
The Parish Voice

Nappanee United Methodist Church



August 2023

Financial Update

By: Jenni Wysong, Finance Chair



The JUNE financial report signifies that half the year has come and gone. We have things to celebrate and things on which we can improve to achieve financial sustainability at our church. Let's unite as a congregation and finish 2023 stronger than ever...

June 2023 GIVING was \$16,239 (\$574 less than the previous year); however we are still ahead year-to-date by \$6,937 or 5.6%.

June 2023 EXPENSES were \$16,863 (\$5,054 lower than the previous year). With Pastor Reed's departure, we saved two weeks of his salary, insurance, and pension. Interim Pastor Hubbard's payroll will begin in July. Also, 3 biweekly payrolls occurred in June, while only 2 hit in 2022. We should experience some additional payroll savings in July due to that timing issue. Utilities were significantly down over the previous year's June. Year-to-date our expenses are lower than the previous year by \$2,793 or 2%.

Due to insufficient working cash balances in the general fund, the Conference tithes/apportionments were paid with designated funds only for June.



United Methodist History

By: Phil Lehman, History Chair

The United Indiana Methodist Commission on Archives and History hosts a Facebook page. You can find it on Facebook at Indiana Conference (UMC) Archives and History. The site has many pictures of Indiana heritage church buildings and other information on the history of Indiana Methodist, Evangelical and United Brethren congregations.



Library News

By: Pat Lehman, Librarian

What if? This question is a worry that plagues children and adults alike. What if something bad happens? In this vivid illustrated children's book, one mother reassures her daughter that she can rescue her from every dangerous adventure she can imagine. Pirates, aliens, and dinosaurs are no match for a mother's love. But, ultimately, when sickness comes, and the end of a mother's capabilities is reached, God's assurance begins. *Mommy, What If?* by Casey Kiel was given to our library in loving memory of Kassidy Hockert.

Knowing Christ and Making Christ Known

God in his own right hand doth take each day — each sun-filled day — each rare and radiant night, and drop it softly on the earth and say: “Touch earth with heaven’s own beauty and delight.”

—Jean Blewett (1862-1934)

School Supply Giveaway

Our annual school supply giveaway for the WaNee families, will be held here at the Church on **Saturday, August 12, at 10:00 am.** Please make sure any donated supplies are in by August 6th. If you want to volunteer to help, contact Sue Matthews or Dianne Debelak.

Women of Faith

By: Sue Matthews, WOF president

Mark your calendar for an important meeting. We have not had our annual NUMW (NWOF) meeting in several years (due mainly to Covid). It is time we had a business meeting of all 3 Groups (Sarah Circle, Rebekah Esther, and At Large). Election of officers will take place. The meeting is scheduled for Sunday, August 27th, in the library immediately following the church service. We need as many members as possible in attendance to vote on several important matters. We will try to keep it as brief as possible.

Your officers:
Sue Matthews
Deb Sinclair
Ruth Young

The *Parish Voice* is the monthly newsletter of the Nappanee United Methodist Church

Articles are due the 20th of each month

Editor reserves the right to edit for content and space.

Articles submitted after the deadline may not be included.



Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
9:00 AM-12:00 PM

Church: (574) 773-4183
Parsonage: (574) 773-7259

office@nappaneeumc.com
www.nappaneeumc.com



Sunday Worship

10:00 a.m.

In-person or available on YouTube



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From the Worship Committee

Would you like to sing a favorite hymn? Please give us your input. Fill out the form at the information table and place it in the basket there. Please list up to three of your favorite hymns and you just might hear one some Sunday morning! You can also just write three on any piece of paper and place it in the basket or email your list to jdguckenberger827@gmail.com.

THANK YOU for your input!



Pastor's COLUMN

Three Things

By: Pastor Mary Hubbard



Some years ago a pair of parishioners challenged me to “step out from behind the pulpit”. There is a whole story there, but the end result is that I did – and never want to go back.

Others’ sermons are far more erudite, far more polished, better organized, and with more mellifluous turns of phrase. Me, not so much.

But I do try to aim for three things.

First, I preach using a three-year cycle of readings, called The Ecumenical Lectionary. The scriptures used will be heard that Sunday in churches across the world. It is designed to cover all the themes of the Bi-

ble, so the preacher is often challenged – to make something familiar feel fresh, to speak on topics the speaker may feel uncomfortable about, but truly, to preach the full Word of God. So together, the preacher and the congregation get to explore a variety of topics.

Second, for my short stay with you, I am choosing to only use the Gospel readings, this year primarily from Matthew. The Worship Committee may decide to use more, and I am happy to preach using whatever scriptures they may wish to add. But I believe the Gospel is core to our belief.

I do not use old material, preaching the same sermon I have preached elsewhere – although illustrations and quotes certainly recur. What I hope to bring to you is what one writer referred to as “preaching with a Bible in one hand and a newspaper in the other.” Each week, I work on a new sermon.

Third, I commit to preaching from the heart. I will likely be wrong about some things, be mistaken about others – but it will be wholly sincere, and I will be trying my best.

That’s it about preaching. I am looking forward to worshipping with all of you! I am appreciating the warmth and generosity of this church already.

Melodies of Compassion

By: Dorothy Haney, Missions Chairperson

Do you miss the ‘clinks’ of the noisy offering?

Since Covid, we’ve missed hearing the ‘noisy offering’ being dropped into the offering plate as it was passed around the congregation. We call it the *Melodies of Compassion*.

Each quarter, these loose coins are assigned to a different mission project of our church.

January to March – Broadway Christian Parish

April to June – To purchase supplies for the school bags given in August

July to September – VBS mission project

October to December – Shipping costs for Operation Christmas Child (shoebboxes)

This is just a reminder that this program is still in operation and we ask that you empty your coins into the offering plate in the back of the church. Let’s get ‘noisy’ again!





- 03 Tom Parciak
- 12 Steven Beehler
- 12 Tom Berger
- 13 Barbara Bice
- 13 Jan Brown
- 13 Savannah Sipic
- 14 Carolyn Sheley
- 17 Tammy Hines
- 18 Sue Matthews
- 20 John Leavitt
- 23 Nick London
- 24 Shirley Mattison
- 25 Mary Buss
- 26 Madysen LaVine
- 26 Kerygan LaVine
- 27 Joanna Guckenberger
- 27 Angie Stillson
- 28 Max Parciak
- 30 Jackson Beer
- 30 Luke Beer



- 04 Steve & Honey Walters
- 10 Dean & Margaret Cousins
- 25 John & Jane Leavitt
- 31 Brian & Sandy MacGowan
- 31 Bob & Joyce Riley



In-Person Worship

June 25	72
July 2	77
July 9	75
July 16	75
July 23	90

Sunday School Attendance

June 25	30
July 2	32
July 9	33
July 16	38
July 23	42



Better Together

By: Dennis & Dianne Debelak

Viva Italiano!! On Monday August 28th, we will be dining at the new **Papa Vino's in Warsaw, 2640 Escalade Way.**it is on the west side of the street and the restaurant faces SR 15. If you love the food at the Mishawaka location, you will not be disappointed at their newest restaurant. Our dinner reservation time is at 6:00 pm. If you need a ride or would like to car-pool, please let Dianne know. As always the sign up sheet is posted by the office door on the bulletin board. If you've not attended a **Better Together meal...what are you waiting for??** We'd love to have you join us.

WOW Is Back!

WOW will resume **August 9th.** Our meals are on the second Wednesday of the month. Serving will begin at 5:15-6:00. Please feel free to invite friends, but don't forget to sign them up so we know how many to expect. The August meal will be pulled pork sandwiches with chips etc. The signup sheet will be on the board by the office. We could always use more volunteers. If willing to help, please let Karen or me know. A big THANK YOU to those who helped last year: Karen, Kent, Linda D., Dave D., Steve, Joanna,, Betty, Donna, Peggy, and those who brought in a dessert . Without helpers, we would not be able to provide an opportunity to get together for food, fun, and Christian fellowship. Carry outs are available, but who wants to miss out on a great time with other Christians?



How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong. Because someday in your life you will have been all of these.

—George Washington Carver