set up and break down the event. If you would like to volunteer for this wonderful community outreach event, please use the link below to sign up! If you have any questions about the event or volunteering, please contact Ally Hall.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4FA8AA2AA0FBC52-47392415->

WAY TO GO, GIRL!

We extend a "WAY TO GO!" to Caroline Taylor who raised \$360 with money received from family and friends for her birthday. Caroline donated all of her money to Outfitters, a nonprofit organization that provides new and gently used clothing to school age children in need in Madison County. Caroline visited the facility to give her donation.

Outreach Ministries

HELPING HANDS PANTRY

Our next Helping Hands Pantry will be held on March 13th from 8:30 am to 11:00 am. We would be grateful to receive donations of toilet paper and toothbrushes for our March Pantry. Your donations helped us serve 43 women and 28 men at our February 14th Pantry. We continue to have new guests at each Pantry and we are blessed to have a congregation that helps us serve members of our community each month. Thank you for your generosity.

Sincerely, Linda Verhulst, Juanita Slattery and Karen Ambler

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

One of this month's highlights for Outreach Ministries will be the Community Easter Egg Hunt at Davis Park on March 23rd, from 10:30 –12:00 pm. In order to make this the BEST EGGSTRAVAGANZA it can be we need your help—donations of candy as listed below will be a tremendous help for the team!

Bring in individually wrapped, non-chocolate candy or small toys for us to use at Anderson First's Easter Egg Hunt. Drop off donations in Ally Hall's office by March 17th. Some donation ideas:

Skittles
Swedish fish
Bubble gum
Sour patch kids
Small erasers
Fruit snacks

Tattoos
Nerds
Tootsie rolls
Twizzlers
Gummy bears
Bouncy balls

Stickers
Laffy Taffy
Lifesaver gummies
Starbursts
Suckers
Pencils

