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# The Parish Voice

Nappanee United Methodist Church



September 2023

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## Blessed by Nate Steury's Visit

By: Dorothy Haney, Missions Chair



We were blessed again this year with Nate Steury's return visit to remind us again of the mission work the Kafakumba Training Center does in Zambia. We probably are most familiar with the Kafakumba Pastor's School that we contribute to in our mission budget. Back in the early 2000's, David Harrold took a group from our church on a mission trip to visit this mission. Our church worked with the Nappanee Rotary Club to provide well-drilling equipment that has dug many wells in Zambia. Nate reported that each well has bettered the lives of many people with the blessings of clean, safe, and available water.

Besides the water and wells ministry, Nate shared updates on the various missions of Kafakumba:

\*The Kafakumba Pastor's School trains pastors by providing opportunities for men and women to be educated to become pastors. After 8 years of training for 6 weeks each summer, they become ordained pastors in the United Methodist Church to serve churches in Zambia and other African countries. Many pastors bring their families, with Bible studies and activities provided for the wives and children.

\*The Kafakumba Christian School is now up to 7<sup>th</sup> grade. They have added a grade each year since beginning with K-3 a few years ago. There are also opportunities for us to sponsor a child in the school for

\$30 a month.

\*God's Kids is an after school program, helping students with their homework and teaching Bible lessons.

\*Kafakumba Clinic is excited that for the first time they have a full-time doctor, Dr Longo Wangala Farady. He has been a medical general practitioner for 18 years with experience in surgery, obstetric, gynecology, pediatric and internal medicine.

\*Kafakumba also serves as a conference and retreat center providing space like Epworth Forest in our area.

Nate even invited us to retire in Zambia at the Acacia Estates Retirement Center. Go to Nate Steury's Facebook page to see this beautiful building. Wouldn't that be a fun place to retire!

Remember to give to the Pastor's School which is a part of our mission budget. You can also donate to the Clinic or the School or the well-drilling mission. Just indicate this on your offering envelope. This ministry always seems to me to be an efficient and creative ministry whose true mission is to transform lives for Jesus Christ in Zambia.

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.

Our condolences to Harvey DeFrees and the rest of the family at the passing of Anita DeFrees on Tuesday, August 29th.



Dick & Marilyn Strakowski  
 Brookdale of Kenwood  
 9090 Montgomery Rd.  
 Cincinnati, OH 45242

Larry Haney  
 Waterford Crossing  
 Room 315



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



**Our Staff**

Senior Pastor:  
 pastor@nappaneeumc.com

Administrative Assistant/Parish Voice  
 Editor: Kathy Harding  
 kathy@nappaneeumc.com

Financial Secretary:  
 Dawn Argeese  
 dawn@nappaneeumc.com

Communication & Technology  
 Coordinator  
 Sandy MacGowan  
 sandy@nappaneeumc.com

Children/Family Ministry Coordinator:  
 Alison Stair  
 alisonbleavitt@gmail.com

Sanctuary Choir Director:  
 Steve Phillips  
 sphillipsnapa@gmail.com

Organist: Diana Smith  
 dsmith46550@gmail.com

Custodian: Kathy Goodman

**SCHOOL SUPPLY GIVEAWAY**

On August 11, our committee plus the helping hands of Roxy Elphick, Amy Berger, and Peggy Morlan, assembled 100 donated Nappanee Library plastic bags, and helped fill them with school supplies! On Saturday August 12, we distributed all 100 bags of supplies to families who gratefully accepted our assistance for their children. This outreach to our community could not have happened without your financial help and your purchasing of many of the items from the school lists that we asked for. We partnered again with Union Center Church of the Brethren who have also been invaluable in this event. Again, thank you all for your heartfelt support!!

Dianne Debelak  
 Sue Matthews  
 Ruth Young



## Helping Hawaii

By: *Pastor Mary Hubbard*



Seeing the heartbreaking devastation on Maui is hard. But we can do something about it. Lahaina United Methodist Church has been burnt to the ground – as have many other worshipping spaces and hundreds of businesses and homes.

Rather than donating to other reputable organizations, that often take as much as 80% of donations for administrative cost, you can donate through the church. UMCOR (United Methodist Commission on Relief) guarantees that 100% of donations go directly to where they are aimed – administrative costs are paid through our annual apportionments, given by every United Methodist Church.

UMCOR is one of the first groups “on the ground,” ready with immediate help. UMCOR is one of the last to leave a disaster, knowing that the repercussions last far beyond the initial trauma and loss.

**Want to help effectively? We can respond, quickly and effectively. Make out a check to Nappanee UM Church, mark Hawaii in the memo line, and we will gather it together and send out a check to UMCOR from the church.**

**This is a part of being there for others.**



## UMCOR Responds to Maui Disaster and More

By: *Dorothy Haney, Missions Chairperson*

Even as we continue to learn more about the wildfire disaster on Maui, we hear on the news of Hurricane Hilary beating on the coast of southern California. In fact, I heard on the news this morning (Aug. 21) that this latest event is the 15<sup>th</sup> major disaster in the United States already this year and FEMA is running out of money.

As Christians, our hearts ask how can we help? Our first thoughts should be to pray, and then to help by giving through UMCOR. We are often reminded that 100% of donations to UMCOR go directly to where they are aimed. Administrative costs are paid through our annual apportionments.

Now you have a choice to make. If you like, you can give to a specific disaster such as Hawaii, or give to the UMCOR US Disaster Fund. This way the funds are available for wherever they are needed most, even to smaller disasters that hardly make the news, but need help to recover.

Whatever you choose to do, make out a check to Nappanee UM Church, indicating on the memo line or on your offering envelope where you’d like it to go. Write ‘UMCOR Hawaii’ or ‘UMCOR US Disaster Fund.’ As Pastor Mary said, ‘This is a part of being there for others.’



## United Women in Faith Collect Items for Lucille Raines

What a great response to the Lucille Raines Residence collection on the table in the narthex already! But it’s not too late to donate. Pick up a suggested list of needed items to help this United Women in Faith (UMW) mission. This mission which is located in a former hotel in downtown Indianapolis offers a safe place for people to recover from their addictions and get a fresh start. These items will be used as incentives for the residents to help with upkeep and chores around the residence to instill a sense of belonging and purpose. Please bring these items by Sunday, September 10. Thanks for being such a generous and caring congregation!



- 01 Don Miller
- 03 Jim Hartzell
- 04 Jack Wysong
- 05 Adam Tobias
- 09 Steve Walters
- 11 Dave Stair
- 11 Krista Leavitt
- 13 Rocio Berger
- 14 Kim Matthews
- 14 Bob Neidigh
- 15 Kris Trachsel
- 18 Deb Sinclair
- 19 Zach Sipic
- 19 Ty Stankovich
- 20 Jennifer VanVoorst
- 22 Cybil Stillson
- 23 Tom Anglin
- 23 Betty Gwin
- 23 Cindi Umbaugh
- 24 Glen Hostetler
- 25 Margaret Garl
- 27 Macguire London



- 01 Glen & Sue Hostetler
- 04 Steve & Lee Ann Beehler
- 04 Phil & Pat Lehman
- 06 Tim & Jane Miller
- 13 Brian & Jenn VanVoorst
- 23 Tony & Erin Garl
- 26 Bill & Bev Fales



In-Person Worship

July 30	92
August 6	90
August 13	86
August 20	78
August 27	93

Sunday School Attendance

July 30	41
August 6	40
August 13	36
August 20	40
August 27	45



**Better Together**

*By: Dennis & Dianne Debelak*

Our next Better Together dinner will be held on **Tuesday, September 26, at 6:00 pm at John Wongs located at 835 Anchorage Road, Warsaw.** It is located behind and near the new Goodwill shop which is visible from US 30. It is well priced and very good Asian food. Please note that this is a Tuesday reservation as they are not open on Monday evenings. The sign up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board by the office. Contact us if you have any questions.



*First Day of Fall is  
September 23rd*



WOW



Our next WOW meal will start at 5:15 on September 13<sup>th</sup>. The menu includes: Lasagna, garlic bread, and Asian salad. As always, lemonade, coffee, and dessert will be available. We hope that you will continue to sign up on the bulletin board outside of the office. Please write your name and the total number of people in your party on the left side of the sign up. If you would like to help by bringing a dessert, please write your name under the right side column as well. Thanks for helping us. We always plan a few extra, but we don't want to over purchase quantities. We did have a few "visitors" last month. Continue to spread the news about the WOW meal every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month. Hope to see you there.

A FREE seminar for all Clergy and Laity of the North District.  
**CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS PROVIDED**

**SOUTH BEND CLAY UMC,  
FIREHOUSE CAMPUS**  
 17645 Cleveland Road  
 South Bend, 46635  
 9 AM-12 PM (ET)



**CHURCH OF THE  
FOUR SEASONS UMC**  
 9100 E 109th Avenue  
 Crown Point, 46307  
 2 PM-5 PM (CT)



with Rev. Dr. Marti Lundy

**PARTICIPANTS WILL**

- Learn about the one thing that John Wesley never did.
- Understand how our distinctive theology and structure positions us well for the future.
- Leave inspired and informed about who we are called to be and what connects us together!

**September 16, 2023**



## Financial Update

By: Jenni Wysong, Finance Chair



Imagine an airplane leaving from Los Angeles flying direct to Rome, Italy. The flight will take about 12 hours if the plane goes in a direct and straight line.

But, if the nose of the airplane is pointed just 1 degree off course to the

south, after 12 hours the plane will land somewhere in Tunisia, Africa! If there is a one degree difference to the north the plane might land in Slovenia or Austria!

A tiny difference in direction has a huge effect in outcome over a long distance.

As a church, we are making progress on the direction we want to go. Each degree of course correction makes an impact. In July, we experienced strong offerings and cost savings – it is exciting to be able to re-

port on a great month financially. We should celebrate, but not rest on our laurels. We have degrees to go to meet our goal of financial sustainability and I am honored to be along for the ride!

July Offerings \$25,351 – YTD offerings \$156,601 up \$10,551 or 7.22%

July Expenses \$18,256 – YTD expenses \$142,179 down \$4,389 or 3%

All Apportionments/Tithes were paid to the Conference in July.



## Nappanee Apple Festival September 14th-17th

Visit the  
**New Beginnings Class**  
 in Depot Plaza  
 at the Apple Festival

They will be Selling  
 Pork Burgers  
 Pork Chops  
 Ham Sandwiches  
 Brats  
 German Potato Salad  
 Corn-on-the-Cob

*The class is looking for additional volunteers from outside their class to help staff the booth during Apple Festival. If you could work a shift, please sign up on the bulletin board by the office.*

