
Keith's Corner



Dear Riverside United Methodist Church,

We will not let hate win.

At the time of this writing, I have just come off the heels of a wonderful, restful vacation in Orlando, Florida. It was a much-needed time away before the seasons of Lent and Easter. In the midst of all the fun and rest that vacation offers, I intentionally take time each vacation to visit a location of historical and/or cultural significance.

Being in Orlando, I knew exactly where I needed to visit: Pulse, a now permanently closed gay nightclub near downtown.

On June 12, 2016, a gunman filled with hate killed 49 people and injured 53 others. It was one of the deadliest mass shootings in modern American history. I remember that night like it was yesterday. Yet as time has moved on, so has our foci. For the families of those killed, time continues to stand still. And, seeing machine gun casings and the walls breached by first responders brought back the reality of this tragedy. Today, Pulse Nightclub now stands as a memorial to the lives taken far too soon that dreadful night. But Pulse also stands as a monument to a global community that came together in support of and in solidarity with the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual (LGBTQIA+) community in Orlando and around the world. On social media, people united their prayers and support with the hashtags [#weareorlando](#) (We are Orlando), [#orlandostrong](#) (Orlando Strong), and [#wewillnotlethatewin](#) (We will not let hate win.).

[The "We Will Not Let Hate Win" banner now displayed at the entrance of Pulse Nightclub, downtown Orlando](#)

We will not let hate win.

I have been reflecting on those words this past week. As we now trek through the wilderness of our Lent to the foot of the cross and to the resurrection power of Easter, I believe this is God's heart for our world: we will not let hate win. When the forces of evil are afoot in our world, God's spirit overcomes with the power of love. In other words, love wins. Throughout the season of Lent, our sermon series will be pointing us to Love crucified and triumphant, drawing inspiration from *A World Worth Saving* by George Hovaness Donigian. Throughout this series, we will journey through Lent not only with attention given to our own spiritual lives but the spiritual life of the world. God believes this world is one worth saving. As followers of God's Child, Jesus, we are called to believe this world is worth saving too.

As we move into Holy Week, we will see God's salvation on full display. Our Palm Sunday service at 9:30 AM on April 5 will take us to the streets of Jerusalem as we wave our palm fronds and cry out, "Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of God! Hosanna in the highest!" But our shouts of acclamation will be silenced on Maundy Thursday (April 9; 7PM) as we remember when Christ gathered in the Upper Room with his disciples and shared his Last Supper with them. *(cont'd)*

We will also hear once more his words, “A new commandment I give unto you: Love one another.” On Good Friday (April 10; 7PM), we will journey to Golgotha, remembering Christ’s crucifixion and death because of the sins of the world. Then, our Great Vigil of Easter (April 11; 7PM) will call forth our first celebrations of Christ’s resurrection and triumph over death. We will light the new fire and join with the proclamations of the angel: “He is not here! He is risen just as he said!” Finally, our Easter Sunday service (April 12; 9:30AM) will continue the celebrations of Easter as we flower our cross and adorn our sanctuary with beautiful Easter lilies.

As we journey through Lent and into Easter, we will not let hate win. We are invited to remember that love always wins. For Christ has overcome death. So then, our world is indeed worth saving.

A blessed Lent this year.

Pastor Keith

Lenten Services

The annual Community Lenten Services sponsored by Christian Ministries of Delaware County are on Wednesdays and will continue at noon each Wednesday through April 1 at Muncie Friends Church, 418 W. Adams Street. Services will last approximately 30 minutes each Wednesday, with lunch afterward. **All are welcome to attend.** The Community Good Friday service will be at noon **April 10 at First Baptist Church**, 309 E. Adams Street.

Service speakers and topics each week will be:

- March 4: “See the Healing Touch!” Luke 14: 34-36, Sister Joyce Mitchell.
 - March 11: “See the Mission!” Luke 9:51-56, the Rev. Frank Scott.
 - March 18: “See the Possibility!” Mark 9:16-23, Pastor Jim Turner.
 - March 25: “See the Son Rise!” Luke 24: 45-53.
 - April 1: “See the Hope!” John 3:1-17, Pastor Jonathan C. Mitchell.
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Men’s Lenten Breakfasts

Saturday, March 7 @ 7:30 am – Daleville UMC
Saturday, March 14 @ 7:30 am – Desoto UMC
Saturday, March 21, @ 7:30 am – New Burlington UMC
Saturday, March 28, @ 7:30 am – Cammack UMC
Saturday, April 28 @ 7:30 am – The Garden

Missions

January / February

- M&M Dinner – Ken Vance updated us on what was happening in Zambia and with his family. The Mission team voted to send \$500 to help with the purchase of doors for the church.
- Collected 115 cans of soup for the Food Pantry
- Sent 50 bags each month to Covenant Partner’s Community Day
- Collected \$875 for the Muncie Mission Walk-A-Mile
- In February cookies were taken to the teachers at Southside Middle School to show our appreciation for their dedicated work with students.

March/April

- March 15 – Riverside will serve a Lenten Soup Dinner to Covenant Partners following their Sunday worship service. A sign-up sheet for donations is in the Narthex
- March 22- 27 – Riverside will be providing meals for the Men’s Sleep Room. A sign-up sheet for those willing to provide food is in the Narthex. You may also talk to Judy Turner.
- March – Riverside will provide cookies for teachers at another school, therefore, cookie donations will be needed. See Judy Turner.
- April 26 – Riverside will be serving a meal to the people at Main Street.
- M&M Lunch /Program – A representative from the Indiana Children’s Home will be speaking at our program. The date has not been confirmed, and will depend on the availability of the speaker. Watch for further information.
- Please continue to pray for the children at the Indiana Children’s Home as you receive monthly e-mails with prayer requests.

The Mission Team appreciates your
GENEROSITY and SUPPORT of all of our outreach projects!

Sunday School Classes

Wisdom Seekers, 8:30 am, Main Level, Room 203

Leader: Florence Shelby

Topic: Life – Suffering, Salvation, Grace

Master’s Charges, following worship, Upper Level, 302

Leaders: Class Members

Thanks with a grateful heart for...

Judy Turner, Pat Brown and their helpers for preparing the delicious meal for the Missions Quarterly Brunch.

An anonymous person who donated a video camera to the Media Team for use during our services.

Those who came to the church to assist Amy and Mark Clevenger in removing the Christmas decorations.

Kay Rankin for updating the Riverside All Saints video.

Thank You to and from Riverside

Thank you to everyone who came out on a very drizzly Saturday morning to help undecorate the church after Christmas. It made for much quicker work, and it was great fellowship, too. Mark and I are oh-so-grateful for the many ways you are a blessing to this church. Thank you! *Amy Clevenger, Worship Team Chairperson*

To everyone involved in making/sending/delivering cookies and cake for Southside Middle School faculty and staff, THANK YOU!! Yum and how very, very kind. What a wonderful surprise. Blessings, *Liz Green, Staff Member*

Thank you for the donations of cleaning supply/personal care bags in November and December for CPM's Community Day. Also, thank you the items that were donated for our Thanksgiving meal and Christmas Open House. At least 140 people received a meal on Christmas Day. You are helping to make a positive difference in people's lives. Thank you for your faithful support of this ministry. *Pastor Linda and everyone at CPM*

We here at YWCA Central Indiana were so honored to receive the \$100.00 contribution that was made to our organization in November. Every day your contribution helps to provide advocacy and shelter service for women and children throughout Central Indiana. Food, hygiene products, bedding, health and wellness, economic empowerment and other essential services aid those we serve as they begin the transition from crisis living to self-sufficiency. Once again, we say thank you. Our staff and residents sincerely appreciate being able to count on your support. Best, *Watasha Barnes Griffin, Chief Executive Officer*

Thank you for the wonderful cards that you send mother. I know she enjoys them. God bless all of you and may 2020 be a wonderful year! *Marcia Smith* for Mary Whitaker



Walk a Mile in My Shoes 2020

Our numbers may have been small this year but we were mighty energetic. Riverside was aptly represented by Barry & Judy Turner, Larry Souders, Mick Phelps and Tom Schamp.



RUMC Now Has Video Recording!

We are excited to announce that by the time you are reading this newsletter we will have begun to record video of some or perhaps all parts of our Sunday services. The recordings will be available to view at www.facebook.com/muncieriverside or https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=riverside+muncie and click on the Subscribe button. You can also go to www.riversideumcmuncie.org and click on the Facebook icon.

Greeter Schedule March and April 2020

Date	Outside Door	Inside Door
Mar 1	Darwin Keyton	Linda Keyton
Mar 8	Alan McGee	Mary Schumacher
Mar 15	Ron Brown	Pat Brown
Mar 22	Barry Turner	Lynn Wright
Mar 29	Joe Mitchell	Sara Mitchell
April 5	Larry Campbell	Nancy Campbell
EASTER	Bob Harrison	Sharon Harrison
April 19	Mary Schumacher	Wilma Grile
April 26	Dick Murray	Jan Johnson

March	
3-1	Dale Hunter
3-18	Alan McGee
3-19	Maurice Carver
3-20	Judy Turner
3-21	Karen Blank
3-21	Barry Turner
3-26	Beverly Reese
3-29	Jo Clevenger
3-30	Fred Wallace
3-31	Lila Thompson



April	
4-1	Melinda Shocklee
4-5	Tammy Holt
4-6	Pat Ashcraft
4-7	Pat Brown
4-7	Gary Shadoin
4-29	Susan Reno
4-29	Jeanine Souders

Please let the church office know if our records do not include you or a family member's birthdate. Thank you!

Caring Friends Card List

Pat Ashcraft, The Hearth at Tudor Gardens, 11755 N Michigan Rd. Apt. 234, Zionsville, IN 46077-9325

Leona Barber, Albany Health Care, 910 West Walnut, Albany, IN 47320

Mary Ann Beuoy, Palmer Hills, 2617 Maplecrest Rd., Apt. 116 Bettendorf, IA 52722-7807 (563)742-1985

Dorothy Bowman, 6609 Brindale, Muncie, IN 47304

Wilma Carney, 1600 N Walnut St, Muncie 47303

~~**Maurice Carver, 1029 7th Avenue E, Bradenton FL 34208~~

PLEASE SHARE IF YOU HAVE MAURICE'S UPDATE ADDRESS

Jo Clevenger, 1700 W Riggin Rd, Muncie, IN 47304

Julia Cougill, 800 Antler Dr Apt. B, Middlebury, IN 46540-9441

Odessa DeHaven, 2300 W White River Blvd., Apt #12, Muncie, IN 47303

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

~~**Kay Farling, Hickory Hall, 5929 Snowbell Lane, B6, Indianapolis 46268~~ [NEW ADDRESS](#)

Dick and Ruth Garringer, Water's Edge Village, 2200 W White River Blvd, Muncie, IN 47303

Barbara Hewitt, 4301 W Laurel Oak Lane, Muncie 47304

Peggy Park, Room 532, 5801 W Bethel, Muncie 47304

Roberta Phelps, Park Place Room 106, 359 Randolph St, Parker City, IN 47368, (mother of Mick Phelps)

Rex Pittenger, Elmcroft Senior Living, 1601 N Morrison #206, Muncie 47304

Joan Strait, 5801 W Bethel #162, Muncie 47304

Lila Thompson, 708 S Rambler Rd, Muncie 47304

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

Weather Related Church Closing Information

The Facilities Team wishes to advise you that if the city declares a snow or other emergency and requests that travel be restricted to essential or emergency travel only, Sunday services will be cancelled. This would also pertain to any meetings scheduled during the week. We, however, encourage you to use good judgment when the streets and roads are hazardous to travel on when a State of Emergency has not been declared.

The cancelling of Sunday Services will be announced on WLBC 104.1 and will appear on WTHR and Fox59. If a meeting is cancelled, committee chairs are responsible for contacting committee members.

If a snow or other emergency prohibiting travel is not declared we will have church for those who can make it safely to Riverside. If you do not feel safe traveling to church, please stay home. If you have a responsibility at church for the Sunday in question, please stay home, but notify the church (288-4257) of your decision to do so. That will keep us from worrying about you being stuck in the snow and allow us to recruit a replacement among those who are able to travel.

You don't have to be in church to worship God. Jesus in John 4 tells the Samaritan woman that location doesn't matter. We are to "worship the Father in spirit and truth" (John 4:23). However, Luke tells us that "on the Sabbath day [Jesus] went into the synagogue, as was his custom" (Luke 4:16). And Hebrews 10:25 admonishes us "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

