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# The Parish Voice

Nappanee United Methodist Church



May 2023

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## Do It For Mom!

By: Dorothy Haney, Missions Chair

During this special Mother's Day month of May, we are asking you to honor your mom by donating disposable diapers for our church to give to The Center (FCDC).



Why diapers? Because this is a common challenge for low income families. Disposable diapers can cost \$80-\$100 a month. Imagine choosing between buying diapers and paying the electric bill or buying food for your family. Using cloth diapers can also be difficult for low income families who often don't have access to washers and dryers because most laundromats prohibit the washing of cloth diapers in their washers for sanitary reasons.

Here in Nappanee, the Center, located in the former Nappanee High School building, has a Well-Baby Clinic on Wednesdays, staffed by Dr. Lisa Orn. At this time, the Center will give the family 10-12 diapers, 3 times a month as an incentive to come. This clinic is not for sick children, but focuses on keeping babies healthy. At this visit, any questions or concerns about their child's growth and development will be addressed.

These routine visits are an important early detection tool for discovering possible health concerns that allows parents to ensure that their child is healthy and meeting all of their individual developmental milestones so that treatment and management can be arranged right away. Immunizations for children 0-5 years old are also given, especially the ones needed to attend school in the WaNee School Corporation. However, if the doctor or nurse do notice that the child has symptoms of an illness, they will suggest that they go to their family doctor.

To ensure the health and well-being of the children in our community, we are asking you to donate diapers, particularly in sizes 3, 4, 5 and pull-ups. Diaper wipes and new small lightweight blankets would also be appreciated.

*So if you had a mother that used diapers—cloth or disposable—honor her or her memory with a box of diapers!*

## LOWER YOUR BLOOD PRE\$SURE!

Generosity has its own reward, but the Cleveland Clinic reports that donating to charity or volunteering your time has measurable physical and mental health benefits. Studies show that those who GIVE have lower blood pressure and stress levels, and even lead a longer life. Giving releases HAPPY brain chemicals like dopamine, serotonin, and oxytocin. So..give...and "get" happy!

March's offering was \$20,128 while the month's expenses were \$22,749. Year-to-Date giving for the 1st Quarter is up 7% while associated expenses are up 4% over 2022. All tithe/apportionments in March were paid thanks to generous designated giving.



## Updates for the Red Directory

Lois Cook  
1332 Waterford Crossing  
Apt 303  
Goshen, IN 46526

Betty Gwin  
301 N Washington St  
Waters of Wakarusa Room 167  
Wakarusa, IN 46573

Knowing Christ and Making Christ Known

The Rebekah/Esther Circle will meet at the Garage Coffee Shop in Wakarusa on Tuesday, May 16 at 1:30. Please meet at the church at 1:15 if you would like to carpool.



## Summer Camp

Summer church camp registration is open. Through beautiful locations, exciting activities and intentional relationships, campers and guests are encouraged to reflect, grow, and amplify the impact in their world. Get details at [impact2818.org](http://impact2818.org). Contact the office for the camp code before you register online to receive a 50% discount.

## SHOP and DONATE Simultaneously

Huge thanks to Dave and Linda Detwiler and the Gift Card Program! Sunday, April 30th, the Finance Committee was presented a check from the profits of the Martin's and Meijer Gift Card Program for General Fund expenses. Kenny Walters originated this fruitful program, followed by Mike Tobias. Dave Detwiler's smiling face now shines behind the counter each Sunday morning. Support this project by purchasing \$50 or \$100 Martin's or Meijer Gift Cards and our church earns a % on every dollar spent.



### 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](mailto:office@nappaneeumc.com)  
[www.nappaneeumc.com](http://www.nappaneeumc.com)



### Sunday Worship

10:00 a.m.

In-person or available on YouTube



### Our Staff

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[dsmith46550@gmail.com](mailto:dsmith46550@gmail.com)

Custodian: Kathy Goodman



## SHHHHHH, It's a Secret!

On Saturday, April 29th, Dick and Susie Pletcher and Jenni Wysong attended the workshop at Clay UMC in South Bend entitled, "10 Secrets Your Church Needs to Know." Rev. Doug Anderson led the informative session that dealt with the question, "How do we rebuild after Covid?" A fun fact about Doug Anderson...he was the minister at Wakarusa UMC who married Jane and John Leavitt! He is now a retired Elder, former District Superintendent, Conference Staff and consultant. His goal is to help us sharpen our discipleship and focus our outreach to extend the Kingdom of God as strong United Methodist Churches. Ask Dick, Susie, or Jen to share a secret they learned!



## May We Be

*By Pastor Kevin Reed*

“Now Simon’s mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked Jesus to help her. So he bent over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. She got up at once and began to wait on them.”  
Luke 4:38-39 NIV

May often makes us think of our mothers. In this month there is a day set aside just to celebrate the significant impression that a mother can leave in our lives. And the first Mother’s Day recognition was organized at a Methodist Episcopal Church in West Virginia.

Mothers have an important place in scripture, as well. Mary, the mother of Jesus, is the only person present both for the arrival and death of Jesus. It was Bathsheba, the mother of Solomon, who worked to get him established on the throne of Israel. And in the Gospels, few of the recipients of Jesus’ healings were identified, whether they were men or women. However, we know one particular woman because of her relationship to one of the disciples.

Jesus healed Peter’s mother-in-law. This healing was so significant that three of the four Gospels record its occurrence. Maybe it was just because it was something so close to the disciples, but her response to the healing is worth noticing.

When Peter’s mother-in-law was healed, she is moved to begin serving Jesus. The gratitude she experienced triggered a response of giving and caring. Isn’t that what should happen when we experience the healing power of Jesus? Shouldn’t we be moved to serve and give and care for others?

As we remember our mothers this May, may we also notice the example of Peter’s mother-in-law. May we experience the healing we can find only from Jesus, and may we be a people serving and caring for others as a response.

## Honor Your Mother

Anna Jarvis, the woman who first suggested a national day to honor mothers, had an incredible mother to honor. Her mom, Ann Reeves Jarvis (1832-1905), was a Sunday school teacher and activist who helped lower infant-mortality rates in Appalachia and promoted friendship among families of Civil War soldiers.

At a memorial service for her mother, Anna Jarvis distributed carnations — her mom’s favorite flower — to attendees. Her idea to set apart one day each year for moms gained traction, and in 1914, President Wilson proclaimed the second Sunday of May Mother’s Day. It was customary by then to wear white carnations in honor of departed mothers and red carnations to honor the living.

Of the white flowers, Jarvis said they “symbolize the truth, purity and broad-charity of mother love; its fragrance, her memory, and her prayers. The carnation does not drop its petals, but hugs them to its heart as it dies, and so, too, mothers hug their children to their hearts, their mother love never dying.”





MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 01 Dave Gilley
- 04 Jerry Lentz
- 04 Ronna Swartz
- 04 Zoran Sipic
- 05 Natalie Leeper
- 07 Karen Berger
- 08 Jill Ervin
- 08 Joyce Riley
- 14 Brian MacGowan
- 16 Don Truex
- 17 Brian Middaugh
- 19 Sloan VanVoorst
- 19 Ruth Young
- 20 Alton Reed
- 20 Kendall Wiggins
- 21 Dave Cunningham
- 21 Candi Tobias
- 25 Mary Miller
- 27 Eden Wiggins
- 27 Dylan Weldy
- 27 Linda Hartzell



MAY ANNIVERSARIES

- 10 Jim & Linda Hartzell
- 15 Kenton & Jill Ervin
- 22 Mario & Julie Mast
- 25 Dave & Shelly Lane
- 26 Harold & Betty Collins
- 28 David & Ronna Swartz
- 29 Harvey & Anita DeFrees
- 29 Keith & Collette Knepp
- 31 Dave & Janice Cunningham



In-Person Worship

April 2	93
April 9	106
April 16	81
April 23	86

Sunday School Attendance

April 2	43
April 16	42
April 23	34



Vacation Bible School is right around the corner, and we are in need of congregational support to make this a fantastic experience for kids and families! We are trying a different format this year, with 3 nights of actual VBS, and 1 family night, where we invite parents and siblings to join us for dinner and a few activities to wrap up the week! We hope to use this time to meet with families in our community and introduce them to our church family! But We Need Your Help! Here are some ways to help with VBS:

1. Pray for all involved with VBS and for the kids and families that will be walking through our doors!

- 2. Sign up to be a Crew Leader during our 3 VBS Nights—Sign up Sheet is on the Board outside the office. Crew Leaders simply help lead kids from station to station and help them participate in activities. No prep work required!
- 3. Check out our supply needs and sign up to bring in a few items—Sign up Sheet is on the Board outside the office.
- 4. Plan to attend the Family Night Dinner on June 7th at 6:15. We will post a sign up sheet closer to the date to get a head count, but get this on your calendar early!
- 5. If you know of any kiddos interested in attending, send them to our website to sign up! Kids, Grandkids, Nieces, Nephews, Friends, Neighbors—the possibilities are endless!



Better Together

*By: Dennis & Dianne Debelak and Dick & Diana Smith*

Our Monday, May 22nd, Better Together dinner will be a delicious amish meal from salad to dessert. **Roger and Wanda Miller** will again open their home to us for an enjoyable evening and dinner. They are located at **71187 CR 13 in Nap-panee at 6 PM**. The cost is \$18 per person and payable that evening in cash. Please contact us if you have any questions at all. The sign up sheet again is located on the bulletin board by the office.

## Heritage Sunday 2023

By: Phil Lehman, History Chair

The United Methodist Church (UMC) celebrates Heritage Sunday on May 21. A look back at the Nappanee UMC church history finds our heritage in three Nappanee churches: Methodist Episcopal (ME), Evangelical Association (EV) and United Brethren in Christ (UB). The Nappanee ME and UB churches began meeting when Nappanee was founded in 1874. Both congregations began as prayer and study groups in various members' homes. The UB congregation built a one-room wood-frame church building at 201 East Market Street in 1875 (the first church building in Nappanee). In 1887 the ME congregation constructed a brick church building at 301 East Market Street. A few years later, in 1891, the EV congregation began meeting in a member's home and soon constructed a wood frame church building at 156 East Centennial Street in 1892.

Over the years, the ME became the Methodist and the UB and EV became the Evangelical United Brethren Church (EUB). In 1968 the national merger between the Methodist Church and the EUB Church took place to create the United Methodist Church. In Nappanee for a brief time the former Methodist Church became Trinity UMC and the EUB Church became Grace UMC. On June 1, 1969, the two churches merged to become the Nappanee UMC and began holding worship services at the Market Street building.

After discussion concerning the future location of the church, the congregation decided it was important to stay at its downtown location. Additional property was purchased, and a new sanctuary was built east of the old church building. On May 5, 1974, our congregation began worshipping in the present sanctuary. Sunday School, fellowship activities and the thrift shop continued to use the old church building until 1989 when the old church building was razed and the new building was ready.

### Nappanee UMC Senior Pastors

- Kaye Casterline (1969-1971)
- Lowell Townsend (1969-1971)
- James Willard (1971-1976)
- William Keiser (1976-1978)
- Jay Morris (1978-1987)
- Barton Fletcher (1987-1988)
- Fred Bishop, Jr. (1988-1990)
- Janet Brown (1990-1996)
- Douglas Hadley (1996-2000)
- Larry Smith (2000-2002)
- David Harold (2002-2011)
- Linda Craig (2011-2012)
- James Davidson (2013-2018)
- Kevin Reed (2018-



## WOW

By: Sue Matthews



The menu for the May meal is: pulled pork sandwiches, apple-sauce, green beans, and dessert. This will be the **last WOW meal until** we start back again in **August**. Thanks to all who participated in any way. This includes all those who helped prepare and serve the meal, those who cleaned up after the meal, those who made a dessert, and those who attended and fellowshiped with us.



## Universal Praise

See how nature now rejoices  
in this sunny month of May;  
Still to God from all its voices,  
giving praises day by day. ...

In the glad green woodland alleys,  
every bird its anthem trills!  
While flocks feeding in the val-  
leys,  
herds upon a thousand hills.

Join with every creature living,  
here on land, in air, or sea,  
In one great worldwide thanksgiv-  
ing,  
yielding praise, O God, to thee!

All around us swells the chorus,  
from this goodly world of ours,  
And earth's altar stands before us,  
sweet with incense from her flow-  
ers.

So with nature still confessing,  
his great goodness, let us pay  
Grateful homage for each blessing,  
of this sunny month of May.

