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# The Parish Voice

Nappanee United Methodist Church



January 2024

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## A Restored Gift

*Phil Lehman, Chair Church Archives and History*



Thank you to the Leavitt family for rescuing and restoring the children's worship altar that has been placed in the south entry to our church. John Leavitt presented the restored children's worship altar to the congregation during the worship service on December 10, 2023. The altar was built by Russell Snider and given to the church in 1945

by the Snider family to honor their son and brother who had died in a fire at their home.

There is a plaque on the altar which reads: "To the glory of God and in loving memory of Charles Russell Snider. Presented by Russell Snider and family."

It was used in the children's department at the EUB Church. When our two churches united it found a home in the children's department here but eventually was placed in storage. The altar was discovered by the Leavitt family while they were cleaning and organizing the storage room. They recognized the importance of its history to the church and the faith it represented to the Snider family when their young child was tragically lost. The Leavitts were able to find a woodworking shop to replace the missing letters and restore it to its original condition. As John explained in his presentation, restoring the altar had an important meaning to the Leavitt family. Mrs. Russell Snider (Wilma) had been active in the care of Alison and Ben while the Leavitts attended choir practice and was an example how God's love can be shown to children and they felt her love.

Thank you to the Leavitt family.

-Phil and Pat Snider Lehman

## Better Together

*By: Dennis & Dianne Debelak*

Happy New Year everyone! Our first gathering for 2024 is upon us! On Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 12:00 Noon we will be lunching at Coppes Commons at the Nappanee Bakery. Your choice of a turkey or ham sandwich, cup of soup, prepared salad, a cookie and your choice of beverage. Cost is \$9 per person, payable to Dianne or Dennis Debelak by January 21<sup>st</sup>. Of course you are welcome to shop the shoppes after lunch that afternoon. The sign up sheet will be posted by the office door on the bulletin board.



Please wear your name tags in January to help our new interim pastors, Byron & Candy Kaiser, learn everyone's names.



Knowing Christ and Making Christ Known



639 items were donated to Open Door in 2023!



## Calling All UMW Ladies!

By: Sue Matthews, UMW President

After looking at our finances, we need to have a fund raiser. I am calling a **meeting for January 7<sup>th</sup>** immediately **following** the **church** service. It should be **very short**. We will vote on a motion to proceed with our Sub Sandwich fundraiser to be held February 11<sup>th</sup> from 11:00-12:00. A sign up sheet will be available for those to help on the 11<sup>th</sup> during the Sunday school hour, or members to “man” the ticket sales table on January 28<sup>th</sup> and/or February 4<sup>th</sup>.

Just a reminder that your conference asking (or as we used to call it UMW dues) of \$15 may be paid at that time. Our newly elected UMW secretary/treasurer, Dianne Debelak, will be collecting the conference asking beginning any time from January 1<sup>st</sup> on. Please don't forget this short, but very important vote on January 7<sup>th</sup>.



## The Heart of Faith

Christianity affirms that at the heart of reality is a Heart, a loving Father who works through history for the salvation of his children. Man cannot save himself, for man is not the measure of all things and humanity is not God. Bound by the chains of his own sin and finiteness, man needs a Savior.

—Martin Luther King Jr.



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.*



## Office Hours

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

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Custodian: Kathy Goodman



- 01 Betty Ferrell
- 05 Erin Garl
- 05 Beau Stankovich
- 08 Jan Neidigh
- 08 Jeff Stillson
- 09 Ben Leavitt
- 10 Jane Leavitt
- 12 Janice Cunningham
- 12 Eric LaVine
- 14 Mason London
- 22 Dana Parciak
- 30 Helen Nusbaum



<u>In-Person Worship</u>	
December 3	89
December 10	84
December 17	81
December 24	108
<u>Sunday School Attendance</u>	
December 3	40
December 10	42
December 17	29
December 24	32

### What Did Jesus Do?

By: Dorothy Haney

*Christianity can be confusing, but the way of Jesus was pretty clear.*

- Move toward the poor*
  - Empower the woman*
  - Create space at the table*
  - Throw parties*
  - Widen the family boundaries*
  - Poke holes in oppressive systems*
  - Don't retaliate with violence*
  - Forgive your enemy*
  - Don't store up wealth*
  - Be present with people*
  - Heal, announce, push back darkness--*
  - The kingdom of God is near.*
- by Dan Sadlier*



- 01 Harold & Cindi Umbaugh
- 21 Steve Phillips & Joanna Guckenberger
- 23 Andy & Jenni Wysong
- 26 Dick & Susie Pletcher



### Family Night

All NUMC kids and their families are invited to Family Night on Sunday, January 14th, from 5:30 to 8pm! We are hosting the event at the Boys and Girls Club in Nappanee! Join us for dinner, time in the gym, and lots of fun activities to kick off the 2024 year! Looking forward to seeing you there!

I saw this on FaceBook, and thought I would share it. Each of these is a way we reach out to others. Some of these we can do personally, some we do together, but each has a place in living like Jesus taught. Each one is a way of our showing love like Jesus did by the way we live each day. In some way, all of the designated missions in our mission budget address fulfilling this list. Giving to our church's mission budget throughout the New Year will show love the way Jesus did.

Missions had a good year. Thanks especially to the New Beginnings class through the Apple Festival profit, and the Thrift Shop that completed the underfunded missions. We also had accumulated undesigned money that enabled us to give each mission in our budget an extra \$250.

Let's show love in 2024 like Jesus did.

### WOW

The next WOW meal will be Wednesday, January 10th. Serving starts at 5:15 pm. The meal will be turkey, mashed potatoes and a dessert. Please make sure to sign up on the sheet outside the office.

