

THE HERALD

Listening to God's Heart from the heart of the city.

Building Blocks of



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

I want to say thank you to all who participated in our “What’s Next” discussion groups, and those who completed and sent in surveys. While it’s still a little early to begin sharing the results of those gatherings/surveys, I can tell you that a common theme that I saw emerging had to do with education - both in terms of communication and Christian formation.

Some of you probably don’t realize that we’ve had a recent edition of The Herald devoted to educational opportunities in the church. Since we’ve done that, we’ve added a number of new faces to the congregation who didn’t receive that edition; others misplaced or recycled their newsletter, and (let’s be honest) some of us didn’t even read it. So, for your information (communication) and formation, you’ll find out a lot about what is going on in terms of Christian education at First UMC, as well as some upcoming opportunities.

Let me share two thoughts related to Christian education. First, if you read through this newsletter and say “hey, what you offer doesn’t work with my schedule, or my family’s schedule,” I suggest that you share that information with Nina Davis (our Christian education director) or myself - but I also want to encourage you to be a part of the solution. In order to offer more studies and ministries at different times, we need more people to be involved to provide leadership. Second, I think it’s important for you to spend some time in prayer about why you and/or your family is or is not involved in Christian education, and how that affects your relationship with God.

I hope that - especially for those of you who said you wanted and needed this information - that you’ll plan on coming to Sunday school each week. If your life schedule is so full throughout the rest of the week that Sunday morning is your only opportunity to grow in your faith beyond worship, take this opportunity to join a Sunday school class. And, if you have more time in the week beyond Sunday morning to be part of group learning experience, that’s great too. Make sure your kids are involved in the opportunities that First UMC provides to help them grow closer to God. Check out upcoming opportunities that can get you engaged in Bible study, accountability, and more. Just do something - beyond worship - that can help you to grow closer to God and your neighbors!

I’ll see you in worship - and Sunday school - and Bible study - and....

Grace and peace,

Pastor Jay

PS. To let you know the importance of Christian education, I want to share with you that I have been accepted into and will begin a Doctorate of Ministry (D.Min.) program at the end of this month. My coursework involves a one-week onsite class at Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis, along with other online/personal study. This degree will help me be a better pastor to you, but it will also help me grow in my relationship with God. I appreciate your prayers as I begin this new adventure!

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES

Younger Elementary Sunday School:

Room 2100 (Teachers: Sue Roales, Pastor Jay, Kathy Harbison). For children in preschool through second grade, this class uses “Deep Blue Kids” curriculum for their studies, which helps to move them through the Bible in both Old and New Testaments.

Older Elementary Sunday School:

Room 2104 (Teachers: Gary Oxford, Lori Treadway). For children in third through fifth grade, this class studies the week’s Scripture from the worship service with a variety of activities.

Youth Sunday School:

Room 3101 (Teachers: Amy Hartke, Janelle Oxford, Pastor Jay). For students in sixth through twelfth grade, this class is studying how to be a disciple of Jesus Christ in the 21st Century.

Koinonia Class:

Room 2101 (Teachers: class members). This adult class is currently studying “Christianity and World Religions,” and will also be doing a stewardship study in August.

Faith and Friends Class:

Room 2103 (Teachers: class members). This adult class currently studies “Love Does” by Bob Goff, and will also be doing a stewardship study in August.

Young Adult Class:

Room 2102 (Teacher: Nina Davis). This class has been studying the Old Testament with a study called “The Epic of Eden.”

Summer College Class:

Parlor (Teachers: Charlotte Crofton and Allison McGahey). This class is currently doing a study on faith.

In August, we will be doing an all-church Sunday school study called “Defying Gravity.” If adults would like to have a student book, please sign up in your Sunday school rooms by July 22, so that they can be ordered and available for your use. The cost is \$10.

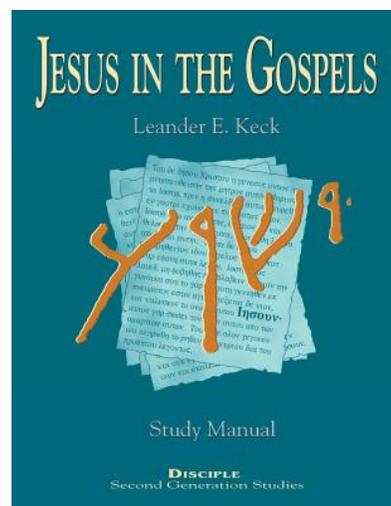
SENIOR HIGH BIBLE STUDY

During the month of July, senior high Bible study continues on Monday nights at Dairy Queen. Join us at 7:30 pm (dutch treat on ice cream) as we continue exploring the psalms. We will not meet on July 23 (many will be on the mission trip), but we will meet the other Mondays, and continue through August 13.

FALL DISCIPLE BIBLE STUDY

Pastor Jay will be leading one of the second generation of Disciple Bible studies this fall, called "Jesus in the Gospels." The study, by its title, gives you a strong indication of the subject matter and material, but it also utilizes other parts of the Bible that are referenced in the the Gospels. This 30 week study meets for two hours each week, and involves the purchase of materials. The cost is slightly higher for this study, since the materials include a study manual and a set of gospel parallels. If you sign up at the welcome center by July 31, the cost of materials is \$50; you are welcome to sign up later, but the cost will be \$60.

Classes will be offered on Tuesday evenings from 6:00-8:00 pm (childcare provided upon request) and on Thursday mornings from 9:30-11:30 am.

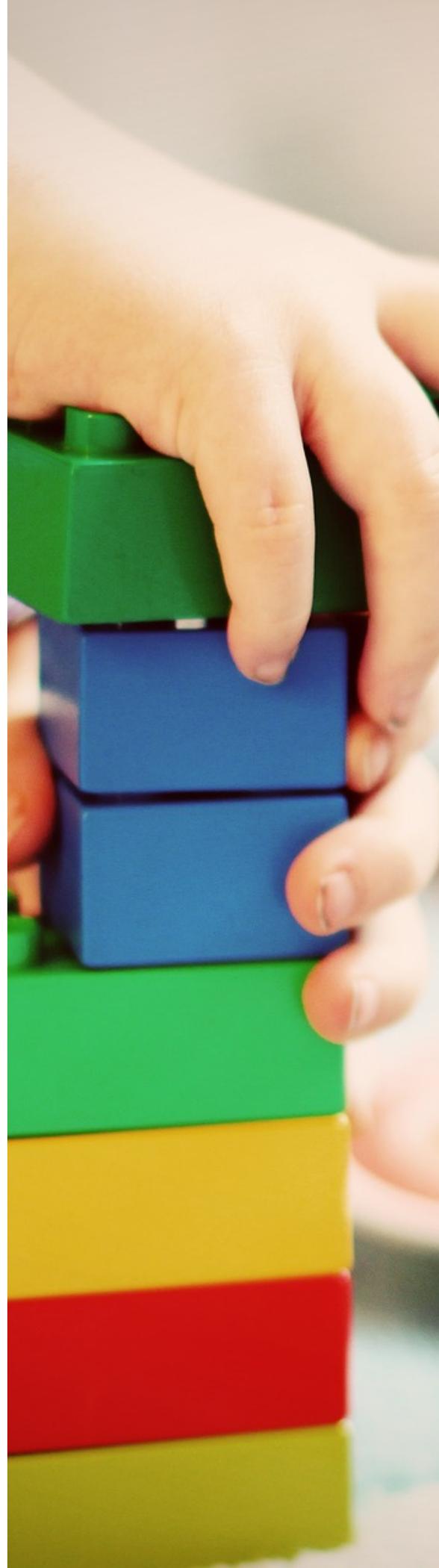


COUPLES' BIBLE STUDY

Daniel and Jennifer Boatman are excited to start a small group study for couples on Thursday evenings starting this September! As a group, we will learn how to strengthen our marriages through Christ, giving us a stronger relationship, not just with our spouse, but also with God. There are a few curriculums we are excited to share with you, and we will be starting with *Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage* by Mark Gungor. There will be a sign-up sheet at the welcome center if you are interested in joining us. If you have any questions, please contact Daniel or Jennifer Boatman.

CONFIRMATION

Our next confirmation series for middle/high school students will begin this fall. More information will be sent out later in the summer for prospective students. Meetings will likely be on the first and third Sundays during Sunday School, and students will be paired with a mentor. If you would be interested in serving as a mentor, please contact Nina Davis. This is a great learning experience for our students (and mentors), so please be in prayer for those who feel called to be a part of confirmation!



OTHER STUDIES FOR CHILDREN AND STUDENTS

Music and Arts Camp:

July 9-13, 9:00 am - 1:30 pm. Each day will have times of music, chapel, set construction, arts and crafts, and recreation, as well as free lunch! Students entering kindergarten through those completing fifth grade are welcome to register on our website, or fill out a paper form at the welcome center. There will be a dress rehearsal on July 14 at 10:00 am, a rehearsal at 8:00 am on July 15, with a musical performance during the 9:00 am worship service.

Kids' Club:

Yes, it's July, but we will start Kids' Club again on Wednesday, September 5. Taking place from 3:00-5:00 pm each week, students K-5 will have the opportunity for Bible study, snacks, recreation, and music each week. Students are transported by church bus from Washington Elementary School and Lincoln Grade School each week, and parents pick up their students at the church at the conclusion of the week's activities. If you want your student to participate, please visit our website to download a registration form!

Refresh Breakfast and Bible Study:

Refresh will begin again on September 5. Breakfast is available for students (grades 6-12) from 6:30-7:00 am; from 7:00-7:30 am, middle school and high school students are involved in a short Bible study. Students are transported to the middle and high schools by church bus in time for school. If you want your student to participate, please visit our website to download a registration form!



SUMMER STUDY

Lori Treadway will be offering a summer study, entitled “Unbinding the Gospel.” Sessions will be on Thursdays from 7:00-8:30 pm in room 2101 (Koinonia classroom). The schedule will be:

- July 5, Discuss Ch 1-2
- July 12, Discuss Ch. 3
- July 19, Discuss Ch. 4
- July 26, No meeting, read Ch. 5
- Aug. 2, Discuss Ch 5-6
- Aug 9, Discuss Ch. 7-8
- Aug. 16, Discuss Ch. 9-10

Class materials can be ordered from the following website: [https://www.cokesbury.com/product/9780827238084/unbinding-the-gospel-second-edition/?](https://www.cokesbury.com/product/9780827238084/unbinding-the-gospel-second-edition/?rank=0&txtSearchQuery=unbinding+the+gospel)

[rank=0&txtSearchQuery=unbinding+the+gospel.](https://www.cokesbury.com/product/9780827238084/unbinding-the-gospel-second-edition/?rank=0&txtSearchQuery=unbinding+the+gospel)

Childcare will be available upon request. You can sign up by contacting Lori at lhtreadway@robinsonschools.com or by signing up at the welcome center!

STEWARDSHIP DEVOTIONAL

One other educational opportunity exists this summer: in August, we will be discussing how to be good stewards, and the finance committee is putting together a daily devotional. If you are interested in writing a SHORT devotional, there is a sign-up at the welcome center. Choose the Scripture that speaks to you; write a short paragraph or two about it, and a short prayer. Devotions are due on July 22, and the devotion will be printed by the end of the month. You'll also receive them (if you're signed up for e-news) daily in your inbox and through social media. What a great opportunity to grow as you do some spiritual writing - but also as you learn from others!

2ND WEDNESDAY DINNER

Last month, Janelle Oxford shared information about Stephen Ministry, and those who feel called to do that ministry will have to go through some intensive training (education), which has some costs associated with it. So, in July, our 2nd Wednesday Dinner will be a fundraiser for that ministry. Join us on July 11 at 5:30 pm for Breakfast for Dinner! There will be a basket on the serving table for a freewill offering. If you would, please sign up at the welcome center so that they know how much food to prepare.

JUST ONE

It's only one month until we get to the NOW Program's back to school shopping days! (Please contact Kirbie if you would like to help on August 6 or 7.) So, for the month of July, we'll be collecting Crayola markers and colored pencils! Pick up a pack (they're already starting to be on sale) at your local store and drop them off in the "Just One" bin outside the church office.

HARVEST TABLE

This summer, we want to give you an opportunity to share in the harvest of abundance! Starting July 1, there will be a table in the narthex each week. If you're a gardener and you want to share produce, simply bring it and place it on the table.

Need some produce - take what you need. There is always plenty of bounty, and this is a great way to share with one another.



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

We're halfway through our capital campaign, which officially launched in January 2017! If you're new to FUMC, and don't know about the campaign, it has three objectives:

1. To purchase and demolish the building next door (COMPLETED)
2. To pay off the loan on the new building
3. To repair and expand parking

We're happy to share that the loan balance, as of June 2018, is \$109,190.76 (of \$249,000). The good news is that we have received just over \$200,000 toward the campaign, and a total of \$271,146 has been pledged. Some simple math, however, tells us that we have a loan balance of \$109,000, but only \$71,000 still to come in - so we are about \$38,000 short of paying off the loan by the end of the campaign. At any time, you are welcome to give gifts to the capital campaign - one time, a pledge (cards are available on the display in the narthex), or an ongoing gift. We are grateful for your generosity as we continue to move forward with Phase II!



JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 7/1 Jeanette Berty, Pam Cooper
7/2 John Markello
7/3 Katie Murphy, Dave Freeland,
Jeremy Markello, Sheri McGahey
7/5 Roy Schlosser
7/6 Jerry Devonshire
7/7 Jessica Hargan, Hunter Murrell
7/10 Jay Regennitter, Ruth Boatman,
Tom Cooper
7/11 Tricia Anderson
7/13 Karen Gordy
7/14 Izabella Hays
7/19 Lea Ann Alberda, Cody Dart
7/20 Barbara Ross
7/21 Lou Bonnell
7/24 Jon Roales, Annika List
7/25 Cash Veteto
7/27 William Damron, Linda Null
7/28 Caroline Vermilya
7/29 Chris Freeland,
Candance Markello, Audra Bell
7/30 Doug Cassady
7/31 Jay Anderson

JULY

ANNIVERSARIES

- 7/4 Jack & Nina Davis
7/6 Jay & Alice Holtzhouser
Doug & Cindy Cassady
7/7 Gary & Janelle Oxford
Dustin & Victoria McDonald
8/15 Jeff & Sherri Murrell
7/17 David & Sheri McGahey
7/19 Tony & Michelle Graham
7/21 Rich & Leavone Johnson
7/27 Jerry & Gloria Devonshire

PRAYER REQUESTS

John, Jeremy, and Greg Markello;
Carol Wolf; Carl and Helen Blanton;
Judy Wilson Wall; Michael Brady;
Patty Steele; Cathy Thomas; Judson
Richardson; Jerry Adkins; Jennifer
Newlin; Jennifer Null; Julie Zhang;
Bill Thompson; Bob Duzan; Michael
Keene; John Larrabee; Larry Nichol;
Janet & Charley Clark; Allen
Summers; Nicole Young; Bev Turkal;
Evan Prah; Ray Dotson; Bev
Arrington Campbell; Margie Moore
McNamara; Richard Youngs; Kay
Young; John Poland; Bob Berty; Joan
Fulling; Nancy Young; Jackson Barry;
John Mosher; Tim Roth; Fred White;
Kip Davis; Emily Harp; Vonnetta
Shipman; Nash Drake; Rodney
Denoux; Becky Goodwin; Caius Bell;
Nelda Dotson; Jan Foulk; Kim Collins;
Sidney Iubelt; Bill Hubbard; Brenda
Wolfe; Alastair Titsworth; Ashley
Griffith; Claudette Mejean; Klayton
Payne; Paul Goebel; Robert Riddle;
Otterbein UMC in Bluford; Madison
Utterback; Tricia Anderson; Susan
Carver and family; Jeff & Renda
Tuttle; Clergy of our Conference;
Mary Etta Whitmer

JULY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>9:00 am Worship</p> <p>10:00 am Sunday School</p> <p>2:00 pm Mission Trip Pool Party</p> <p>6:00 pm Evening Worship</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7:30 pm High School Bible Study</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10:30 am NOW Summer Lunch</p>	<p>4</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p> <p>10:30 am NOW Summer Lunch</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10:30 am NOW Summer Lunch</p> <p>4:30 pm Music and Arts Camp Meeting</p> <p>6:00 pm Jail Ministry</p> <p>7:00 pm Unbinding the Gospel</p>	<p>6</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:00 am Worship</p> <p>10:00 am Sunday School</p> <p>2:30 pm Heritage Health Service</p> <p>6:00 pm Evening Worship</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:00 am Music & Arts Camp</p> <p>7:30 pm High School Bible Study</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9:00 am Music & Arts Camp</p> <p>10:30 am NOW Summer Lunch</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:00 am Music & Arts Camp</p> <p>10:30 am NOW Summer Lunch</p> <p>5:30 pm Second Wednesday Dinner</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:00 am Music & Arts Camp</p> <p>10:30 am NOW Summer Lunch</p> <p>6:00 pm Jail Ministry</p> <p>7:00 pm Unbinding the Gospel</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00 am Music & Arts Camp</p> <p>8:00 pm Youth Lock In</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10:00 am Music & Arts Camp</p>
<p>15</p> <p>8:00 am Music & Arts Camp</p> <p>9:00 am Worship</p> <p>10:00 am Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 am Pastor Jay's Birthday Picnic</p> <p>6:00 pm Evening Worship</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:30 pm Safety & Security</p> <p>7:30 pm High School Bible Study</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10:30 am NOW Summer Lunch</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10:30 am NOW Summer Lunch</p> <p>5:45 pm Committee Budget Lesson</p> <p>6:00 pm Committee Meetings</p> <p>7:00 pm Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>19</p> <p>10:30 am NOW Summer Lunch</p> <p>6:00 pm Jail Ministry</p> <p>7:00 pm Unbinding the Gospel</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Youth Mission Trip Departs for Texas</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:00 am Worship</p> <p>10:00 am Sunday School</p> <p>6:00 pm Evening Worship</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>10:30 am NOW Summer Lunch</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10:30 am NOW Summer Lunch</p>	<p>26</p> <p>10:30 am NOW Summer Lunch</p> <p>6:00 pm Jail Ministry</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:00 am Worship</p> <p>10:00 am Sunday School</p> <p>6:00 pm Evening Worship</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7:30 pm High School Bible Study</p>	<p>31</p> <p>10:30 am NOW Summer Lunch</p>				

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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antje2959@hotmail.com

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doubleg@mediacombb.net

Custodian: Amy DeDoming

Nursery Staff: Jennifer Boatman, Danielle Stuller,
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