Dunlap United Methodist Church 23674 US Highway 33 E Elkhart, IN 46517

DISPATCH MAY 2021

A Message from Pastor Melissa...

Last week, I took my son to his first t-ball practice. While he has done soccer skills and swimming lessons, he has never played on a team sport. I wasn't quite sure what to expect of a t-ball practice, but I have to tell you, it was one of the funniest things I have seen recently. The coach looked at these nine boys between four and six years old like they were tiny aliens exploring our planet for the first time. A minute into the boys entering the field, he looked out at the parents and said "You all are welcome to come help." In the end, there were almost as many dads out there as there were kids.

These kids were so confused. Each was given a turn to bat, and they each could hit 5-6 balls off the tee. After the last ball, they were supposed to run to first base. One boy went running to first base bat in hand...then turns around, runs back, put down the bat, and ran again. Two boys (my son included) dropped their bats, ran to first base, and promptly ran straight back to home. The funniest little boy had clearly been practicing at home. He was able to get the ball all the way to the outfield, but every time he hit the ball, he took off running. He ran around every base, got close to home plate, and promptly belly flopped in the dirt. I haven't stopped laughing at the picture of nine confused little boys entering the world of t-ball for the first time.

Sometimes in this world, I feel a lot like these little boys. We don't have an instruction manual that addresses every single obstacle that comes our way. Much of living in this world requires learning from our own experience or the experience of others, if we are wise enough to listen to them. Unfortunately, when it comes to many things (pandemics, unexpected grief, loss of freedoms, and more), we may feel like a 4 year old swinging a baseball bat at their first t-ball practice.

Like that 4 year old, though, we have an invaluable resource. We have a Coach who understands the game better than we ever can. We have a Good Shepherd who leads us through the darkest of valleys. We have a True Vine who keeps us connected to what really matters most. We have the Living Water and the Bread of Life. We are not approaching overwhelming or confusing times alone. In Jesus, we can approach whatever life throws at us and know that with faith in the Father, strength from the Spirit, and hope in Christ, we are well equipped through it all.

It's time for spring training. We are going through life figuring it out as we go along, but we have the best coach we could ever need. Play ball! Let us step forward in faith.

God Bless, Pastor Melissa

Dunlap United Methodist Church Growing in Christ-like Love

through intentional Outreach and Worship

23674 US Hwy 33 // Elkhart IN 46517 Church Office: (574) 875-7950 Parsonage: (574) 875-5295 Pastor's Cell: (765) 438-4545 E-mail: dunlapumc@frontier.com Office Hours: Mon. - Thurs.: 8 AM - 3 PM (closed 12-1) Friday: 8 AM - 12 PM

Our Church Staff

Pastor Rev. Melissa Englehart **Education Director** Preschool Directory Office Manager Custodian Choir/Bell Choir Dir. Organist

Alice Morris Cindy Covey Sara Smith Laura Utlev Kim Dooley Lois Coney

Find us online! www.elkhartdunlapumc.org

Want to watch a service you missed? Need a bulletin? Wonder what time your meeting is? Want to pay your tithe? All of this and MORE is available on our web site!



MAY BIRTHDAYS

May 4th	Debra Lienhart
May 9th	Nathan Wheeler
May 10th	Jane Hunsberger
	Robert Wise
May 11th	Ethlyn Sternberg
May 16th	Rita Ritzler
May 19th	Dhina Hoffman
	Rosa Rodarte
May 24th	Kenneth Lienhart
May 28th	Drake Weatherholt
May 30th	Lois Kime
	Alice Morris
May 31st	Dennis Kline

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

May 20th	Larry & Sherry Moore
May 24th	Mike & Shana Dines
May 25th	Delfino & Teresa Flores

MAY LITURGISTS

May 2nd	Dave Vollman
May 9th	Karen Newland
May 16th	Carolyn Anderson
May 23rd	Carolyn Vollmar
May 30th	Youth Sunday

MAY ALTAR FLOWERS

May 2nd	Stan & Jane Hunsberger Praises to God!
May 9th	Carol Glick In memory of Don
May 16th	Joan Zehr In memory of Lowell Zehr
May 23rd	Shana Dines
May 30th	Keith Miller For June Miller

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers adorning our altar each Sunday morning have become a special part of our worship service. Each week these flowers are placed by individuals or families who wish to honor or remember a loved one or a special occasion. If you would like to be a part of this special program you can sign up on our website (www.elkhartdunlapumc.org) under the Get Involved @ DUMC menu or by signing up of the flower chart at the back of the sanctuary, but don't wait too long as there are only a few dates left. We request a \$20 donation for each date you sign up for and the flowers are yours to take at the end of the service that day.

DUMC Shut In Ministry

Some information concerning our Shut-Ins has been updated. Contact the church office for the updated copy of the Shut-In list, or pick up a paper copy of the newsletter in the church lobby on Sunday Morning.

Dunlap United Methodist Church							
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday		Friday	Saturday	
						1	
2 Sunday Morning Worship 5pm: Bible Study	3 7pm: Staff/ Parish Meeting	4	5	6 6:30pm: Scouts	7	8	
9 Mother's Day	10 6pm: WON Meeting	11	12 1pm: S.W.A.N.	13 6:30pm: Scouts	14	15	
Sunday Morning Worship	7pm: Church Council						
5pm: Bible Study	Meeting						
16 Sunday Morning Worship	17	18	19	20 6:30pm: Scouts	21	22	
5pm: Bible Study							
23 Sunday Morning Worship	24	25 6pm: Preschool Meeting	26	27 6:30pm: Scouts	28	29	
5pm: Bible Study		6:30pm: Trustee Meeting					
30 Sunday Morning Worship	31 Memorial Day Church Office						
5pm: Bible Study	Closed						

May 2021