

ROBINSON FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH • AUGUST 2019

The Herald

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

CULTIVATING GENEROSITY



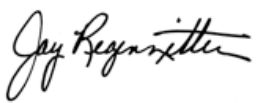
From the Pastor's Desk

Last year, long before I felt God calling me to work on my Doctor of Ministry degree, I had enrolled in an Executive Certificate in Religious Fundraising course, offered through the Lilly School of Philanthropy at IUPUI. I became interested in the course because of our capital campaign, as well as other nonprofits for which I help with fundraising, but I enrolled in the course primarily because a colleague I greatly admire had said it was the best continuing education she had ever done! My course took place at St. Meinrad Archabbey and Seminary, where I learned much about fundraising. As part of the course, each participant had to develop a project using course learnings, implement the project, and write a reflection paper.

Over the course of the past year, I've developed my project - a congregational focus on cultivating generosity. During the month of August, First UMC will help me implement my project. We will utilize worship resources I created; our Sunday school classes (for all ages) will study Scriptures and concepts related to generosity, and we will share in daily devotions together around this concept. I hope you'll pick up (or read through e-mail or social media) our daily devotions, and I hope you'll participate in Sunday school, even for this short period of four weeks. All of our adult classes will meet together in a forum each week in Asbury Hall. At the end of our time together, we'll give thanks for what God has been doing in our congregation this year, and make our generosity commitments for 2020.

Please know that you'll receive additional mail in the coming weeks, inviting you to prayerfully consider how God is inviting you to greater stewardship and generosity for the rest of 2019, as well as 2020. My thanks to the finance committee, who has assisted in this process by developing a narrative explanation of our 2019 budget. I hope you'll read through the articles this month, and discover the ways that First UMC is practicing generosity every day!

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jay Regan". The signature is written in a cursive style and is contained within a thin black rectangular border.

Pastor Jay

NOW Program

- Kirbie Ackman

We will be back to our regular school schedule this month! Our weekend meal baggings will start back up on Thursday, August 22nd at 4:00pm. There will also be a food order pick up August 14. Everyone please meet at the church at 10:00 am and we'll head over to Rulers to pick up our first order of 2019's school year! New volunteers are welcome! If you have any questions please call me, 618-544-8016.

Stewardship

- The Finance Committee

August is our month of stewardship this year, where, as a church, we take time to learn more about how God calls us in various ways to be cheerful, generous givers of our time, money, or talents. It's a time we can use for reflection, to listen for how the Holy Spirit may be calling us to give back to God what He has gifted to us. This year, we have a stewardship series written by Pastor Jay to help guide us! The finance committee has also put together a narrative budget and included it in this month's newsletter to help you better understand how your gifts to the church are used and provide examples of ministries in the church you could give your time to. We have looked at all areas of church spending, and broken it down into four categories: Worship, Care & Connection, Education, and Missions & Outreach. We hope that if any of you have ever wondered how your gifts are used, this will answer the question! We can't wait to learn alongside you how to faithfully manage God's gifts in our lives; we know that the Holy Spirit is moving at FUMC, and we're excited to see how the Spirit moves each of us!

*2019 Illinois Great Rivers
Annual Conference*

-Susan Inboden

As lay delegate, I recently represented our church at Annual Conference. The theme of this year's conference was based on Acts 2:1-2, "Let's Get Fired Up---Hearts Strangely Warmed by the Blaze of the Holy Spirit". Some highlights were the election of clergy & lay delegates to the 2020 UMC General Conference & to the North Central Jurisdictional Conference. We received updates regarding the missions of our conference, honored 30 retiring pastors, & witnessed the ordination of 7 elders & the commission of 4 provisional deacons. We also approved the IGRC 2020 budget & I am happy to report that our church will be receiving \$2,000.00 from our conference to help fund the NOW program.

In closing, I want to share this prayer from Annual Conference:

"Holy Spirit blow over the embers of my heart & kindle a fire in me to do your work. Lord help me to focus on our neighbors & friends who don't know you yet. Give me the opportunity to share the hope I have in you. Amen." I pray that this our prayer, too.

Thank you for the opportunity to attend & represent our church at Annual Conference. It was a very special & blessed time for me.



Marion Medical Mission

- Robert Quick

Your Outreach committee has decided to once again support Marion Medical Mission in order to provide cleaner drinking water to rural villages in Malawi, Tanzania, and Zambia. This is your opportunity to chip in! Wells cost around \$450 in materials and fuel to get the materials where they're needed. Each well says Glory to God on it and is a reminder that Christians from around the world were called to action. Protected water is life-changing. We probably will never meet the people that drink from this well, and they will probably never meet us, but you can see God at work through the love sent to strangers. To join in this effort, simply write a check to FUMC and include Outreach on the memo line. You'll be supporting the outreach efforts of our church both locally and abroad. There's no limit to the good we can do when we show generosity and work for God's glory.

Care News from Stephen Ministry

- Marcia Schmidlin

August is an exciting month for Stephen Ministry. The Stephen Leadership Team met with prospective Stephen Ministers following the July 10 Second Wednesday dinner. The leaders discussed their team roles, laid out the procedures for enrolling in the program, and presented the up-coming training schedule. Janis Daughtery led the meeting as Team Coordinator. She also explained her additional responsibility as Training Coordinator. Janelle Oxford told about her responsibilities as Supervision Coordinator and her duties co-teaming with Marcia Schmidlin as Continuing-education coordinators. Additionally, Marcia will focus on programs planned as Awareness-building coordinator. Pastor Jay Regennitter is the church's Referrals Coordinator.

Anyone interested in becoming a Stephen Minister should contact Pastor Jay before August 19. An application and interview begin the process for anyone called to offer quality one-on-one Christian care.

The Stephen Leaders will be commissioned during worship on August 18, and training begins on August 24. Thank you for your continued support through your prayers and offerings. How blessed and grateful we are for all God does through our ministries at FUMC!

August Birthdays

- 8/3 Jay Holtzhouser
8/4 Mike Parker
8/6 Liz Dhom
8/7 Tyler Carter, Ellen Wilson,
Nancy Mattsey
8/8 Brian Wilson
8/9 Janis Brigham
8/10 Phuong Quick, Kevin Harness,
Daphine Devonshire,
Hannah Britton
8/12 Matthew Schmidlin
8/13 Kirbie Ackman
8/15 Janet Clark
8/16 Dorothy Youngs
8/17 Emmanuel Regennitter;
Janis Daugherty
8/19 Paula Summers
8/22 Myra Jones, Joyce Owen,
Janelle Oxford
8/24 Lois McConnell
8/26 Doris Stanley
8/27 Brent Owen
8/28 Mike Bell
8/29 Antje Pippin
8/30 Justin Ayd, Amy Hartke
8/31 Jason Holtzhouser, Walker Odom

August Anniversaries

- 8/3 Brandon & Melinda Harmon
8/4 Jim & Suzanna Wallace
8/13 Greg & Janis Daugherty
8/14 Jason & Amy Hartke
8/15 Brian & Julie Wilson

Prayer Requests

John, Jeremy, and Greg Markello; Carol Wolf; Carl and Helen Blanton; Michael Brady; Patty Steele; Cathy Thomas; Judson Richardson; Jennifer Newlin; Jennifer Null; Julie Zhang; Bill Thompson; Michael Keene; John Larrabee; Nicole Young; Evan Prah; Margie Moore McNamara; Richard Youngs; Kay Young; Joan Fulling; Nancy & Charlie Young; Tim Roth; Fred White; Vonnetta Shipman; Becky Goodwin; Caius Bell; Ray & Nelda Dotson; Kim Collins; Claudette Mejean; Ava Seaney; Demmie Long; Jaycie Hoagland; Emma Bodine; Charles Hough; Charley Clark; Sheltyn James Henry; Coleen Roach; Layton Roy; Susan Rodgers; Norris Adams; Rick Pritchard; Helen Larrabee; Jim Barnett; Chris Blair; Laurie Vaughn; Bill Jones; McKenzie Fields; Larry & Kay Bonnell; Rhonda Murphy; Sherry Peterson; Wally Leggit; Joe Schmidlin; Vic Plumist; Cathy Frakes, Brent Owen, Maxine Rodgers; Kristi McCleave

August 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 10:30 am Now Summer Lunch at the Parks 6:00 pm Jail Ministry	2 9:00 am NOW Shopping Day Set Up 4:30 pm Student Lake Part at the Veenstra's	3 7:00 am Youth Mission Trip Departs 8:00 am NOW Shopping Day
4 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday School 6:00 pm Evening Worship	5	6 10:30 am Now Summer Lunch at the Parks	7 10:30 am Now Summer Lunch at the Parks	8 10:30 am Now Summer Lunch at the Parks 6:00 pm Jail Ministry	9 11:00 am NOW Fundraising Cookout at FRSB	10
11 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday School 2:30 pm Heritage Health Service 6:00 pm Evening Worship	12	13	14 10:00 am NOW Food Order Pick Up 6:00 pm Stephen Ministry Meeting 8:00 pm Family Movie Night	15 6:00 pm Jail Ministry	16	17
18 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday School 6:00 pm Evening Worship	19	20	21 6:00 pm Committee Meetings 7:00 pm Church Council Meeting	22 4:00 pm NOW Weekend Bagging 6:00 pm Jail Ministry	23	24 8:00 am Stephen Ministry Training
25 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday School 6:00 pm Evening Worship	26	27	28	29 4:00 pm NOW Weekend Bagging 6:00 pm Jail Ministry	30	31

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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