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# The Parish Voice

Nappanee United Methodist Church



MidSeptember 2023

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## Love Thy Neighbor

By: Pastor Mary Hubbard



North of Goshen are two churches, almost side by side. They both have little marquees out front, much like we do. Now, I don't know if they are engaging in a battle of the signs, but it certainly caught my attention.

One sign was **"REPENT OR PERISH"**  
The neighboring church's sign was **"LOVE THY NEIGHBOR"**  
Which church would anyone want to go to?

Unless you are an emotional masochist, just looking for new ways to get beat up, my guess is that you would choose the way I would – for the love sign.

A cool way to alienate pretty much anyone is to sit in judgment on them. Sometimes it is almost without thinking about it; "They have an accent that I associate with...", "Look at those tattoos!", "Don't they know how to dress in public?!" More consciously we judge pretty consciously; "They belong to the other political party!", "They are too rich/too poor for their own good". We could make a list together. Jesus didn't come to judge the world. I figure it's not our job, either. What say we go with *LOVE THY NEIGHBOR*. Sound good?



## Charge Conference

October 22 will be our Annual Charge Conference, at Trinity United Methodist Church in Elkhart. That Sunday afternoon we will join with other churches in voting on various items for the coming year. Everyone is welcome; this is a different kind of Charge Conference than we have had in the past. It moves quickly and is rather energetic.

## Scam Alert

Ignore any emails from Pastor Mary asking for gift cards; it's not her.

This is a common scam; never, ever respond to those.

If you get an email asking for cash or gift cards, check it out first to be sure it really comes from the sender; our church's account has been hacked, so multiple people are getting fake emails asking for pre-paid gift cards to be bought to be given to needy church members. Don't do it.



As you may have noted in the last newsletter, Cybil Stillson's birthday is September 22. She will turn 20! She would love to receive birthday cards at Butler University where she is a sophomore majoring in Journalism and competing on the Varsity Women's Golf Team.

Butler University  
4550 Sunset Ave  
**Fairview House**  
**Cybil Stillson**  
Indianapolis, IN 46208

Knowing Christ and Making Christ Known

### Single Board Model

*By: John Personett, Ad Council Chair*

The Ad Council has been researching and discussing the possibility of moving to a “Single Board” model. On August 2, 2023, we met with Pastor David Schrader, who represents the district office, to listen to his presentation about how the Single Board model works. Needless to say the process is a little overwhelming. Pastor Schrader strongly recommended the council members read and discuss a book called “Winning on Purpose.” The books were ordered and distributed to all members of the council.

On August 17<sup>th</sup>, the Ad Council met again to review as a group what we understood Pastor Schrader was trying to tell us. A lengthy discussion was held trying to define the pros and cons to staying the same or changing to the Single Board model. All members present were polled and asked to present their pros and cons to the potential change. After the discussion a motion was made to adopt the Single Board model. The motion passed with all but one person voting in favor of the change. A template was distributed to all present which will help define how the actual board will look/work.

On August 31<sup>st</sup>, the Ad Council met to discuss how the new Single Board would look and function based on the template mentioned above. A few of the current board members were absent due to sickness and travel commitments but all those present felt that we needed to continue moving in the direction of changing to the Single Board model. Pastor Mary will contact the District Office to set up a date for a Church Charge Conference so that a presentation can be made to the church body. NOTHING can be changed without a vote of approval by the members of the Nappanee United Methodist church. If you have any questions about this process please contact me or any member of the present Ad Council.



### All Church Conference

October 2 is an All Church Conference, 6:30 in the evening, where everyone has a vote. This will be to decide whether or not to go ahead with the One Board structure, as presented by David Schrader this last month. The Church Council has voted to move ahead with this, but this is the opportunity for everyone to have a voice. Our District Superintendent, the Rev. Dr. Marti Lundy, will lead us through the meeting.



Congratulations to Nick & Lindsay London on the birth of their daughter, Maizie Hope London, on September 8th, 2023.

Our condolences to Dorothy Haney at the passing of Larry Haney. Larry passed away on Sunday, September 10th.



### Covid Precautions

It is coming up on flu/covid season. Please be cautious. Make sure to cover your mouth and nose when sneezing or coughing. Wash your hands regularly and/or use hand sanitizer. Wear a mask if needed. If you have a fever, please stay home.



### Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who brought items in for the Lucille Raines residents. We had so much it filled up my entire trunk, as well as half of my back seat. An extra thanks to Sue & Glen Hochstetler for helping me pack everything in my car. Thanks as well to Dorothy for setting up the table and printing up the list of items.  
-Sue Matthews, President NUM-WOF.

