

MUSTARD SEED

A Publication of Porter United Methodist Church

Greetings Porter UMC Family!

Are you a disciple of Christ? Many of us say that we are, but do our actions backup the words we say? Each one of us is called to be a Disciple of Christ. What a calling each one of us has been given!!

We have started a six-week series called “*A Disciple’s Path*”. We are learning what it means to be a disciple and how we can be a disciple in our everyday lives. A disciple is defined, by our book study, as a “follower of Jesus whose life is centering on loving God and loving others.” For the next several weeks, the study will give us an understanding of our growth in God’s love and grace with time-tested practices of spiritual discipline with our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. Discipleship is a lifelong journey, not something we achieve and then check it off on our to-do list. It is an active role we have to choose to take. It is not too late to join the study! The study meets on Sundays at 9 a.m. in the sanctuary and Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. Workbooks are available for the study.

In my personal devotional life, I have been studying Deuteronomy, which is a book full of choices about life or death, blessing or curse. Our choices we make have consequences. Choices are not always easy to make, but if we have made the choice to be a disciple of Christ, then our choices should reflect to others that we love God and love others. A question I have been asking myself is “do my words and actions show that I’m a disciple?” How would you answer that question? In Deuteronomy, when Joshua takes over as leader of Israel for Moses, Moses said to him, “*Be strong and courageous!*” “*Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord will personally go ahead of you. He will be with you; He will never fail you nor abandon you.*” I want us to know and believe that God is with us always (no matter what choices we have made).

As I was visiting with Les and sharing the celebrations we have had at Porter UMC over the past few months, God showed me that He is alive and active through our church family. Over the past couple of months a trustee committee was brought together to care for the resources God has given us; we have baptized a new child into God’s family; brought 2 new members into our church family; were blessed with the musical gifts of Rusty Nail Crossing; and, a new chair-lift was installed (thank you to those who started this process and those that saw it through to completion). God is alive and active and calls each of us to be a disciple of Jesus. If you have breath, then there is work that needs to be done.

Our world is hurting and in need of transformation. Our mission is to “make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.” Our beautiful, God-created world needs many disciples to transform it, are you a disciple of Christ?

Let us be united and lead with love in every word we say or action we do!!

Lifting you up in prayer,



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Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.



Sermons in October:

Sunday, October 6th
We Give Because Jesus Gave
1 Timothy 6:17 - 18

Sunday, October 13th
Called, Gifted, and Needed
1 Peter 2:4 - 10

Sunday, October 20th
You Are Invited!
John 1:35 - 49

New Series: Stewardship
(a 4-week sermon series)

Sunday, October 27th

MISSION STATEMENT: “Nourishing Souls with Loving Hearts and Caring Hands.”



Church Leadership

Looking forward into 2020, Porter United Methodist Church is in need of individuals to serve in our church. Leadership is an extension of discipleship. It calls for Christians who are committed to increasing their leadership skills and deepening their spiritual practices.

Listed below are the leadership team for 2020 and the opportunities available for leadership. Please look them over and prayerfully consider where God calling you to serve. 1 Corinthians 12:27 tells us, *“You are the body of Christ. Each one of you is a part of it.”*

Please let Pastor Liz know if you have any questions or if you are not sure where God is calling you to serve.

Church Staff

Pastor
Administrative Assistant
Organists

Liz Lahaie
Kim Allmon
Anna Kalbe/Joyce Craig

Leadership Council

Council Chair
Council Secretary
Lay Leader
Pastor Parish Relations Chair
Treasurer
Financial Secretary
Trustee Chair
Worship Chair
Sunday School Superintendent
Missions Chair
Family Life Ministries Chair

Marcia Wood
Judy Reales
Scott Allmon
Chet Micinski
OPEN
Karla Allmon
Jim Green
OPEN
Marcia Wood
Judy Reales
OPEN

Missions

In the Spotlight

Westchester Neighbors Food Pantry

We will soon be entering the month of October and collecting **taco kits and/or taco seasoning packets** for the Westchester Neighbors Food Pantry. Your generosity is greatly appreciated as you show your support to this vital outreach within our community.

There will be 3 distribution dates for October:

- Tuesday, October 1st**
- Tuesday, October 15th**
- Tuesday, October 29th**

If you would also like to become part of this outreach and are available to take the items collected from the church to the pantry, please contact Kim in the office. Thanks!

NEW Quarterly Mission Offering: Frontline Bibles

During the last quarter of 2019, the entire church (children’s collection included) will focus on donations to purchase *Life Recovery Bibles* for Frontline Foundations, Inc. Frontline serves as a source of hope to young men and women suffering from drug and alcohol abuse while also providing an effective treatment and recovery support system.

The *Life Recovery Bible* is based on the 12-step recovery model. All money collected will go towards purchasing these Bibles that Frontline uses during their addiction treatment classes and, ultimately, gives to each participant at the completion of their course.



A BIG THANK YOU to those who gave from the heart in support of last quarter's mission outreach for *Christmas with the Cops* (formerly known as Shop With a Cop).

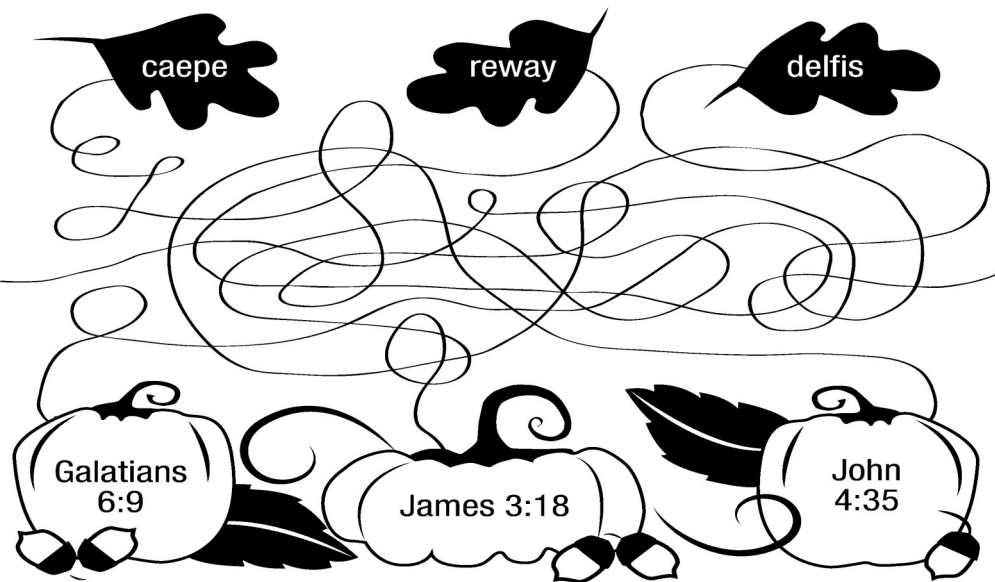
The final total will be given in next month's newsletter. The money collected will go to support the program of area police officers taking children in need Christmas shopping for themselves and their families. We truly thank you for showing your generosity toward these special offerings and look forward to an even better 2020!

The children will be joining the adults during the last quarter in collecting for Life Recovery Bibles for Frontline.



Harvest hunt

Directions: After unscrambling each leaf's word, follow the vine to complete the Bible verse.



Peacemakers who sow in _____ reap a harvest of righteousness. James 3:18, NIV

Let us not become _____ in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Galatians 6:9, NIV

I tell you, open your eyes and look at the _____!
They are ripe for harvest. John 4:35, NIV

Answer: peace, weary, fields

HARVEST

Trail Mix

This portable snack combines favorite fall flavors.



What you need:

- 1/4 cup maple syrup
- 1 tsp. pumpkin pie spice
- 1/8 tsp. salt
- 2/3 cup pecan pieces
- 1/3 cup roasted pumpkin seeds
- 1/3 cup almonds
- 1/4 cup raisins
- 2/3 cup dried fruit (any)

What you do:

1. Microwave syrup, spices, seeds and nuts for 30 seconds at a time, stirring frequently, until mixture thickens.
2. Spread the mixture on a baking sheet lined with wax paper. Let cool and harden.
3. Break the candied nuts into chunks. Combine with dried fruit.
4. Store in airtight container.

The church will be having a special fundraising day at the Portage Texas Roadhouse on **Sunday, October 20th from 11 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.** Porter UMC will be getting 10% of all proceeds back when you present this special flyer. We would like to get as many flyers distributed since we cannot pass them out at the restaurant. Extras will be available for you to pick up on Sundays and in the church office. This is an easy way to support your church!



Mark your calendars!!! Sunday, October 20th is Laity Sunday! On Laity Sunday, we celebrate that we are all called, laity as well as clergy, to go and make disciples in a world so desperately in need of hope through our humble service. Jesus modeled the process for us in Mark 10:45, *“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”*

Laity is a word to describe individuals that are not pastors, elders, or deacons, in other words, not clergy. Pastor Liz is asking for any individuals that would be interested in having a part in worship to contact her by Sunday, October 13th.



A Disciple’s Path
Remaining Study Topics

October 6th/October 10th:
“Gifts: Financial Generosity”

October 13th/October 17th:
“Service: Spiritual Gifts and Gift-based Service”

October 20th/October 24th:
“Witness: Invitational Evangelism”



TEXAS ROADHOUSE Fundraising

Come in on Sunday October 20th 11am-9:30pm
To support
Porter United Methodist Church
10% Donation Night

Support this cause by presenting this invitation to the listed Texas Roadhouse® location and Texas Roadhouse® will donate 10% of your total food purchases to the fundraiser!

No specials, discounts or coupons will be accepted during the scheduled fundraiser time. All flyers are to be distributed prior to the event and under no circumstances are flyers to be handed out in the restaurant, parking lot or general vicinity of Texas Roadhouse.



Call AHEAD SEATING **219-762-5900**
6130 E US Hwy 6 Portage, IN 46368

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
			8 p.m. AA Meeting	6:30 p.m. <i>A Disciple's Path</i>		7 p.m. Models Club
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. 			8 p.m. AA Meeting	6:30 p.m. <i>A Disciple's Path</i>		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m.		<i>1 p.m.</i> <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	8 p.m. AA Meeting	6:30 p.m. <i>A Disciple's Path</i>		3 p.m. Models Club
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship <i>Laity Sunday</i> 10:15 a.m. 11 a.m. - 9:30 pm PUMC Fundraiser			8 p.m. AA Meeting	6:30 p.m. <i>A Disciple's Path</i>		
27	28	29	30	31	 	
Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m.			8 p.m. AA Meeting			



October
BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Robert Furdo
- 2 Jerry Ward
- 4 Radine Kretlow
- 7 Anna Kalbe
Shelley Hale
Deb Bowen
- 17 Hannah Green
- 24 Jim Frieske
- 29 Donna Hall
- 31 Autumn Hack



October
ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Jerry & Betty Ward
- 22 Chuck & Sandy Allmon
- 23 Chet & Roxanne Micinski
- 27 Craig & Betsy Poparad



Getting ready for World Communion Sunday, October 6, 2019

Ofelia Duldalao, from the Philippines, considers herself a scholar of the church and society, thanks to funds received through the United Methodist World Communion Sunday special offering to help her complete graduate school.

World Communion Sunday began in 1936 as a way to recognize the church's oneness in Christ and to bring Christians together in a spirit of unity and peace. In The United Methodist Church, congregations throughout the denomination will also receive a Special Sunday offering that helps students from around the world reach their full potential through scholarships and mentoring.

For example, the scholarship helped Annie Solis Escalante, who is from Peru, complete a master's degree in social management. After graduation, she put her education to use by developing projects with the Health and Healing Program of the World Council of Churches in Geneva.

As we prepare for World Communion Sunday this year, I pray we will allow the Holy Spirit to open our hearts to the global nature of the church. Please be in prayer with the scholars who are recipients of the education made possible through this special offering.

As we come together to receive Holy Communion along with Christians around the world, we recognize our unity and shared commitment to building God's kingdom on earth. Together, we help raise up new leaders around the world, equipping them to be agents of change. Please give generously on Oct. 6th.



*Porter United Methodist Church
100 E. Beam Street
Porter, IN 46304*

**Porter United Methodist
Church**

Liz Lahaie, Pastor

Pastor's Hours:

Available by appointment

Church Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

(219) 926-1586

VISION STATEMENT

As the community of Christ, which is one in Jesus Christ, we will nurture and care for one another, spread God's word and love throughout the community thereby fulfilling our mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ.