

DISPATCH JULY 2024

Dear Dunlap family and friends,

Adults on giant tricycles, children climbing inflatables, teens playing mini golf...would you believe I am describing the Indiana Annual Conference meeting in June? On Wednesday night after the clergy session and before the laity began their work, we had an evening of fun and fellowship together at St. Luke UMC in Indianapolis. It was an opportunity to play and laugh with people we see once a year. The tone as we began the 2024 Annual Conference was one of joy as we came together to play, then on Thursday morning, we began with a beautiful time of worship. After all this, we buckled down to begin the work of the Indiana Annual Conference.

The Annual Conference meets in June every year to do the business of the Indiana United Methodist Churches. In this time together we laugh, learn, and worship. I attended a lunch to hear how other congregations in our state are approaching youth and children's ministry, then I listened to a talk about the state of the Indiana UMC campgrounds. Exciting things are happening within our borders.

On Thursday evening, we celebrated our bishop's many years of ministry as he approaches his retirement at the end of the summer. Friday morning we celebrated the 32 retirees before Friday evening saw the ordination of a deacon and 3 elders. Two were commissioned as provisional elders, 5 local pastors completed Course of Study, and two were commissioned as deaconesses. At the Celebration of Life service on Saturday, 22 clergy and 24 spouses were honored and remembered.

Most of the business that took place is what you might expect at any annual meeting. A budget was passed that recognizes the lowered financial assets of the Annual Conference. Nominations for the coming year were approved. I will be serving on the Board of Ordained Ministry for the next 4 years. The appointments were set, and I was reappointed to Dunlap for another year.

The only piece of legislation that was passed outside the regular business was a statement by the Annual Conference regarding the deep division regarding how the church responds to LGBTQ+ persons and issues. The official position of the Indiana UMC is that we recognize that the diversity of thought makes us richer as a Church. No person, traditional or progressive, should be shamed or punished for their theological convictions. At the same time, there is a recognition that harm has been caused to LGBTQ+ persons, and so there will be prayer about how to bring healing.

I want to break this piece of legislation into two parts. The first recognizes the diversity of belief. This essentially allows that a church or pastor can be conservative or liberal, and they should not be penalized for it. They are making space for Dunlap to believe as it does and for others to believe as they do. This is a particular concern to conservative churches and pastors in the wake of the General Conference decisions.

The second part of this legislation recognizes the harm that has been done to LGBTQ+ persons. In the end, regardless of what you believe, harm has been done. Young people have been bullied to the point of suicide for identifying as gay. People of all ages have been cussed at, excluded, and even victims of violence. This has happened in schools, homes, and churches. Our beliefs do not give us the right to cause harm to the physical, mental, or spiritual health of another. Even as discussions and teachings about sin take place, we are still called to love, to bring into God's arms, ALL people. This legislation recognizes this reality of harm and seeks to do better, regardless of what any pastor, church, or individual believes. Jesus called people to repentance without driving them to suicide, drugs, or other forms of harm.

In the end, the Annual Conference session this year was a good one full of joy and connection. I pray that God will lead our conference and our church into incredible forms of ministry in the coming year.

God bless,
Pastor Melissa

JULY ALTAR FLOWERS

JULY BIRTHDAYS

July 6th	Sara Leedy
July 9th	Larry Kime
July 12th	Keith Miller
July 12th	Joe Montgomery
July 20th	Katie Montgomery
July 26th	Kim Dooley
July 30th	Chris Krugh

July 7th	Jerry & Kay Adkins in Honor of Wandas Birthday
July 14th	
July 21st	Dave & Carolyn Vollmar in Honor of their 62nd Anniversary
July 28th	

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

July 1st	Bob & Karen
July 10th	Ron & Jackie Pressler
July 15th	Howard & Rita Ritzler
July 16th	Doug & Chris Krugh
July 21st	Dave & Carolyn Vollmar
July 27th	Bruce & Marcia Brothers

JULY LITURGISTS

July 7th	Karen Newland
July 14th	Tobi Price
July 21st	
July 28th	

July

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>1</p> <p>Staff/Parish @ 6:30PM Boy Scouts @ 6:30PM</p>	2	3	<p>4</p>  <p>4th of July OFFICE CLOSED!!!!!!!</p>	5	6
7	<p>8</p> <p>WON @ 6:00PM Church Council @ 7:00PM Boy Scouts @ 6:30PM</p>	9	<p>10</p> <p>SWANS @ 11:00AM</p>	11	12	13
14	<p>15</p> <p>Boy Scouts @ 6:30PM</p>	16	<p>17</p>	18	19	<p>20</p> <p>Shoup Celebration of Life @ 11AM Meal to follow</p>
21	<p>22</p> <p>Boy Scouts @ 6:30PM</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Trustees @ 6:30PM</p>	24	25	26	27
28	<p>29</p> <p>Boy Scouts @ 6:30PM</p>	30	31			

VBS 9-11:30am

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. 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

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.

Amish Dinner: Saturday, October 5th

Adults—\$20/per person

Children 6-10—\$12/per person

Under 5—Free

Maps available + rides to the home of Richard & Betty Miller can be arranged.

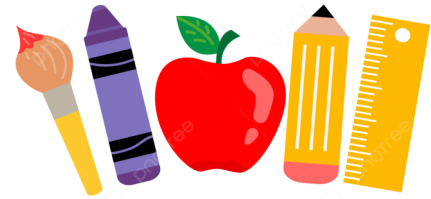
Children’s Sunday School...During June, July, and August, we will not be having Sunday School for children or youth. Attendance is always very low during the summer, plus we want to give our new Christian Education Director (hopefully, we’ll have one by then) time to settle in and get going. See you in the fall!

I can’t believe it’s here. I’ve been waiting for and anticipating my retirement for a long time, and now it’s finally here – and I’m so glad and so sad! The last seven years have been such a blessing for me. I’m so grateful to God that He sent me to DUMC at just the right time. You are my family (I’m already starting to cry), and I love you all. Thank you for letting me serve you as Christian Education Director, and thank you for letting me continue to serve with you in the years ahead. I’m not sure I know how to sit in a pew and just worship, but I’m willing to give it a try! Thank you, thank you, thank you – and thank You, God, for my church family!

Love,
Alice

We will start accepting school supplies needed for the Block Party, the items listed below are what is needed:

- #2 Pencils
- Pencil boxes
- 24-count crayons
- Scissors
- Eraser, pink & pencil-top
- Markers, broad tip
- Markers, thin tip
- Elmers glue
- Glue sticks
- Spiral-bound notebook, wide-ruled, plain cover
- Colored pencils
- Wide-ruled loose leaf paper
- Highlighters
- 2" 3-ring binder
- 3 x 3" sticky notes
- Pens-red, black, blue NO gel pens
- Large box of Kleenex
- Childrens headphones



THANK YOU for your gifts. School supplies will be handed out at the Block Party; left-over supplies will be given to Concord South Side School.

