

MUSTARD SEED

A Publication of Porter United Methodist Church

Greetings Porter UMC Family!

As I sit writing this note, while attending the Indiana United Methodist Annual Conference I am reminded of the “U” word....UNITED!! As approximately 1,800 clergy and laity come together to remember Ephesians 4:5, “one Lord, one faith, one baptism”. What an inspiring sound, hearing during worship many voices being lifted up in one song, for example, He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands. Are you singing it too? There is one Lord that loves each one of us unconditionally!! How blessed are we....to be loved by a God that knows everything about us and loves us anyway! Thank you, Gracious Father!!

We are one! “So in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others” Romans 12:5. In May 2020, the United Methodist General Conference will convene and United Methodists from around the world will come together as one body of the church to discuss topics such as human sexuality and other topics facing our denomination. Our Indiana Conference delegates were chosen: 16 clergy and 16 laity delegates. As well as, three clergy and three laity as alternate delegates.

This got me thinking about our congregation of Porter UMC. Would you say that we are a united community of believers? Do we come together to help out our church family and also those in the community? We are united in the mission, “to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world”, but what is our vision, our purpose to fulfill that mission?

Let’s think about our purpose. Where do you see Porter UMC in 3 years? 5 years? I know that God has a plan and purpose for Porter UMC. Our community needs us. There are many neighbors that do not know the life-changing power that God can provide by knowing Jesus. This is what we are called to do: go and share the good news through words and actions. What would it look like for Porter UMC to be a place that children could come once-a-week to get homework help, hear a Bible story, enjoy a snack, and even talk with someone about struggles/challenges they face? I do not know if that is where we are being called; it is just a thought. What thoughts do you have about the purpose of our church? Please share them with each other and especially with me. My door, or phone, or email is ready and waiting to hear from you!!

Our church needs each and every one of us....where and how will you be a part of our church family? Let us be one and lead with love in every word we say or action we do!!

Lifting you up in prayer,



Pastor Liz Lahaie



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Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

Sermons in July:

Sunday, July 7th
The Inheritance of Trust
Luke 10:1 - 11, 16 - 20

Sunday, July 14th
How to Be a Neighbor
Luke 10:25 - 37

Sunday, July 21st
Loving by Listening
Luke 10:38 - 42

Sunday, July 28th
Letting God Love You
Luke 11:1 - 13

Sermons in August:

Sunday, August 4th
The Love Never Stops Here
Luke 12:13 - 21

New Sermon Series -
Joy: The Flip Side of Justice

Sunday, August 11th
Luke 12:32 - 40

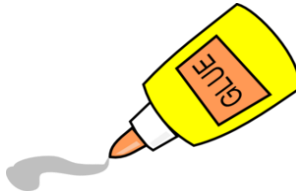
Sunday, August 18th
Luke 12:49 - 56

Sunday, August 25th
Luke 13:10 - 17

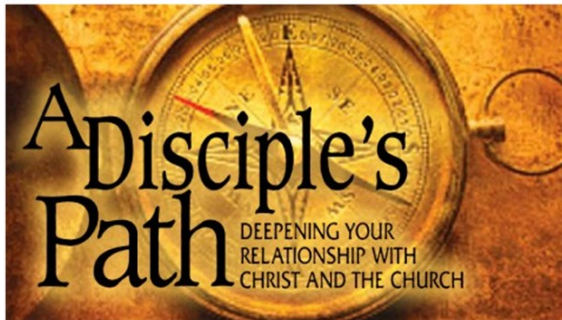
MISSION STATEMENT: “Nourishing Souls with Loving Hearts and Caring Hands.”

Once again, we will be supporting a mission outreach to Yost kids through the collection of school supplies. Even though school has only been out for about a month, back to school sales will begin to pop up - not to mention all the stuff available at dollar stores - and we want to get a jump on collecting these items for kids in need. Thanks!

SCHOOL SUPPLIES



- #2 pencils
- Pencil sharpeners
- "Pink Pearl" erasers
- Glue sticks or bottles
- 16 or 24 count crayons
- Fiskar scissors (rounded & pointed)
- Wide-rule spiral notebooks - 1 subject
- Large boxes of Kleenex tissues
- Ziploc bags (all sizes: snack, sandwich, quart, gallon)
- Hand sanitizer
- 5 x 8 plastic storage containers
- Backpack (no wheels)
- Clean Socks (for dry erase board)



Are you wanting to transform the world? Our community? What does it mean to be a disciple?

A Disciple's Path is an engaging approach to discipleship from a distinctly Wesleyan perspective. The program guides individuals to take the next step in discipleship and become dynamic, engaged followers of Jesus Christ.

The study combines a Wesleyan understanding of our growth in God's love and grace with the time-tested practices of spiritual discipline expressed in the membership vows to uphold the church with our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. Participants will develop spiritual practices, discover their unique gifts, and become engaged in ministry that brings transformation in their own lives, the lives of others, and the world.

This 6 week book study will be coming in September!

Missions In the Spotlight

Westchester Neighbors Food Pantry

Thank you so much for continuing to support the Westchester Neighbors Food Pantry with donations of food items collected each Sunday. Throughout the month of June, we collected boxes of dry potato mixes. **During July, we will be collecting boxes of cold cereal and for the month of August, Dawn has asked us to bring in donations of toilet paper - any size package is fine.**

Distribution dates for July will be on Tuesday, July 9th and Tuesday, June 23rd. August's dates will be Tuesday, August 6th and Tuesday, August 20th.

Also, we are in need of someone who can deliver food to the pantry on the morning of food distribution. If you are available to take the items collected from the church, please let our Missions Chair, Judy Reales, know. You can also contact Kim in the office. Thanks!



Anna Kalbe & Carol McClure have been busily cleaning out kitchen drawers and are getting rid of too many duplicate kitchen utensils.

They will be in a box for you to look through and take what you want for only 2 weeks before the remainder goes to the Duneland Resale Shop.

The 2019 Indiana Annual Conference Summary

A total of 1,743 people attended the 2019 Indiana Annual Conference held June 12th -15th in Indianapolis, with the theme, *“From Water to Witness,”* with Ephesians 4:4-5 as the primary text for the week: *“There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism.”* (NIV)

The Annual Conference kicked off with a Praise and Celebration service led by Greg Krempel, Director of Worship Arts at Covenant UMC, Fort Wayne. The keynote speaker for the evening was Pastor Rudy Rasmus from St. John’s UMC in Houston, Texas, who blessed the Conference with his keynote address *“Just Cross the Doggone Street!”* based on the parable of the Good Samaritan.

During the opening worship an offering totaling \$7,671.40 was received that will be used for organizations and ministries fighting the opioid crisis in Indiana, including *A Better Life – Brianna’s Hope* (ABL-BH) and *Lucille Raines Residence*. Members of the Annual Conference also donated 1,100 blankets that are given to ABL-BH participants at their first meeting as a powerful reminder that God and the community are always available for them. To close the day Wednesday, Bishop Julius C. Trimble led the Conference in Holy Communion.

Thursday morning began with a Retiree Celebration where retirees and spouses processed into the Indianapolis Convention Center to upbeat renditions of *“Hail Jesus, You’re My King”* and *“Endless Praise”* as they greeted Bishop Julius C. Trimble and First Lady Racelder Grandberry-Trimble. They carried vessels of water they poured into a central baptismal, which would be used during the Celebration of Ministry service. A total of 69 retirees were honored for their nearly 900 years of service to the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church.

The Council on Finance and Administration illustrated what happens when we give using the visual of 100 pennies . Of the 100 pennies, 88 of those pennies go back to our local churches. The remaining 12 pennies break down to support the remaining efforts of our church: 2¢ supports ministry within our 10 districts, 4¢ supports the work of our General Church, what is often referred to as Apportionments and the final 6¢ supports our Annual Conference core ministries and administrative oversight.

Cathy Burris, President of United Methodist Women of Indiana, reported that the organization is celebrating 150 years in mission. A video was shared about their history and impact over the years.

The Trustees reported that in 2018 10 churches closed or abandoned church properties with \$361,350 disbursed from sales going toward new District & Ministry initiatives and for local church ministries.

Thursday evening concluded with a Celebration of Ministry Service led by Bishop Trimble. During the service, 4 children were baptized, 9 persons were commissioned into ministry, 13 persons were ordained into the Order of Elder, and 3 persons were ordained into the Order of Deacon. In his sermon *“Go, Wash in the Pool of Siloam,”* Bishop Trimble encouraged those being commissioned and ordained that they would “do well to take the example of Leslie Bledsoe to wake up every morning and say, ‘What is my assignment today?’ She doesn’t tell God about the size of her mountain. She speaks to her mountain about the size of her God.” During the recessional, those ordained dipped cups into the baptismal font and carried out water that was placed there earlier in the day by retirees.

During the Friday session, Bishop Trimble began his address *“From Water to Witness – I Dare You to Believe”* with a video portraying the value of every person. “There’s nothing you can do—or anyone else can do—to change your sacred worth in Jesus Christ. That has always been settled!” he said. Bishop prompted the Conference to read Acts 8:26-40 in unison. He followed up with, “If you preach or worship in a small town, the Bible says we need to proclaim the Gospel in every little town...big town...all towns!”

The evening was highlighted by the Celebration of Life Service, led by Rev. Karen Koelsch, Senior Pastor of Covenant UMC, Fort Wayne, who shared her message, *“The Jesus Road.”* She shared how, when lost on the backroads of Indiana, she would look for water towers to help her find her way. “Who do you remember that have been water towers for you? Who have been the people that pointed you to Christ, especially in those moments when you’ve been lost?”

Loved ones stood as the names of 56 deceased clergy and spouses were read and honored for their lives and legacies. Bishop Trimble led members in the partaking of Holy Communion. The bread and cup sat on a white cloth that family and friends signed with words of remembrance. It served as a reminder that we are connected forever to loved ones, though they may have passed on to heaven. “As you receive the body and blood of Christ, be reminded that those who have gone before us cheer us on and are interceding on our behalf,” Bishop Trimble said.

It was decided that the 2020 Indiana Annual Conference will be held June 11th-13th, at Indiana Wesleyan University in Marion, Indiana.



NEW Children's Quarterly Offering!

Christmas with the Cops

Our new quarterly children's mission outreach will be for *Christmas with the Cops* (formerly known as Shop With a Cop). Our goal is to raise the funds early enough so that we will be able to present them with a check *before* the busy holiday season begins. We truly thank you for showing your generosity toward these special offerings.

Because of your generosity, we were able to collect almost \$400 for *TrueNorth Training Stables* for last quarter's special offering. This organization provides a safe environment where at-risk youth and their families come for training in life skills and spiritual awareness using horses.



Thanks so much to each and every one of you that helped make *BigHeart Farms VBS* such a wonderful success! On average, we had 16 children that learned about the Fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-23. Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self-control were all learned by sharing meals, Bible Stories, Science experiments, music and building a fruit stand!

We could not have done any of this without the help and love of our beautiful church family which included:

Co-Directors: **Rancie Lucas & Roxanne Micinski**

Science Station: **Tony & Judy Reales**

Storytelling Station: **Pastor Liz & Kara Lahaie**

Fruit Stand Station: **Chet Micinski**

Kitchen Team: **Carol McClure (chair), Lydienne (Carol's granddaughter), Anna Kalbe, Sandy Allmon, Jeanine Thomas, & Debbie Bowen**

Team Leaders: **Karla Allmon, Charlotte Fike, Marcia Wood, & Linda Green**

Junior Helpers: **Tucker Adams, Kyle Fischer, & Haley Thatcher**

Photographers: **Jim & Linda Green**

PowerPoint: **Haley Thatcher**

Floater: **Jerry & Betty Ward**

Desserts: **Rhonda Miller**

Thanks again, We love you all!

Rancie and Roxanne

PATRIOTIC PINWHEEL

Create this colorful July 4th craft.

What you need:

- Decorated card stock square (5" x 5")
- Scissors
- Hole punch
- 2 one-inch circles of card stock
- Glue
- Pipe cleaner (3 inches)
- Drinking straw

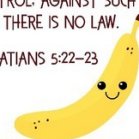


What you do:

1. Fold the square corner to corner to form an X. Unfold.
2. To make spokes, cut the four creases until an inch from the center.
3. Punch a hole in the middle of the square, near the tips of each spoke, and in the middle of each circle.
4. Fold each spoke toward the center, lining up the holes. Glue in place.
5. Wrap one end of the pipe cleaner around the top of the straw. Thread a circle, the pinwheel, and the remaining circle onto the pipe cleaner.
6. Roll the pipe cleaner end into a ball. Then spin!

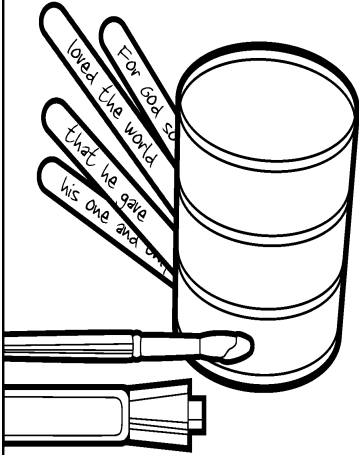
BUT THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS LOVE, JOY, PEACE, PATIENCE, KINDNESS, GOODNESS, FAITHFULNESS, GENTLENESS, SELF-CONTROL. AGAINST SUCH THINGS THERE IS NO LAW.

GALATIANS 5:22-23



WAKE-UP WORDS

Play this memory game to start each day in God's Word.

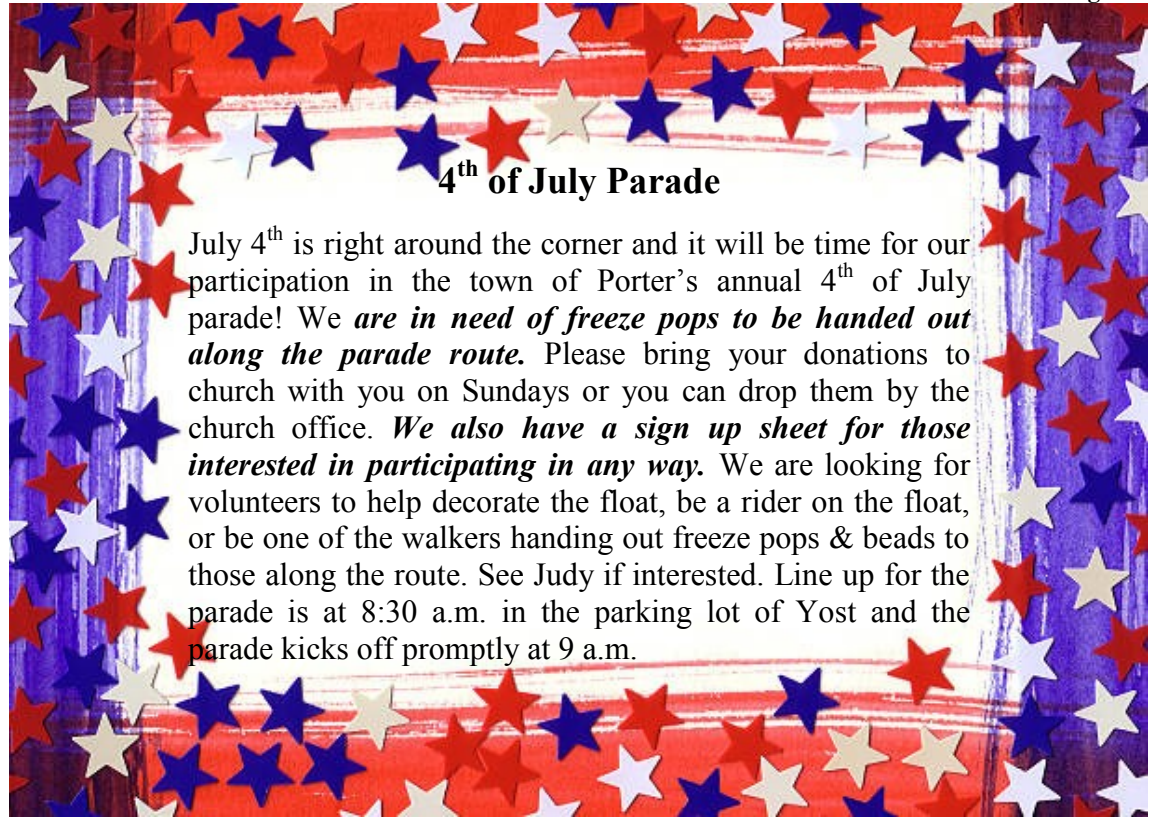


What you need:

- Paint and paint brushes
- Stickers
- An empty, clean tin can
- Permanent marker
- Bible
- Wooden craft sticks

What you do:

1. Paint and decorate the outside of the can.
2. With marker, write a Bible verse on several sticks (only two or three words per stick).
3. Put the sticks in the can, and set it in a spot you'll see daily. As you eat or brush your teeth, practice unscrambling the verse and placing sticks in the correct order.
4. When you've memorized the verse, repeat with a new one.



4th of July Parade

July 4th is right around the corner and it will be time for our participation in the town of Porter's annual 4th of July parade! We **are in need of freeze pops to be handed out along the parade route.** Please bring your donations to church with you on Sundays or you can drop them by the church office. **We also have a sign up sheet for those interested in participating in any way.** We are looking for volunteers to help decorate the float, be a rider on the float, or be one of the walkers handing out freeze pops & beads to those along the route. See Judy if interested. Line up for the parade is at 8:30 a.m. in the parking lot of Yost and the parade kicks off promptly at 9 a.m.

trustees
Managing the
Property,
Equipment, and
Investments
God Has Entrusted
to Our Ministry


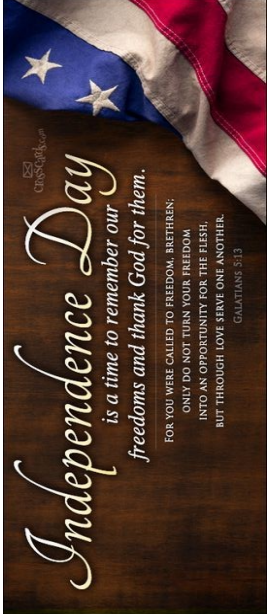
Serve the Lord with gladness
-Psalms 100:2

We are looking for people to serve as Trustees!

We have two mission fields: inside our church and outside the church walls. Our first mission field: taking care of each other and our taking care of our church building. This is where we can start! A team is needed to address concerns about our precious building and then come up with a plan to keep things running well.

This team is **NOT** expected to **DO** the work! Just be part of a group that wants to function as Christian stewards of the property God has entrusted to the congregation. This includes supervising and maintaining both the physical property of the congregation and gifts made to the congregation so that the ministries of the congregation can be effective and all legal requirements related to the property are satisfied.

If you would be interested in serving your church in this capacity, please see Pastor Liz or Chet Micinski. Thank you!

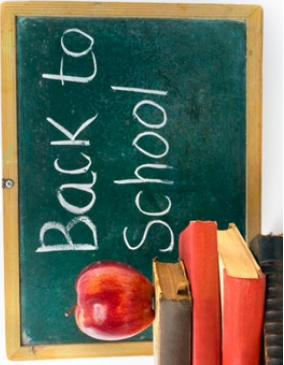

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3 6:30 p.m. Ad Council Meeting 8 p.m. AA Meeting	4  Office Closed 9 a.m. 4 th of July Parade	5	6 7 p.m. Models Club
7 Worship 9:30 a.m.	8	9	10 8 p.m. AA Meeting	11	12	13
14 Worship 9:30 a.m.	15	16	17 8 p.m. AA Meeting	18	19	20 3 p.m. Models Club
21 Worship 9:30 a.m.	22	23	24 8 p.m. AA Meeting	25	26	27
28 Worship 9:30 a.m.	29	30	31 8 p.m. AA Meeting			

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Ayden Edwards
- 3 Miranda Kalbe
- 6 Scott Allmon
- 6 Tony Reales
- 9 Logan Adams
- 9 Joshua Copollo
- 10 Owen Green
- 11 Russell Burton
- 14 Darlene Peterson
- 15 Jeanine Thomas
- 17 Rhonda Miller
- 17 Mary Lou Kolosci
- 18 Kevin Kremke
- 19 Will Scharp
- 20 Keenan Bush
- 21 Collin Miller
- 22 Sandy Allmon
- 25 Evelyn Fike
- 27 Heather Adams
- 30 Arabella Burton

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Zach & Saira Fulton
- 23 Richard & Deb Bowen
- 25 Ray & Emily Neal
- 30 Ryan & Dawn Mills

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	<p>Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it. Proverbs 22:6</p> 			1	2	3 7 p.m. Models Club
4 Worship 9:30 a.m.	5	6	7 8 p.m. AA Meeting	8	9	10
11 Worship 9:30 a.m.	12	13	14  8 p.m. AA Meeting	15 <i>Newsletter Deadline for September</i>	16	17 3 p.m. Models Club
18 Worship 9:30 a.m.	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 Worship 9:30 a.m.	26	27	28 8 p.m. AA Meeting	29	30	31



- 3 Rancie Lucas
- 5 Gunner Lucas
- 6 Brian Copollo
- 8 Julia Kretlow
- 9 Zachary Copollo
- 10 Richard Smith
- 12 JoAnn Burton
- 14 Dana Kalbe
- 16 Charlotte Fike
- Bonnie Blackford
- 17 Jim Green
- 20 Bud Duvall
- Judy Reales
- 21 Aaron Copollo
- Mary Cooper
- 23 Dana Jackson
- Benjamin Mills
- 27 Craig Poparad
- 30 Andrew Allmon
- 31 MJ Scharp



- 15 John & Marylou Kolosci
- 29 Robert & Pam Furdo

Mark your calendars...

OUTDOOR WORSHIP

and

CHURCH PICNIC

Sunday, September 8th

10:15 a.m.

Porter United Methodist Church

A DAY OF MUSIC, FOOD AND FUN!

featuring the bluegrass Gospel group Rusty Nail Crossing



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

Porter United Methodist
Church

Liz Lahaie, Pastor

Pastor's Hours:

Tuesdays & by appt

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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.