

D E C E M B E R 2 0 1 3

the

Wesley Messenger

Wesley United Methodist Church, Union City, Indiana

A note from the Trustees...



Christmas Eve Services

Tuesday, December 24

*7:00pm Family Service
with Praise Band*

*11:00pm Traditional Service
with Carols & Candles*

The Wesley Trustees would like to thank you for your generosity towards the steeple project. The Steeple Fundraiser is just about complete. Our goal was \$55,000 and we are just about there with a balance of \$10,147 yet to be raised. We appreciate your continued support of this project.

Recently, the Trustees have enhanced the church's security by installing new automatic (on at dusk, off at dawn) lights at several of the entrances. The current lights at the parking lot doors are set on a timer to turn on at dusk and off at 11:00pm.

Again, thanks for your support.

Steve Spence,
Trustee Chairperson





November Attendance

Date	Traditional Worship	Contemporary Worship	Total of Both Services
11-03-13	78	86	164
11-10-13	98	84	182
11-17-13	69	70	139
11-24-13	Combined	Service	157

November Finance

	Given this month	Given Year to Date	Budgeted Year to Date
Given towards Budget	\$16,011.27	\$170,359.02	\$185,138.41
Given for Youth	\$1,742.99	\$28,604.99	\$0
Given for Manna	\$400.00	\$6,427.91	\$0
Given for Steeple	\$610.00	\$35,153.00	\$0
Given for Altar Flowers	\$75.00	\$888.00	\$0
Youth money earned (inflatables)	\$150.00	\$8,478.00	\$0
Covenant Partners	\$50.00	\$1,035.00	\$0
Dylan Williams Foundation	\$200.00	\$400.00	\$0
UMCOR	\$1,200.00	\$2,103.00	\$0
Children's Mission Project	\$70.84	\$852.66	\$0
Real Hope for Haiti	\$190.00	\$830.00	\$0

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
~Isaiah 9:6



From the Keyboard of... District Superintendent Dave Byrum

Dear Wesley family and friends,

I first want to thank you for the very gracious reception you have given to me since I have come to walk with you through this Transition time between pastors. Thanks to the willing participation of so many, I learned a lot from our Congregational meeting last Sunday, and look forward to a bright future for Wesley UMC. Following is some information for the near-term:

First, with your Staff-Parish Committee I have made arrangements for the Rev. Eric Swenson, Pastor of Evangelical UMC in Ohio to provide pastoral care for you during the Transition. Eric is a fine young pastor who is in the Ordination Process in the West Ohio Annual Conference. He is already licensed to perform ministerial duties in the UMC. Eric will be on-call for pastoral emergencies; he will visit in the hospital and nursing homes; he will visit shut-ins in their homes; and he will conduct funerals and weddings. After the first of the year he is also open to teaching a Bible Study. **Eric's contact information is here: Church phone: 937.968.4301, Home phone: 937.968.3137. If you have a pastoral emergency you may call him directly or call Gina Spence who will be able to relay your message and need.**

Second, following is the worship schedule for Advent and Christmas:

Dec. 1, First Sunday of Advent: Worship Theme: "Hope". Pastor Curtis Banker, Associate Pastor at Richmond Central UMC will be preaching.

Then, for the next three Sundays plus Christmas Eve I'll lead us through a series of weekly reflections on how God interrupts, surprises, and invites us to live in a new way we never expected.

Dec. 8, Advent II, *God intrudes on our Despair* The promise of Christmas is that your life isn't fixed into a pre-determined rut; things can change for the better.

Dec. 15, Advent III, *God Intrudes on our "Way"* God's intrusion always calls for a life-change of some kind.

Dec. 22, Advent IV, *God Intrudes on our Plans* God's intrusion always seems to mess up our life ... for the better!

Dec. 24, Christmas Eve ... Two Services

7:00 pm – Plans are in formation, to be announced

11:00pm – Lessons and Carols with candle lighting.

Theme: *A Baby Changes Everything*

December 29 – *Now What?* Rev. Jerry Gillespie, Executive Pastor, Selma UMC will be preaching.

Jan. 5 – Epiphany Sunday, Pastor Byrum preaching.

I'm looking forward to a meaningful Advent/Christmas season. As many of you know, Advent is a time to slow down and wait – to make and take time for reflection, self-examination, repentance, and receiving the Christ-Child afresh. This is my prayer for all of us as we invite God's Intrusive Love to work within us.

Blessings to you all,
Dave Byrum, District Superintendent



December Servers

- *Traditional Greeters*

Harry & Diane Prescott;
Colleen Butch; Peggy Griffin

- *Traditional Ushers*

John Butch; Ray Griffin;
Ralph Threewits;
Ron Greenhoff

- *Children's Sunday School*

Dec 1: Angie Cross
Dec 8: Darla Orians
Dec 15: Scott Rush
Dec 22: Kathy Moore
Dec 29: Angie Cross

- *Altar Flowers*

Dec 1: Jim & Nancy Dick
Dec 8: Kurt & Sherry Prescott
Dec 15: Poinsettias
Dec 22: Poinsettias
Dec 29: Brad & Sarah Jefferis

- *Contemporary Greeters*

Dec 1: Websters/Knoxes
Dec 8: Knoxes/Orians'
Dec 15: Orians'/Hardwicks
Dec 22: Hardwicks/Holts
Dec 29: Holts/Websters

- *Children's Worship*

Dec 1: Donna Webster
Dec 8: Alyssa Kerns
Dec 15: Joyce Husmann
Dec 22: Kathy Moore
Dec 29: Danielle Downey

- *Donut Fellowship*

Dec 1: Jefferis Family
Dec 8: Kurt & Sherry Prescott
Dec 15: Debbie Kemp
Dec 22: Chad & Gina Spence
Dec 29: Available



Wesley KIDS



On November 10th the Children's Sunday School class met at the Assisted Living to decorate the tables and visit with the residents. The children had saved their offering and decided to use it to decorate the tables at the Assisted

Living to show the residents how much Jesus loves them.

They voted and decided on a Jesus Loves You/Rainbow theme. We purchased rainbow colored tablecloths and gift bags filled with cross necklaces, "Jesus Loves You" bracelets, and crafts the children made to set at each place setting. They also gave each resident a small teddy bear that said "Jesus Loves You. The children enjoyed making the residents smile and the residents really enjoyed seeing the children. It was good for the children to see the fruits of their labor.

The children's current offering project, "The Union City K-9" is well underway! The children have been working hard to reach, and exceed, their goal of \$250. A dear friend of mine, and former resident of Union City, Angie Stover Aulis has committed to donating \$1 for ever \$1 that the children raise up to

\$250! This project is very dear to her because, as I mentioned, she is a former resident and graduate of Union City, she is a detective in California, and her husband is the head of the K-9 unit in her area as well. I have also had two friends, and former residents of Union City, Leslie Wogoman Evans and LeAnn Cook Lindemann send donations for the children towards their goal. Thank you to anyone and everyone who has helped the children make a difference. Officer Cobie Wells has offered to bring Dino, the current K-9, and speak to the children on behalf of the UCPD.



The kids are learning that if we all work together we can make great things happen!

The Sunday School Kids will perform a few Christmas Carols during the 7pm Christmas Eve Service.





December Celebrations

	<i>Anniversaries</i>
3	Terry & Junellen Bradburn
5	Tim & Tonya Puccini
11	Gary & Sandy Miller
12	Chad & Gina Spence
23	Allen & Katie Kerns
27	Pastor Don & Sharmin Brenneman
27	Jim & Nancy Dick

	<i>Birthdays</i>
1	Tim Adelsperger; Kelly Baron; Grace Jefferis
2	Judy Smith
3	Brad Jefferis
7	Sharon Hoggatt; Bryant Mote
8	Francis Hoggatt
10	Kim Archey
11	Tyler Lacy
13	Bradlee Schaupp; Georgiana Williams
14	August Vaughn
15	Brandon Mendenhall
16	Allen Kerns
17	Scott Bissell
18	Braydon Hoggatt
19	Geoff Grow; Agnes Tipple "97"
23	Kelly Carter
28	Jim Davis

Wesley Youth are M.A.D.

(Making a Difference)

Upcoming Schedule

December 6- HvZ Youth Group Challenge Overnighter @ Wesley (Bring your Nerf guns!)

December 20-Cookie Baking

January 1-Must have \$500 paid towards your Mission Trip Cruise

January 10/11 -N1AKord

January 31/February 1-Dare2Share

March 21/22-Elevate

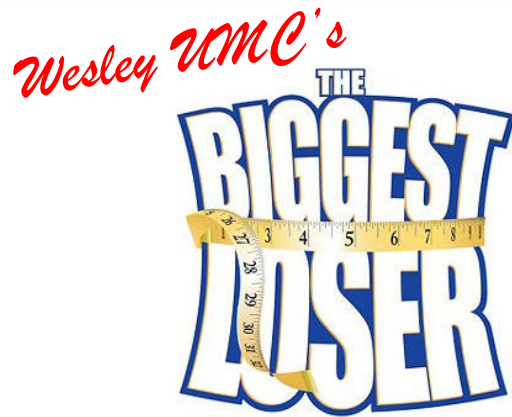
Trinity Lutheran Church,
West State Road 28, Union City

Invites you to join them for their
“Blue Christmas” Service on
December 19 at 7pm

A time of remembrance as the long
nights of winter approach. Life’s
journey may find the holidays a
difficult time to celebrate, but join us
for a service of candle lighting,
scripture, prayer, meditation and
inspirational music/videos.

You may bring a picture (5x7 or
smaller) or a small memento to use
during the service.

Light refreshments to follow



Starting in January, we'd like to start a Biggest Loser small group. First, we need to know if there is enough interest to start the group. The group would operate on Wednesdays. We would split into two teams and compete against one another on percentage of weight lost during that week. **The weight loss is up to you whether you diet, exercise, or both.** It will cost \$20 to join the group and \$5 every week you gain 1 pound or more. After the eight weeks the winning team will be treated to a nice dinner out. The only stipulation is that you **must** weigh-in every Wednesday whether it's in the morning during office hours or evening during Wesley small groups. If you have any questions or you think you're interested call or email me.

Gina 964-4792 / spence1976@yahoo.com



Thank you, Wesley Friends!

The Wesley Community Thanksgiving Dinner was a tremendous success and we couldn't have pulled it off without you! A big thank you for your willingness to serve, cook and bake! We filled over 225 tummies with turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, macaroni & cheese, green beans and any dessert imaginable! During the worship service we had many people give their lives to Christ. It was a beautiful thing!



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Wesley UMC
515 W Oak St.
Union City IN 47390

