

# DISPATCH MAY 2024

Dear Dunlap family and friends,

On April 8, I took my son and met the rest of my family in Indianapolis to observe the total solar eclipse. This is something that no one older than me in my family will ever have a chance to see again, and if I see it, I will have to travel across the country. It was, for us, truly a once in a lifetime experience to sit in the darkness of an eclipse in the middle of an otherwise sunny day. I hope I never forget the excitement of that day. We went to the Children's Museum, where we sat on their miniature soccer field to watch. As totality hit, there was applause, gasps, and laughter of children. As many of you know, in my family, the event was made even more special as my sister was engaged as the moon covered the sun. It was an exciting day.

But then... this week, I learned via WNDU that anyone who went to the Children's Museum on April 8 was exposed to the measles. While we are all fully vaccinated, this led to panic, since some members of my family are immunocompromised, some are very old, and some are too young to have received all their shots. After panic, we began to research. We looked up the symptoms, when they would arrive, and what we can do in the meantime. It has been 15 days since our exposure at the time I am writing this, and at 21 days, we will be in the clear. There is absolutely nothing we can do at this time to protect the most vulnerable in our family, because those treatments should have taken places within 3-6 days of exposure. So, all we can do is wait and pray. What a way to put a damper on an otherwise incredible day!

The waiting and inability to do anything is incredibly difficult. No medication at this point can help. No amount of hand washing or wearing masks can protect us now. We can wait, and we can pray for those who are most at risk.

I tell you this story, because it makes me think about how we approach the General Conference. Every 4 years, the General Conference of the United Methodist Church is to meet to determine the official statements, practices, and beliefs of our denomination. That meeting began on April 23 and will continue through May 3. At this point, for the majority of United Methodists, all we can do is wait and pray. The voting for delegates to attend has already taken place. Our opportunity to make our voice heard has past. Now, we just have to trust that God is at work, and that the delegates will vote faithfully.

And so we wait. We pray. Will the delegates vote the way we hope or not? Will their votes disrupt our church and ministry here at Dunlap UMC, or will we be able to continue on as if nothing happened? We simply do not know. The waiting is hard, but it is where we are right now.

So, if you find yourself in a place where the waiting is causing great anxiety, I would encourage every person to spend time in prayer. Pray for the delegates, for the Bishops, for all the volunteers, and for all who will be affected by the decisions made in this 10 days span. Simply pray.

God bless,  
Pastor Melissa

## MAY BIRTHDAYS

|          |                   |
|----------|-------------------|
| May 4th  | Debra Lienhart    |
| May 5th  | Landon Adkins     |
| May 7th  | Brian Adkins      |
| May 7th  | Ethan Kercher     |
| May 9th  | Nathan Wheeler    |
| May 10th | Jane Hunsberger   |
| May 10th | Robert Wise       |
| May 16th | Rita Ritzler      |
| May 19th | Liam Adkins       |
| May 19th | Dhina Hoffman     |
| May 19th | Rosa Rodarte      |
| May 21st | Dale Henerson     |
| May 24th | Kenneth Lienhart  |
| May 28th | Elijah Amick      |
| May 28th | Drake Weatherholt |
| May 30th | Lois Kime         |
| May 30th | Alice Morris      |

## MAY ALTAR FLOWERS

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| May 5th  | Kim Anderson In<br>memory of Mike                             |
| May 12th |   |
| May 19th | Brian & Crystal Adkins In<br>Honor of Liam's 14th<br>Birthday |
| May 26th | Carol Glick   |

## MAY LITURGISTS

|          |                  |
|----------|------------------|
| May 5th  | Andrea Nelson    |
| May 12th | Karen Weeber     |
| May 19th | Liam Adkins      |
| May 26th | Carolyn Anderson |



Sun

Mon


Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

|   |   |  |   |  |    |    |
|---|---|--|---|--|----|----|
|   |   |  | 1   | 2<br><i>Cub Scouts @<br/>6:30PM</i>                            | 3  | 4  |
| 5<br><i>Christian Ed @<br/>11AM<br/>Bible Study @<br/>5PM</i>                             | 6<br><i>Boy Scouts @<br/>6:30PM<br/>Staff/Parish @<br/>7PM</i>                  | 7<br><i>Teacher/Staff<br/>Appreciation @<br/>CSS</i> | 8<br><i>SWANS @<br/>11AM<br/>Choir @ 7PM<br/>Bells @ 7:30PM</i> | 9<br><i>Cub Scouts @<br/>6:30PM</i>                            | 10 | 13 |
| 12<br> | 13<br><i>Boy Scouts @<br/>6:30PM<br/>WON @ 6PM<br/>Church Council @<br/>7PM</i> | 14   | 15<br><i>Choir @ 7PM<br/>Bells @ 7:30PM</i>                     | 16<br><i>Cub Scouts @<br/>6:30PM</i>                           | 17 | 18 |
| 19<br><i>Reading Buddies<br/>Recognition @<br/>10AM<br/>Bible Study @<br/>5PM</i>         | 20<br><i>Boy Scouts @<br/>6:30PM</i>  | 21<br><i>Preschool @<br/>6PM</i>                     | 22  | 23<br><i>Grief Group @<br/>1PM<br/>Cub Scouts @<br/>6:30PM</i> | 24 | 25 |
| 26  | 27<br><i>Boy Scouts @<br/>6:30PM</i>  | 28<br><i>Trustees @<br/>6:30PM</i>                   | 29  | 30<br><i>Cub Scouts @<br/>6:30PM</i>                           | 31 |    |
|   |   |  |   |  |    |    |

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](mailto: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. Melissa Englehart |
| Education Director    | Alice Morris           |
| Preschool Director    | Cindy Covey            |
| Office Manager        | Brianna Primm          |
| Custodian             | Laura Utley            |
| Choir/Bell Choir Dir. | Dave Kitchell          |
| Organist              | Lois Coney             |

## Find us online!

**[www.elkhartdunlapumc.org](http://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!

**Vacation Bible School:** VBS will be July 15th through July 19th.

“Give us this day our daily bread.” This verse reminds us that everything we have comes from God-but it also calls us to turn to God in prayer for our daily needs. Because God loves and cares for us, we, in turn, can love and care for the rest of the world. We care for others because God first cared for us. In this way the Church becomes the hands of God, ensuring that everyone's needs are met. Each session focuses on a different way God has met the needs of God's people and reminds us that God is still doing this today through.

**Summer Camp!** Registration for Summer Church camp has opened. There are programs for adults to attend with children, for children entering kindergarten through teens graduating high school, and for various special interests. Look for the right program for your family! Due to generous donations, our church will help you pay for camp; find the form on the back table. For even more financial assistance and to register, check the camp website.

<https://impact2818.org/>

**General Conference:** April 23rd-May 3rd

**Men Of The Church:** Mother's Day is May 12th, it's time to start planning that delicious breakfast you will be cooking for the women. Talk to Bruce Hill if you can help.

**Teacher/Staff Appreciation:** May 7th DUMC will be honoring teachers and staff at Concord South Side.

**Reading Buddies Recognition:** May 19th at 10AM

**Chicken BBQ:** June 15th, mark your calendars!

**Annual Conference:** June 6th-8th

**Parents:** If you have children participating in spring/summer sports, please send Alice their schedules. We want to come out and support our kids!