
The Parish Voice

Nappanee United Methodist Church



October 2023



Thank you for your faithful and energized support in the month of August. We continue to see improvements and gains in the financial health of our church.

The month's offerings for August were up by \$6,135 or 44%; while year-to-date offerings are \$16,706 or 10.5% ahead of 2022. We saved \$8,261 in expenses in August versus last August and year-to-date expenses are down by \$12,650 or 7%. Savings from the pastoral change in the second half of the year are driving the reduction in expense. All monthly apportionments/tithes were paid to the conference in August. The building fund offerings for the year are \$13,547 versus spending of \$17,707.

General Fund Summary:

August YTD offerings \$176,617
(versus 2022 August YTD \$159,911)
August YTD expenses \$171,491
(versus 2022 August YTD \$184,141)



We are now in the **black** to the tune of \$5,000 versus last year **\$(24,000)**. Things are moving in the right direction due to your belief, commitment, and generosity.



Let's All Get On Board With Missions

By: Dorothy Haney, Missions Chair

Have you noticed the announcements about the Single Board? You will be hearing more about it in the future as we are planning to change the way decisions are made for our church to best fulfill the mission statement of our church – Knowing Christ and Making Christ Known.

Up to this point there has been a standing committee to plan mission projects. We would like to begin work as short-term teams, forming different teams for different projects. Each project will be a month or two long. We would like you to choose a project that you are interested

in and passionate about and work together with others.

The first such project is the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox.

This would be a short-term team that needs volunteers who particularly believe in or like this project. The team would divide the various tasks, coming up with some new ideas to promote it, spearhead the collection and distribution. This project begins in early October, promoting it, setting it up, collecting the shoeboxes, and delivering the filled shoeboxes to the collection site here in Nappanee by the 3rd Sunday in November. We will have the supplies and posters and boxes, but it needs people in our church for it to be implemented.

Talk about this with a friend, pray about it, and sign up on the bulletin board. I will do all I can to help, but we need volunteers to make it work. As a smaller congregation, we need everyone to find a way to fulfill our mission of making Christ known by our service to others.



Knowing Christ and Making Christ Known

A midmonth newsletter will be sent out around the middle of each month. It will contain any announcements, meetings, reminders, and general info that is going on in the church. If you have any announcements, articles, or information you want in there, please turn it in by the 10th of each month.

We Need Your Help!

We are looking for pictures from events happening at the church. Any time an event is going on or people are gathered, please take pictures and send them to the office. We would like to use them in the announcements on the screen on Sunday mornings, and in the newsletters.



Thank you from New Beginnings! Thanks so much for those that helped in any way. From set up, working the tent or grills, picking up and delivering supplies, tear down, purchased product, and prayed for us, many hands make light work. God continues to bless this ministry. We could not accomplish this without you help. After all the bills are gathered, we will give you an official report. For now, know that your showing God's love to others in our community and beyond is a blessing. To Good be the Glory!



Dear NUMC Friends,

Thanks to each one of you that made Larry's homegoing so special. Each act of kindness and expression of love, and the sharing of happy memories of Larry was appreciated by everyone in our family. We all felt your love. We appreciate that you will remember his faithfulness and love of Jesus expressed in his heartfelt 'Amen'. Thank you for being such a wonderful church family.

In Christian love,
Dorothy Haney and family.

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

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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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Love is Being Like Jesus

By: *Pastor Mary Hubbard*

“If it is not love, it is not of God”. The radical notion that we have to love people the same way Jesus did – forgive them like Jesus, not condemn them like Jesus... it is SO hard to do!

Linus in Peanuts had a line that resonates with me; “I love humanity, its people I can’t stand!”

Loving in the abstract is not love.

Love is going above and beyond, it is acceptance without judgment, it is more a DOING than a FEELING.

We don’t have to feel all warm and fuzzy to say we love someone.

Love is when you get up in the middle of the night, when you really don’t want to, to go help. It is giving more than you feel like you should when someone else is in need. It is doing the boring stuff, sometimes just showing up and being there.

My sister always wants to help; if there is an issue, she works hard to offer a solution. But sometimes love is just listening, hearing with the heart. I like the options offered by one parent; “Do you want some workable options? Do you want my opinion? Do you just need me to listen?”

Love is all of the above – sometimes options are needed, practical help. Sometimes frank discussion is needed, to work out the issue. Sometimes just listening is needed.

Love is being like Jesus. Not condemning. Not criticizing. Not holding on to hurt.

Reread I Corinthians 13, remembering that love is the greatest of all the great things God has for us – and that we have for each other.



Starting a Ripple Effect

Shortly before his death, 80-year-old farmer Hody Childress asked his daughter to continue a practice he’d quietly conducted for years: taking a \$100 bill to a local pharmacist on the first of every month. For years, Childress anonymously came to the aid of neighbors in Geraldine, Ala-

bama, who couldn’t afford medications. “Don’t tell a soul where the money came from,” he instructed store owner Brooke Walker. “If they ask, just tell them it’s a blessing from the Lord.”

Thanks to the farmer’s generosity, Walker could fill prescriptions for about 24 uninsured or underinsured people each year. “I was honored he allowed me to do that,” she said, “and it really encouraged me to do the same in my life.”

Childress wasn’t wealthy but “always gave what he could,” said daughter Tania Nix. “I think he felt like he couldn’t not give,” she added. “Giving that way, that just got on his heart.” After word spread about Childress’ generosity, other people were inspired to perform stealth outreach and a fund was established in his name.

A man in Oklahoma who shares Childress’ surname said a story about the farmer caught his attention. They’re probably not related, he wrote, but he’d feel proud if they were. “A man like that surely tried to follow the example of Jesus,” the Oklahoman wrote, and “[his] story inspires me to be a better man.”

—adapted from *The Wired Word*





- 01 Pat Stackhouse
- 03 Sue Gilley
- 12 Nathan Wiggins
- 16 Keith Knepp
- 22 Margaret Cousins
- 23 Kenton Ervin
- 23 Nicki Wiggins
- 27 Lindsae Harrold
- 28 Bev Fales
- 28 Georgia Wiggins
- 31 David Harrold
- 31 Denny Myers



In-Person Worship

September 3	81
September 10	86
September 17	83
September 24	89

Sunday School Attendance

September 3	40
September 10	41
September 17	39
September 24	36

WOW

The next WOW meal will be Wednesday, October 11th. Serving starts at 5:15 pm. The meal will be macaroni & cheese with sausage, green beans, applesauce, and a dessert. Please make sure to sign up on the sheet outside the office. If you wish to help provide a dessert, sign up on the right side of the sheet.



Better Together

By: Dennis & Dianne Debelak

On **Monday, October 23**, we will be dining at **Christo's Family Dining, 2227 N. Michigan Street, Plymouth**. We will leave from our church parking lot at 5:15 pm and carpool to the restaurant for our 6:00 pm reservation. Christo's has a great menu and probably the best lemon soup around! Please plan to join us for our final meal together in 2023. We will resume our meals together in January 2024. The sign up sheet will again be posted on the bulletin board by the office. Please contact us if you have any questions at all.



- 04 Mel & Janet Lemler
- 05 Eric & Vivian LaVine
- 06 Dave & Linda Detwiler



World Communion Sunday

Sunday, October 1, you will find an offering envelope in your box for you to give to the Worldwide Communion Sunday Special Offering. This offering provides scholarships for U.S. racial- and ethnic-minority students and international students, on both undergraduate and graduate levels. Help these students to achieve their educational goals to transform communities around the world.

Upcoming Meetings

- Thrift Shop on Monday, October 2nd, at 9 am.
- All Church Conference at 6:30 pm on Monday, October 2nd.
- Sarah Circle will meet Wednesday, October 18th, from 4-5 pm
- Single Board Meeting on Thursday, October 19, 7 pm.
- Charge Conference at Trinity United Methodist Church in Elkhart, at 2 pm on Sunday, October 22nd.

