

THE ECHO... JULY 2019

The church newsletter of Rossville United Methodist Church - Rossville, IN



Bob Notes

Putting the Pieces Together

Do you like to put puzzles together? I know some people who gain great amounts of enjoyment at the work of figuring out how all the pieces fit together. No matter if it takes hours, days, or weeks, they keep poking at it until the work is finished. And when they complete the work, they experience a great sense of satisfaction and can't wait to start working on another one. Me on the other hand? Well... not so much. I have very little patience or maybe very little ability to sit and look at odd-shaped puzzle pieces and try to connect them all. I've tried it before and while I might get a few pieces to connect, usually I don't have the patience to sit there and continually search for matching pieces. Thankfully, I am not like this in all areas of life. Because after all, our lives are like pieces of a puzzle scattered about needing God's guidance in fitting them all together. Life, like a 1,000-piece cardboard puzzle takes a great amount of patience and taking the time needed to discover how each piece of it fits together.

In the same way, the Holy Bible is like this. God has revealed himself to us through the Scriptures, and God did not give it out as one completely finished puzzle. Our Tuesday night "New Testament You Never Knew" Bible Study which finishes on July 2nd, indicates this about the Bible. "In a sense, God gave people a box filled with many puzzle pieces that it took *centuries* to bring together. It wasn't just one person who worked on the puzzle, but countless individuals from a rich mix of times, places, backgrounds, cultures, and languages. God guided each step of the way. And although the puzzle that is the Holy Bible is complete today, God releases fresh inspiration, hope, conviction, truth, and power to each new generation who reads it."

My hope is that as summer continues, and as we move into the second half of 2019, that each of us will take time, if we are not already doing so, to sit down and begin reading the Bible. Even if it is a few verses a day, it is like taking vitamins to give us strength for each day. It helps us in discerning the puzzles of life. The Spirit of God continues to teach his people today and uses the Bible as a tool in this process. It's like being given a puzzle piece to put in place. Spend time reading the Bible. Its words will help us to fit the puzzle of life together.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Bob Raschka

Annual Conference Review

The 2019 session of the Indiana Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church met in Indianapolis on June 12th through the 15th. The theme of this year's conference was Water to Witness and focused on Ephesians 4:4-5.

Some of the highlights of the Conference involved the election of both clergy and lay delegates to the 2020 General Conference in Minneapolis as well as the 2020 North Central Jurisdictional Conference in Fort Wayne, at which new bishops are elected. Petitions to allow non-ordained local pastors to vote for General Conference Clergy delegates were approved and sent on to General Conference. Among the other highlights were the following:



25 hours during the Annual Conference Session were spent with Rev. Kristine Marshall painting the mural depicted above, symbolizing this year's theme, "From Water to Witness."

\$7671.40 was raised for the Missional Offering which was divided among the Lucille Raines residence for those recovering from substance abuse and Brianna's Hope, a ministry dedicated to assist people overcome opioid addiction.

1,100 blankets were donated to A Better Life - Brianna's Hope.

9 individuals were commissioned into ministry as Provisional Elder—those on the path towards full ordination.

16 individuals were ordained into the order of Elder or Deacon. (Fully ordained pastors)

69 clergy members entered into retirement.

56 clergy and spouses who passed away this last year and entered into the Church Triumphant were remembered.

The 2020 Indiana Annual Conference Budget of \$12.8 million was approved.

This is a 1% decrease over the 2019 budget.

Next year's annual conference is scheduled for June 11th-14th at Indiana Wesleyan University in Marion, IN.

Next Ladies Day Out: July 12th

Meet in church parking lot to leave promptly at 11am we will be going to Ethan's in Flora!

Need a ride call Connie Hinesley at 379-2234 or Jane Emens at 379-3176

Fifteen ladies met in June for "Ladies Day Out" at Monicals in Lafayette.

Everyone enjoyed good food and fellowship.

Church Camp

Its time for church camp and I'm so excited for our youth. Please be in prayer for our young people as they get to spend some special time with the Lord and in fellowship with other believers their age. In addition to prayer you can send a written note of encouragement via camp email. Go to Impact2818.org, look under Retreats & Custom Events, select the camp they are at and click send camper email.



Arizona Pritchard Pine Creek (Express Camp) June 30- July 3

Jenifer Bautista Pine Creek (Horse Camp) July 7-12

Elissa Weida Pine Creek (Horse Camp) July 7-12

Shameka Kelly Epworth Forest CC (That Thing) July 7-12

Dominique Cassamajor Epworth Forest CC (That Thing) July 7-12

Zoe Marlow Epworth Forest CC (That Thing) July 7-12

Vacation Bible School Review

The Rossville Community Vacation Bible School met this year on June 19th-21st at the Rossville Bible Fellowship Church. About 50 children from surrounding churches and throughout the community attended each night of this year's VBS. The theme, "In the Wild" focused on encounters with Jesus such as when Jesus was baptized in the Jordan River, when Jesus rose again, and Jesus with two of the disciples on the road to Emmaus. There was a Bible lesson, crafts, music, games, snacks, and a mission's emphasis each night. This year's mission offering of over \$350 went to the Rossville Release Time Religious Education program which is held at Rossville United Methodist Church.



Thanks to all who donated supplies or assisted with Vacation Bible School in any manner. Rossville Community Vacation Bible School in 2020 will be at The Living Stone Church.

Community Fellowship Café

Our Community Fellowship Café will not be held in July as it would happen on the 4th. The next Community Fellowship Café is scheduled for Thursday, August 1st from 5:30 – 7:00pm.





Mandee Nicolas 7th
Kody Nicolas 8th
Anna Hayward 10th
Ruth Raschka 10th
Jessica Boldenow 17th
Jacque Cooper 18th
Sharon Unger 23rd
Neilie Wright 28th



Dustin & Emily Green July 23rd



Congratulations!

Congratulations to Cody & Kelsey Broussard on the birth of their new baby boy, Christian James Broussard, who was born on June 15th.

Rossville United Methodist Church

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 (765) 379-2981
 Adult Sunday School: 9:00 am
 Worship and Jr. Church: 10:15 am

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July Worship Themes

July 7th "Too Big for Britches?" Romans 12:3-8

July 14th "Love and Hate" Romans 12:9-21

July 21st Guest Speaker: Eric Schneider

July 28th Guest Speaker: Bruce & Cindy Dunk



Pastor Bob will be on vacation and out of the office from Monday July 15th - Sunday July 28th.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

June 2, 2019 \$1,066.00

June 9, 2019 \$1,411.00





June 16, 2019 \$8,125.00

June 23, 2019 \$1,860.00

Needed Weekly for Budget \$2,333.24

July, 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2  Bible Study 7pm	3 M&M Ladies' Bible Study 9 am L.R. E. Elementary back from Pine Creek	4  Happy 4th of July	5	6
7 Sunday School 9 am Worship and Jr. Church 10:15 am Service @ Milner's 3pm M/S check in to Pine Creek H/S check in to Epworth Forest Prayer Group 5pm	8 9am Noodle Making	9 9am Noodle Bagging	10 M&M Ladies' Bible Study 9 am	11	12 Ladies Day Out 11am Parking lot H/S pick up 10:30am Epworth Forest M/S pick up 6pm Pine Creek	13
14 Sunday School 9am Worship and Jr. Church 10:15 am Prayer Group 5pm	15 Pastor on vaca- tion through the 28th	16	17 M&M Ladies' Bible Study 9 am L.R.E.	18	19	20
21 Sunday School 9am Worship and Jr. Church 10:15 am Guest speaker Eric Schneider Prayer Group 5pm	22 Church office closed this week due to Pastor & Brandy on vaca- tion	23	24 M&M Ladies' Bible Study 9 am	25	26	27
28 Sunday School 9 am Worship and Jr. Church 10:15 am Guest Speakers Bruce & Cindy Dunk Prayer Group 5pm	29 Pastor back in the office!	30	31 M & M Ladies' Bible Study 9am			