



**IGNITE      INVITE      INVOLVE**

As we continue in a contentious political campaign season and as we struggle as a denomination to see how we move forward together with divergent views of sin and grace, I invite us to embrace the Wesleyan practice of Christian Conferencing.

**The Wesleyan Means of Grace**

Courageous and forward-leaning mission congregations practice spiritual disciplines. Our vital work is a spiritual adventure based in John Wesley's means of grace. John Wesley taught that God's grace is unearned and that we were not to be idle waiting to experience grace but we are to engage in the means of grace. The means of grace are ways God works invisibly in disciples, hastening, strengthening and confirming faith so that God's grace pervades in and through disciples. As we look at the means of grace today, they can be divided into works of piety and the works of mercy.

**Works of Piety**

**Individual Practices** – reading, meditating and studying the scriptures, prayer, fasting, regularly attending worship, healthy living, and sharing our faith with others

**Communal Practices** – regularly share in the sacraments, Christian conferencing (accountability to one another), and Bible study

**Works of Mercy**

**Individual Practices** - doing good works, visiting the sick, visiting those in prison, feeding the hungry, and giving generously to the needs of others

**Communal Practices** – seeking justice, ending oppression and discrimination (for instance Wesley challenged Methodists to end slavery), and addressing the needs of the poor

Making disciples, growing vital congregations and transforming the world is part of a spiritual adventure that is empowered and guided by the Holy Spirit as churches engage in the means of grace.

According to John Wesley, Christian Conferencing is one means of grace. Here are guidelines for Christian Conferencing:

1. Respect others, as Jesus would have done when He was here on earth.
2. Pray for others as well as yourself, especially those with whom you disagree.
3. Listen to others before thinking about what you want to say in response.
4. Understand what others are saying so clearly that you could accurately state their view.
5. Share your own point of view with grace and humility, as well as honesty and candor.
6. Focus your comments on issues being discussed, not on persons expressing them.
7. Commit yourself to the unity of the Spirit, seeking consensus whenever possible.
8. Give the time needed to work through the process in which you are engaged.
9. Acknowledge that you may be wrong, even when you think you are right.
10. Allow the fruit of the Spirit to permeate your way of interacting with others:  
love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

As we have journeyed through the Gospel of Luke we have seen again and again how Jesus shares the gospel with the whole world. Beginning with the angel's proclamation that Jesus is "good news of great joy for all the people" (Luke 2:10). Simeon proclaims salvation "prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel" (2:32). John the Baptist echoes Isaiah in the wilderness so that "all people will see God's salvation" (3:6). Jesus reminds the people of Nazareth of the widow of Zapharath in the region of Sidon whose son Elijah was brought back from the dead and the healing of Naaman the Syrian by Elisha. Jesus calls his followers to "love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you" (6:27-28). Jesus heals a centurion's servant (7:1-10) and the demoniac across the lake from Galilee in the region of the Gerasenes (8:26-37). The seventy-two sent out in Jesus name in Luke 10 represent the list of all the nations in Genesis 10. When asked what must be done to inherit eternal life Jesus responds with the parable of the Good Samaritan (10:25-37). A Samaritan healed of leprosy, a foreigner, was the one out of ten healed who returned to thank Jesus (17:11-19).

We may disagree about politics and how God calls us to respond to sin with grace. However, we can agree that God's desire is to bless all people through us as we follow Jesus the Risen Christ in love.

Shalom in Christ,

*John*

July

Joe Mitchell	7/1
Amy Clevenger	7/2
Julia Cougill	7/6
Gwynneth Pittenger	7/6
Ruby (Kelsey) Miller	7/8
Peggy Polk	7/10
Marge Salisbury	7/12
Sharon Harrison	7/14
Mike Modesitt	7/18
Jerry Golden	7/18
Frank Campbell	7/26
Cindy Miller	7/30



August

Ann Golden	8/1
Ruth Garringer	8/2
Bob Harvey	8/4
Jerry Hill	8/7
Lynn Wright	8/7
Odessa DeHaven	8/9
Donna Pittenger	8/10
Mary Ann Beuoy	8/13
Jeanette Taylor	8/14
JoAnne Thomas	8/15
Marlene Boyer	8/16
Erika Pugsley	8/16
Rex Pittenger	8/24
Peggy Park	8/31
Larry Souders	8/31

*Anniversaries*



July 29  
August 3  
August 10

Fritz & Deb Dolak  
John & Sarah McKillip  
Jack & Hattie Stanton

**Thanks with a grateful heart for...**

- Our wonderful Greeters, Hosts, Minglers and Ushers who show Radical Hospitality every Sunday.
- Everyone who helped Laura Shadoin make the Mitchell Elementary Teachers Appreciation luncheon a huge success.
- The Trustees who come in to the church on Wednesdays to make repairs.

*“Many thanks to the generous folks to helped prepare and package treats for our celebrations of Motherly and Fatherly love (Mother’s Day and Father’s Day).”*

**Facilities Team**

**SPECIAL BUILDING NEEDS**

These are four items which were not considered in the current budget but need to be addressed. 1: Roof repair to fix the leak which damaged the south wall of the sanctuary consisting of masonry tuck pointing and slate shingle replacement. 2. Internal repair of water damage to Sanctuary wall and replacement of fallen ceiling tile in the sanctuary. 3. Replace old carpet inside Wheeling entrance with walkout carpet tile. 4. Replace damaged concrete steps on the Wheeling entrance. We are asking for your help in paying for these repairs to our building. Just mark your donation “Above and Beyond” as these donations should be above and beyond your regular tithe which supports the ongoing ministry of Riverside in the name of Jesus the Risen Christ.

## Notes To and From Our Church Family

To all my sisters and brothers in Christ at Riverside -- Thank you for the financial donation to Covenant Partners Ministries. We appreciate your faithful support of this ministry.

*God bless you, Pastor Linda McBride*

Dear Rev. Young, I was recently informed of the great support your congregation is giving to the students of Mitchell School. Please pass my thanks along to your members. I want you to know that your efforts are appreciated and that you are making a difference in the lives of our students.

*Robert Warner, MCS School Board Member*

Thinking of you today and wanting you to know what a blessing you are to us. You have upheld us with your prayers and financial support, and we are truly humbled. We pray God will bless you abundantly, as you have blessed us.

*Yours in Christ, Ken and Deb Vance*

Thank you for helping to make the “I Believe Tour” at Anderson University possible for the youth at CPM [Covenant Partners Ministries]. A couple of them could not attend, but the ones who were able to really felt blessed by the experience. We appreciate you so very much.

*Blessings, Pastor Linda and all the youth who attended the “Believe Tour”*

## SCHOOL SUPPLIES for Mitchell Elementary Students

Again this year Riverside will be partnering with Mitchell Elementary School to provide school supplies for up to 25 students who will be selected by the Principal and Guidance Counselor. The selection criterion is for those in need and those who would be very appreciative. In the upcoming weeks a list of school supplies will be made available and you will be given the opportunity to both select a student and purchase their school supplies or you may make a donation and someone serving on the committee will shop for you. Please note School Supplies on the memo line of your check or on the offering envelope.

On Monday, August 1 at 5:30 pm we will have the opportunity to gather at Mitchell Elementary School and meet the families and the students who will be using the supplies. Having an opportunity to meet the families and spend a brief amount of time with them was special when we did it last year.

Even though you may be unable to purchase school supplies or donate to this cause you are invited to join us at Mitchell School. You may be that one person a family connects with.

**Like us on Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/muncieriverside/](http://www.facebook.com/muncieriverside/)

### Riverside Nursery Volunteers Needed or An Opportunity To Be With Little Children

Thank you for the people who have volunteered to serve in the nursery with Remedy City Church in the past. Since our service times have changed, we are in need of volunteers to staff the nursery in the future. This is based on need. Would you please let me know if you would be able to volunteer in the nursery. Based upon the response to my request we would have people scheduled on one week a month or however you would be interested in helping. Since we do not always have children, we would have two volunteers lined up for each Sunday to arrive at no later than 9:15 to be present in the toddler room where they can watch the pre-worship singing and announcements. Then if no children arrive by the singing of the first hymn the volunteers could go to the sanctuary letting the ushers know where they are sitting. That way an usher could let them know if there is a late arrival or if a child in worship needs to go to the toddler room. Volunteers would need to be available from 9:15 until 10:45 a.m. Also, we need to have two adults in the nursery on those Sundays when there are children present. This is a state mandated guideline. Again, thank you for those who have volunteered in the past and the future. Please contact Cindy Miller if you would be able to assist with this opportunity. Email [ckmiller43@gmail.com](mailto:ckmiller43@gmail.com) or call 748-2221.

## Covenant Partners Ministry

### Supply Bags Due Dates

Bags are due: Monday, July 25

Bags are due: Monday, August 22

*Please put the following in a paper bag with handles:*

- 1 hand soap, 1 dish washing liquid,
- 1 box of tissues, 4 rolls of toilet paper,
- 1 small bottle/box laundry detergent,
- shampoo

## News from the Missions Team

Summer is a GREAT opportunity for mission outreach. Riverside's Mission team has several volunteer opportunities for you!

- Inside/Out's Fresh Directions Hot Meals Program is in need of volunteers to help prepare lunches for children. Volunteers are needed from 9:30 -11:30 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday at the Inside/Out's commercial kitchen located at 300 N. Madison in the Blood & Fire building. This is a great way to help feed the children of Muncie. Look for the sign-up sheet at church or see Judy Turner if you are interested.
- Quarterly Mission Dinner – Sunday, August 14 . We will be bringing our M&M jar money and dedicating the money during the worship service. Then money collected will be used to support Sierra Leone and our missionary Sarah Turner in Eleuthera. Keep filling your jars to help us reach our goal of \$3,000. Our program will focus on the YWCA's outreach program. The Master's Charges will serve the lunch.
- On Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday, August 17, 18, & 19 volunteers will be needed to work at the Food Pantry.
- Riverside will be providing a Sunday lunch for The Garden at Main Street United Methodist Church – look for further details in the bulletin.
- The Food Pantry is always in need of canned goods, peanut butter, tuna, and cereal.



Thanks to everyone who brought in toilet paper for Covenant Partners and Christian Ministries during May and June. Also thanks to the volunteers who worked at the Food Pantry in June. The Mission team appreciates Riverside's generosity and support for all of our projects.

**DON'T MISS AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE YOUR NEIGHBOR OR COMMUNITY THIS SUMMER-KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN AND YOUR HEART WILLING.**

**Woodcarving & Crafts.....  
meet the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Thursday's  
of each month at  
10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.**

## QUILTERS

There is now a quilting group that meets in Room 101 at the same time the Woodcarvers meet in Fellowship Hall. This is a group comprised of quilters from Covenant Partners and from Riverside. They meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of each month from 10:00 am to noon. All quilters, regardless of experience, are welcome to attend.



## CLOSE KNIT FRIENDS



The Riverside knitters have been meeting each Tuesday evening from 7:00-8:00 upstairs in room 301. Anyone with an interest in knitting is welcome to join this delightful intergenerational group. Some are just learning to knit, beginning with a dish cloth. Other more experienced knitters work on prayer shawls. And some are continuing with projects that were already underway when we began meeting. There is always someone to help with a dropped stitch or “confused needles.”

In spite of the differences in our ages and abilities, we have some things in common: We enjoy the company of other knitters and sharing in this spirit filled endeavor. What a blessing! All knitters are welcome each Tuesday from 7:00-8:00!!!

## Dream Fest

**DreamFest** is a signature fundraiser to benefit **TEAMwork for Quality Living** and **Delaware County Circles** allowing area residents to **buy, win, or participate** in dreams and to think about and gain an understanding about **people living in poverty and their dreams**. The fundraiser will be on Saturday, August 27, 2016 at Delaware County Fairgrounds from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.



There will be opportunities to try new things from archery and airplane rides to pottery and tree climbing, and a slowest bicycle race. Volunteers and vendors and experience providers are needed see <http://dreamfest.org/> and <https://www.facebook.com/dreamfestdc/> for more details.

The mission of TEAMwork is “empowering people in poverty toward self-sufficiency.” People highly motivated to leave poverty go through intensive training during which they look at poverty, why they struggle and how to get ahead. They set goals and become part of the Circles community where people from middle-income and wealth support them as intentional friends and accountability partners.

The Circles initiative in Muncie has been operating since 2006. The magic of Circles is that people living in poverty have specific trained “friends” to help them make their journeys toward self-sufficiency. Those partnerships become life-long friendships and the support and encouragement, along with many other tools, help them complete education, gain better jobs, move to more stable housing, improve childcare and transportation and build mental, emotional, physical and spiritual resources to sustain their efforts.

## Living Together

## July – August, 2016 Riverside UMC Reminder



In the United States of America, The United Methodist Church is divided into five areas known as jurisdictions: Northeastern, Southeastern, North Central, South Central and Western. These provide some program and leadership training events to support the annual conferences. Our Indiana Annual Conference is a part of the North Central Jurisdiction which includes Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Ohio,

South Dakota, and Wisconsin. Every four years the jurisdictional conferences meet to elect new bishops and select members of general boards and agencies.

Please pray for our delegates to Jurisdictional Conference and the election and appointment of bishops. Our bishop, Michael Coyner, is retiring as of August 31<sup>st</sup> and our new bishop will begin his or her appointment as of September 1<sup>st</sup> and be installed on Sunday, September 11.

### Building Discipleship Centers

There is urgent need to replace the 90-year-old auditorium at Epworth Forest Conference Center with new facilities designed for multi-use programming all year long. That is our primary goal.

If we could do more — we could provide scholarships for families with financial need to attend camp.



### Greeters for May/June

Date	Outside Door	Inside Door	Sanctuary Mingler
July 3	Gary Shadoin		Laura Shadoin
July 10	Herb Blank		Karen Blank
July 17	Bob Harrison		Sharon Harrison
July 24	Fred Wallace		Sandy Hunter
July 31	Leta Settle		Marge Salisbury
Aug 7	Jack Stanton		Cindy Miller
Aug 14	Dick Murray		Jan Johnson
Aug 21	Ron Brown		Pat Brown
Aug 28	Frank Campbell		Betty Campbell

### Pastoral Care

Tony Collins will be handling pastoral care while Pastor John is on vacation in July. Tony may be reached at 748-2670.

## Caring Friends Card List

A little about “Caring Friends” -- this group meets the first Monday of each month at 3:00 pm to reach out to people through cards, visits, flowers to hospital/home, and in other special ways.

Wilma Carney, 1600 N Walnut St, Muncie 47303

Maurice and Nancy Carver, 9509 N. Sugarwood Court, Muncie, IN 47303

Julia Cougill, 1812 E 17<sup>th</sup> St, Muncie 47302

Florence Irey Crum, 1601 N. Morrison Rd., #511, Muncie, IN 47304

(mother of Julia Pittenger/Susan Reno)

Mary Jane Eiler, 108 Roosevelt Road, Muncie, IN 47303

Kay Farling, Brookdale Place at Willow Lake, 2725 Lake Circle Dr . #216, Indianapolis 46268

Don Fields, 121 1st Avenue NW, Carmel, IN 46032, (father of Missi Young)

Dorothy Hawkins, Lynd House, 2401 E McGalliard, Room 108, Muncie, IN 47303

Nadine Johnson, 4100 N Morrison Rd, Muncie, IN 47304 (mother of Judy Turner)

Fritz and Ruby Miller, 99 Lakeshore Drive, Melbourne, FL 32901-7845

Roberta Phelps, PO Box 34, 338 N Fulton St, Parker City, IN 47368, (mother of Mick Phelps)

Rex and Donna Pittenger, 5801 W Bethel Ave., Room 531, Muncie 47304

Anna Mae Schenck, Fall Creek Retirement Village, 625 E Water St, Apt 8, Pendleton 46064

Della Stafford 5801 W Bethel Ave #517, Muncie 47304

Jeanette Taylor, Golden Living Center, Memory Care Unit, 2701 Lyn-Mar Dr, Muncie 47304

Sarah Turner, c/o Agape Flights GHB 27997, 100 Airport Avenue, Venice FL 34285

Helen Manet-Valos, Golden Living Center, Room 213, 2701 Lyn Mar Dr., Muncie 47304

(mother of Shirley Modesitt)

Melissa Wallace, 1412 W. Tree Lane, Muncie, IN 47302, (daughter of Fred and Elaine Wallace)

Louise Whitaker, 5801 W Bethel Ave #501, Muncie 47304

Max and Mary Whitaker, 555 Salem Ave., Waterman Village, Mt. Dora, FL 32757