



First United Methodist

FAITH FIRST. FAMILIES FIRST. ANDERSON FIRST.

First United Methodist Church
1215 Jackson Street
Anderson IN 46016

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

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Visit us on the web at
andersonfirst.org and
follow us on Facebook



THE VOICE

A Newsletter of First United Methodist



INDIANA UNITED METHODISTS

DISASTER RESPONSE

Bishop Tracey Malone (new Indiana Conference Bishop) has approved a \$10,000 donation to the Western North Carolina Conference from our Conference Disaster Relief Fund to help those suffering from the recent hurricanes.

Here's how you can help:

1. Please PRAY for the people in the affected areas.
2. Give to UMCOR U.S. Disaster Response to support recovery efforts. Designate your gift through your church using Advance #901670.
3. Assemble cleaning kits. Contact Rev. Jen Huff (jennifer.huff@inumc.org) to find out where to drop off your kits.

ON NOVEMBER 3.....



CONCERTS

PLAN TO BE HERE!

Sunday, November 3

3 p.m. — Alpha Brass Concert

Saturday, November 16

7 p.m. -- Fall Creek Valley Band Concert, with AAYC

Sunday, December 8

3 p.m. – DJO (Director's Jazz Orchestra) & Alpha Brass Concert

MOUNDS STATE PARK NIGHTS OF LIGHTS

Anderson First UMC will again decorate a campsite at Mounds State Park at the park to express the true meaning of Christmas through the outdoor Chrismons designed by our members.

2024 Nights of Lights:

Every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday at Mounds State Park

November 30 - December 29, 2024

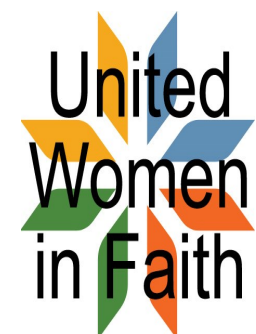
6:00 - 9:00 pm

\$10 per vehicle

Adult Ministries

WORSHIP SCHEDULE – November 2024

- November 3 All Saints Sunday/Communion
Revelation 21:1-7 (NLT)
Real, Genuine, Actual
Music: Sanctuary Choir
Sound Tech: Jim Hudson; Visual Tech: Matt Stout
- November 10 25th Sunday After Pentecost
United Women of Faith Recognition
Romans 12:6-18 (NLT)
My Place to Serve
Music: Joyful Sound – Women’s Group
Sound Tech: Mark Murray; Visual Tech: Matt Stout
- Mon. Nov. 11 – Veteran’s Day
- November 17 26th Sunday After Pentecost
Jeremiah 1:2-12 (NLT)
Purpose, Power, Presence
Music: Alpha Brass
Sound Tech: Richard Cassiday; Visual Tech Matt Stout
- November 24 Thanksgiving Sunday
Psalms 34:1-6; Colossians 3:12-17(MSG)
Every Day is Thanksgiving
Blessing of Bath Towels
Music: Sanctuary Choir
Sound Tech: Jim Hudson; Visual Tech: Matt Stout
- Thursday, Nov. 28 — Thanksgiving Day



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Our United Women in Faith Circle will meet on Thursday, November 7, 2024 at 10:00 am in the North/South Parlor. The UWF World Thank Offering will be part of the program, as well as the next chapter in the study of Isaiah.

On Sunday, November 10, we will recognize our church’s chapter of United Women of Faith in our morning service.

Church News

NEW MEMBER WELCOME!

We welcome

Patricia Walker as our newest member of Anderson First UMC.

Pat shares about herself:

“I grew up on the shore of Lake Michigan in NW Indiana. I am a second-generation Italian, Irish, Slovakian American. I was married for 27 years and have three children and 6 grandchildren. I am a retired 3rd/4th grade teacher and a learning, practicing artist. Nature, flowers, trees are a passion, as well as reading novels and mysteries. I am a life-long Christian and was baptized in the Catholic Church at 5 days old. I was raised there until I got married to my Methodist husband. I spent 35 years in a Methodist mission-oriented church in Indianapolis. I came to Anderson seeking a like-minded church, and when I discovered 1st Methodist and it's highly diversified and effective outreach programs, I gladly chose to worship and serve here. I love teaching sermons, the awesome music varieties, and the opportunities to grow in spirit and in service to our community and our fellow members. I am currently the leader of a Community Cafe group, a greeter, a member of our book club, and the new chairperson of our UMW Friendship-Bible Study group.”

POINSETTIAS

Poinsettias may be purchased for \$15 in honor or memory of a loved one by December 2. You may place your order by using the website to pay, or drop your form and payment in the sanctuary wooden boxes, provide information and payment in the church office or mail information and payment to the church. To use the website to pay go to www.andersonfirst.org/poinsettia and email your information to Peg@andersonfirst.org. Forms are available at the Welcome Center or Office.

2025 LAY LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

What a joy it is each year to both recognize those persons who have served God faithfully in their roles in the church AND welcome the new leaders for service. 2025 Directories are available at Welcome Center & church office.

Praising God for our leaders!

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

We are looking forward to decorating the church for Christmas. Be sure to check your calendar and be ready to help!

Decorating will occur November 25-27.

Contact Debbie Millikan (765-621-6620) to volunteer and for more information.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU

Johanne and Ernie Coleson would like to thank their entire church family for sending cards, providing food and visited during Ernie’s stay in the hospital and Edgewater Woods. Johanne and Ernie love you all and appreciate their concern. Blessings to them all.

Outreach Ministries

GRANTS & CONTRIBUTIONS

Fall has arrived. With the new season brings good news to share. Upon reaching out to Community Hospital Anderson, a \$2,500.00 contribution was made to the Outreach ministry. We are thankful for Community Hospitals' gift of \$2,500.00, Harvest Market's contribution of \$100.00 and Madison County Foundation's generous donation of 2 new \$900.00 grills.

GATEWAY CHRISTMAS

As a congregation we also look toward other's needs. We are now gearing up for Gateway Christmas participation. This year we have made an effort to streamline the process. Gateway helps support the children and families that they serve. Their goal is to make sure every child receives a new outfit and toy this holiday season. Gateway children range from 6 weeks to 12 years old. Gifts typically range from \$50.00 up depending on their age and needs.

All donation amounts are accepted and appreciated! This year Gateway is providing preaddressed envelopes. Place your donation inside and mail it to Gateway by 12/2/24. Please make checks payable to "Gateway". Thank you for your support to Outreach ministries and for reaching out to our neighbor.
Sincerely, Susan

HELPING HANDS NONFOOD PANTRY

At our October 9th Helping Hands Nonfood Pantry, with the help of six volunteers, we were able to give the following items to 51 women and 31 men: Two large rolls of toilet paper, hand sanitizer, liquid hand soap, a bar of soap, shampoo and laundry detergent. The 82 guests that we served were grateful for the help we gave their families. We are very thankful for the donations of supplies we receive from our congregation! They allow us to help the increasing number of guests we have. The average number of guests we have served through October 9th is 89 guests per month.



Our next Pantry is November 13, 2024 from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM. Donations that would help our guests for that Pantry are toilet paper, toothpaste or toothbrush, and/or women's or men's deodorant. We feel very blessed to have such a giving congregation that helps us serve the needs of our community. Thank you!
Sincerely, Linda Verhulst, Juanita Slattery and Karen Ambler

BATH TOWEL COLLECTION

Bath Towels will be collected Nov. 3-24,
Towels will be dedicated during worship
on Nov. 24 and then distributed to St. Vincent De Paul, Anderson.
In past years blankets were collected but there are plenty of blankets ready for distribution.
"Wash yourselves and be clean!" (Isaiah 1:16 NLT)

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

The November meeting of the Men's Fellowship Breakfast will be Saturday, November 16 at 8:00 am at Primrose. The program for November will be presented by Rod Autrey and DeWayne Landwehr.
There will be no Men's Fellowship Breakfast in December

J.O.Y. LUNCH

November 15

Join us to hear from Greg Graham, City Council Member about the Anderson Homeless Initiatives on Friday, November 15. Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m. and the program will begin about noon. Make your reservation in the church office by Wednesday November 13.
Lunch costs \$12 and may be paid at the door.

ADVENT STUDY

"On the Way to Bethlehem"

MONDAYS at 6 p.m. in N.S. Parlor

Join Pastor Corinne as we prepare our hearts for Christmas. This study by Rob Fuquay, provides insight into the geographical and historical significance of Rome, Jerusalem, Nazareth, and Bethlehem, along with the important characters through whom the Christmas drama unfolds. Experience the spiritual truths each location holds. As they prepare heart and soul to experience wonder, awe, mystery, and joy.

Nov. 25 – Rome: A Place of Longing

Dec. 2 – Jerusalem: A Place of Waiting

Dec. 19 – Nazareth: A Place of Simplicity

Dec. 16 – Bethlehem: A Place of Humility

KEEP MINISTRY ALIVE IN 2025!

Estimate of Giving Cards for 2025 pledges are available at the Welcome Center, at the sanctuary entrance tables and in the church office.
They may be returned in the wooden boxes or the church office.
Thank you for giving to God!

THANKSGIVING DAY PRAYER

A prayer to memorize!

For each new morning with its light,
For rest and shelter of the night,
For health and food,
For love and friends,
For everything God's goodness sends.
- Ralph Waldo Emerson



Family Ministries

FIRST KIDS NOVEMBER PREVIEW

This November, Anderson First Kids will finish our Real Talk series as we learn the simple truth, "I Am Known." First Kids will also kick off our Advent series Unwrapped and the new simple truth " I Am Not Alone." Every week, we will "unwrap" Bible stories to teach that Jesus is the greatest hope, gift, Son of God, and Light of the world. Also, we will wrap up December with a special Game Changer session where kids will learn that God is always with us through the Bible story of Jesus promising to send the Holy Spirit. We hope to see you at Anderson First Kids on Sundays at 10am and Wednesdays at 6pm.



YOUTH GROUP PREVIEW

Anderson First Students Ministries will take place in the youth room on November 10th and 24th! We will be discussing "What was Jesus really like?" and " Why do I like Jesus but struggle with Christians?" This is a time for students to grow in their faith, build community, and connect with Anderson First UMC. Our time together includes a free lunch, games, Bible Study, and discussion time. Students are encouraged to attend worship and serve during the 10am service before heading upstairs to the youth room. They are also welcome to be dropped off at 11:15 and join us for youth group. Friends are more than welcome! If you would like to volunteer in the Student Ministry or if you have questions about the program, please reach out to the Director of Family Ministries, Ally Hall.



FIRST KIDS GAME NIGHT

First Kids Game Night is coming up! All children ages 3-12 are invited to join us at First Kids Club on Wednesday, November 20th, for a game night. This is a time for kids to play games, eat snacks, and have fun together. We can't wait to hang out and play games with our awesome Anderson First Kids!

FIRST KIDS CHOIR

Do-Re-Mi-Fa-So-La-Ti-Do...you know that our First Kids Choir is performing on December 8th?! All kids ages 3-5th Grade are welcome to join us on Wednesdays at 6:20pm for First Kids Choir rehearsals! We perform several times throughout the year, play musical games, and have lots of fun getting to worship God together. The Kids Choir will perform again during Lessons and Carols, so join us in the Younger Kids classroom on Wednesdays if you want your children to participate in the performance. If you have questions about the kids choir, please contact Sue Finger or Ally Hall at ally@andersonfirst.org.

FIRST KIDS MOVIE NIGHT

Lights, Camera... MOVIE NIGHT! Join us at Anderson First Kids on Wednesday for a special Movie night on December 11th! All kids are invited to attend, wear PJs, and bring whatever pillows and blankets they need to get comfy. We will watch a movie and eat a wintery snack and have a hot cocoa station during our time together. The Kids Choir will still rehearse at its normal time, and we will take a short intermission from our movie. We can't wait to hang out with you on Wednesday from 6-8 in the Fireplace Room!

GINGERBREAD HOUSE COMPETITION

On December 14th from 4-6pm in Fellowship Hall, people of all ages are encouraged to join us for our annual Anderson First UMC Gingerbread House Competition! We will provide basic supplies but make sure to bring anything you need to make your house extra festive! We will play some Christmas games and will be giving away awesome prizes for the Best Traditional, Most Creative, and Fan Favorite Houses. You are encouraged to bring friends, family, and neighbors to the event. This is also a great opportunity for small groups and circles to engage with the Family Ministry and get into the holiday spirit. Please reach out to Ally Hall by December 8th to reserve a FREE table...or two... or three so we make sure to have enough materials for everyone. Then share this event with your friends and start planning your Gingerbread House! We can't wait to kick off the Christmas season with you at this Anderson First Tradition!



PJ PALOOZA

Skip the argument about what to wear to church and wear your favorite pajamas to our PJ Palooza instead! On December 22nd, kids and adults are encouraged to wear their jammies as we celebrate the gift we have in Jesus with games, snacks, and crafts during our 10am Sunday morning First Kids programming. Please direct any questions you have about our PJ Palooza to Ally Hall.

YOUTH GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY

It is time for our annual Anderson First Students Christmas Party!! Wear your best Ugly Sweater and bring a \$10 or under White Elephant gift for our gift swap. We will have lunch, games, and festive fun! See you on December 22nd at 11:15-1:15 in the youth room. Reach out to Ally Hall if you have any questions



Treasurer's Minute

Treasurer's Minute for: September 2024

	SEP ACTUAL		2024 YEAR TO DATE	
	2024	2023	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Monthly Contributions	\$29,032	\$17,804	\$309,721	\$316,974
Other Income	\$3,395	\$2,668	\$32,436	\$32,630
Total Income	\$32,428	\$20,472	\$342,157	\$349,604
Total Expense	\$49,086	\$47,279	\$445,112	\$448,373
Excess (Deficit) Prior to Endowment Draw	(\$16,658)	(\$26,807)	(\$102,955)	(\$98,769)
Endowment Earnings Distribution	\$12,292	\$12,264	\$110,631	\$110,631
Remaining Excess (Deficit)	(\$4,366)	(\$14,543)	\$7,676	\$11,862

DID YOU KNOW: That through the 1st 3 quarters of 2024, total operating income is within \$200 of the same 9 month period in 2023?