DISPATCH AUGUST 2023

August 2023

Dear Dunlap family and friends,

It seems impossible, but school is just around the corner for the children and teachers of our neighborhood. School supply lists are out for most schools, and those that aren't will be very soon. Children are picking out backpacks, lunch boxes, and the perfect set of headphones to use with their Chromebooks or iPads. Teachers are setting up classrooms, preparing lesson plans, and praying they don't get too many crazy parents this year. Parents are counting down the days until the children are finally occupied every day again.

The people called Methodist have a very long history supporting education for all people. In England, Methodists started schools that were affordable for more people at a time when many schools were exclusive. In the United States, Methodists started colleges, primary schools, and eventually preschools to serve anyone who needed it. In recent times, we have understood that education is often one of the best ways out of poverty, and it is extremely important to have an educated population. We want a population who can read and write and think critically about what is happening in our world. We want adults to be able to do the math to keep a basic budget, because without that, there is little hope of managing a household well. We want well-trained doctors, electricians, mechanics, and educators. We want cashiers who can make change and floor workers who can follow written or verbal instructions. Education, in it's many levels and forms, is important for a well-functioning society that moves forward.

Here at Dunlap UMC, we have a strong history of valuing education. As August approached, we have several opportunities to support education in our community. 1) Bring in school supplies. These are given to any child who shows up to our block party, then they are given to Southside Elementary school where they are used for any child who may not have what they need to get through the year. 2) Invite families and neighbors to the Block Party on August 13 after church. Worship will be outside, and there will be games and activities. 3) Stay for the block party and either volunteer or visit with those who attend. 4) Sign up to be a Reading Buddy. These angels spend one-on-one time with children who need more help with reading, and they demonstrate to these children that they are valued and loved. 5) Support our preschool. Financially and with supplies, they can always use help. Share with your neighbors and friends that we have openings for 3 year olds. Our preschool is one of the more affordable options in the area, and it is very well thought of within our community. 6) Hold the teachers and students in your prayers in these last couple weeks of preparation and the beginning of school.

As a church, let us continue to share the love of God in our community and to support the development of our community, nation and world by supporting the education of our youngest neighbors. Thank you for all your love and support of our schools!

God bless, Pastor Melissa

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

| August 1st | Carolyn Vollmar | | | |
|-------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| August 1st | David Vollmar | AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES | | |
| August 3rd | Theresa Ganger | | | |
| August 7th | Kristina Flores | | | |
| August 12th | Cindy Valentine | August 9th | Donnie & Kristen Weatherolt | |
| August 14th | Jennifer Davis | | | |
| August 18th | Wes Davis | August 23rd | Alan & Diana Kado | |
| August 19th | Brenda Singleton | | | |
| August 20th | Kylie Wheeler | August 24th | Bryce & Tina Kime | |
| August 22nd | Bruce Wells | | | |
| August 23rd | Tina Kime | August 27th | Joshua & Andrea Nelson | |
| August 24th | Shirley Troup | , (09001 2, 111 | | |
| August 26th | Don Metzler-Smith | August 27th | Bruce & Judy Wells | |
| August 27th | Teresa Flores | Augusi 27m | | |
| August 27th | Stan Hunsberger | | | |
| August 27th | Eileen Shank | | | |
| August 27th | Tim Wise | | | |
| August 30th | Peg Miklic | AUGUST LITURGISTS | | |
| August 30th | Bob Newland | | | |
| | | | | |

AUGUST ALTAR FLOWERS

| AUGUSI | ALIAN FLUWEND | | |
|-------------|---|-------------|------------------|
| August 6th | Carol Robinson in Honor of Kristen & Donnie Weatherholt Anniversary | August 13th | Carolyn Anderson |
| | | August 20th | Tobi Price |
| August 13th | Jana Workman In Loving Memory of mother & sisters | August 27th | Carolyn Vollmar |
| August 20th | Alan & Diana Kado in Honor of their Anniversary | | |
| August 27th | Bruce & Judy Wells in Honor of their Anniversary | | |

August 6th Carol Robinson

| August 2023 Dunlap United Methodist Church | | | | | | |
|---|------------------------------|--|--|----------|--------|----------|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| | | 1 Worship @ 6:30PM | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 Ana Hagen— Harpist | 7 | 8 | 9 SWANS @ 11:00AM (in parking | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 BLOCK ARA MARTY | 14 | 15 Preschool @ 6PM Finance @ 7PM | lot) 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 Christian Ed @ 6 PM | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |
| | | | | | | |

Christian Education at Dunlap United Methodist Church



Why do we come to church? Why do we study the Bible? Why is it important? **CHRI** Because each of us needs to know God – personally, one on one.

"Christian Education" may sound intimidating, but it just means that we're trying to learn more about God, so that we can be closer to God. We can do this in so many ways – through worship, in Sunday School, in small group Bible studies, in our own personal devotion and study time at home, listening to worship music, etc.

Just about two weeks ago, we celebrated Vacation Bible School. Thirty children came through the doors of our church, hungry to learn about God. They asked amazing questions, such as "How can someone who is dead come back to life?" and "How can Jesus be God if God is God?" They're trying to find answers to everyday problems – "What do I do when I'm bullied?" and "Why did my dad leave – did I do something wrong?"

We all struggle with questions, maybe the same ones the kids are asking. Fortunately, we have a place where we can find some answers – in God's Word. I pray that all of you, young, old, and anywhere inbetween, will look for ways to learn more about God's Word, and grow closer to our Lord and Savior, Jesus.

Listed below are some of the opportunities at Dunlap Church where you can study and learn and grow. Please join us!

Nursery: Babies and toddlers learn that church is a safe place where they are loved.

Preschool: Children are introduced to some basic Bible stories, and they learn that God made them, loves them, and cares for them.

Kindergarten – 3^{rd} **Grade**: Children go through every major Bible story. They begin to understand what being Jesus' disciple means and they learn that they can serve God.

 $4^{\text{th}} - 6^{\text{th}}$ Grade: These young people go through each book of the Bible (yes, even the ones no one can ever find) and learn how each book fits into the overall story. They learn how the Old and New Testaments complement each other, and they begin to take ownership of God's Word.

Confirmation: This is for 6th grade and up. It is a time to learn about the history of the church overall and the Methodist church in particular, and each participant defines what he believes and why. (Sounds easy, but it's not!) At the end of the class, each person decides if he/she is ready to join the church.

 $7^{th} - 12^{th}$ Grade: Middle and high schoolers choose their course of study. They may follow the same curriculum as the 4^{th} - 6^{th} graders, studying the books of the Bible. Or, they may choose another formal or informal curriculum.

Adults: We currently have three Sunday School classes for adults, and we have a Sunday evening Bible study for women. At various times during the year, a Wednesday evening class is offered. If you are interested in seeing something new begin, please talk to Alice or Pastor Melissa.

Christian Education Fall 2023



| Sunday, August 27 | Bibles presented to elementary children during worship If you have a child or youth who needs a Bible, let Alice know. | | |
|------------------------|---|--|--|
| TBD | Bibles presented to confirmation class during worship | | |
| Wednesday, Sept. 6 | Wednesday meals begin, KIDS Club begins Each Wednesday during the school year, we offer a Simple meal at 6:00. This can be prepared by one person or by a group. There is a sign-up sheet in the sanctuary for those who are willing to prepare the meal. The cost is minimal (and donation only), so come and join us for food and fellowship! | | |
| | Knowledge, Inspiration, Discipleship, Service KIDS Club follows the Wednesday meal. We meet from 6:30 to 7:30, with a Bible story, craft, singing, and more. | | |
| Sunday, Sept. 10 | Bike Parade to commemorate 9/11 and recognizeFirst Responders in our neighborhoodAfter worship, we will gather in the church parking lot.Kids (and adults) are invited to decorate bikes, and then we ride or walk around the block. | | |
| | Sunday evening Bible study begins – 5:00-6:00 Contact Alice for more information. | | |
| Sunday, Sept. 10/17/24 | Confirmation class begins | | |
| Sunday, Sept. 24 | Trivia Night How much do you know about ? | | |

If you are willing to teach a Sunday School class, please let Alice know. Thank you!



Dunlap United Methodist Church

Invites you to join us

Sunday, August 13th

23674 US Highway 33 E, Elkhart, IN 46517

10:00 AM Outdoor Worship Service

11:00 AM Water Slide, School Supplies, Food, Games, ETC. for all ages!



Items needed are:

#2 pencils, colored pencils, scissors, erasers, pencil boxes, spiral bound notebooks (plain please), tissues, dry erase markers, sticky notes, glue sticks, loose leaf paper, crayons, markers, Elmer's



glue bottles.

Thank you so much!





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

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

Growing in Christ-like Love through intentional Outreach and Worship

23674 US Hwy 33 // Elkhart IN 46517 Church Office: (574) 875-7950 Pastor's Cell: (765) 438-4545 E-mail: dunlapumc@frontier.com Office Hours: Mon. - Thurs.: 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM (closed 12-1) Friday: 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Our Church Staff

- Pastor Rev Education Director Preschool Director Office Manager Custodian Choir/Bell Choir Dir. Organist
 - Rev. Melissa Englehart or Alice Morris or Cindy Covey Brianna Primm Laura Utley Dir. TBD 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!