



In Step 2 of the Fruitful Congregation Journey, we have a coach and a team of consultants assigned to us by the Conference. Currently, we are gathering many kinds of information about our church to submit to them. As a part of the Step 2 process we are asking all members and regular attenders to complete a short (29 question) online survey which will provide us with valuable perspectives about our church. All data submitted through the online survey tool is completely confidential. Each question must be answered. In instances where you are unsure of your answer it is recommended that you choose “neutral” for fill in the blank questions or “none” for text answer questions. The survey tool is online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SCISStep2CS>. If you do not have access to the internet you will be able to complete the survey on paper. Copies will be available at church or can be mailed to you. Call the church office at 288-4257. If you have not yet completed a survey please do so by midnight on Monday, November 25 so that you don't forget it during the holidays and so that it can be compiled in time for our



After they have reviewed the survey and other material, our consultation team will then meet with us on **Thursday, January 16 and Friday, January 17**. The Fruitful Congregation Journey Two-Day Consultation will involve interviews with church staff beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday. There will be a Focus Group from 5:00 – 5:45 p.m. followed by an **All-Church Potluck/Pitch-In Meal at 6:00 p.m. and a Congregational Workshop from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.** On Friday there may be optional interviews. **There will be a Presentation of the Report to our Church Council from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. on Friday, January 17.** Please mark you calendars and plan to be present. Based on the self-study, the survey, the interviews, the focus group, and the workshop the consultant's report about our church will offer three prescriptions about how we should precede going into the future.

One of the questions on the survey asks you to “identify the decade that you feel describes the golden years of this congregation” and provides choices from the 1930's to the present. Often we feel that our golden years are in the past as individuals and as a congregation. When we feel that way we can lament the loss of the golden years and long for the “good old days.” It is not "what" we remember but "how" we remember that determines whether a memory will be distressing or a source of love and well-being.

Rob Voyle reminds us that “Jesus gave us the Eucharist to "remember" or put him back together in our minds and lives. This way of remembering him becomes a core resource for many Christians as they go about living and loving in the world. By changing the way people remember their loved ones from distressing memories to memories that evoke love and gratitude we can create memories that provide valuable resources for the person as they live without their loved one's physical presence.” This is true of congregations as well. We can look to the past and be distressed that the golden years seem to have passed or we can look to the past with gratitude for all who have blessed us on our journey by their presence and then look to the future in anticipation of what God will do with us to bless others.

**“At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person.  
Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us.”  
— Albert Schweitzer**

The quote from Albert Schweitzer reminds me of Paul's admonition to Timothy in 2 Timothy 1:5-7,

**“I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also. For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.”**

I invite you to be deeply grateful for those who lit the flame of faith within you. I encourage you to fan into flame the gift of God which is in you so that these will be our golden years and so that we anticipate more golden years in the future not only for ourselves but for those who will come after us. Shalom in Christ, John

## BIRTHDAYS

### November

3<sup>rd</sup> Harry Shelby  
6<sup>th</sup> Ron Brown  
21<sup>st</sup> Dick Garringer  
22<sup>nd</sup> Missi Young  
23<sup>rd</sup> John McKillip  
28<sup>th</sup> Julia Pittenger  
29<sup>th</sup> Hester Mitchell  
30<sup>th</sup> Dale DeHaven



### December

1<sup>st</sup> Betty Campbell  
Sandy Hunter  
4<sup>th</sup> Nancy Campbell  
7<sup>th</sup> Virginia Sharp  
9<sup>th</sup> Jack Richardson  
18<sup>th</sup> Kay Rankin  
21<sup>st</sup> Bill Terhune  
27<sup>th</sup> Sara Mitchell  
30<sup>th</sup> Jeanette Perkey



## Anniversaries



December 3  
December 4  
December 16  
December 20  
December 20

Ron and Pat Brown  
Bill and Nellie Campbell  
Mark and Amy Clevenger  
Dale and Debbie DeHaven  
Jack and Jeanne Richardson

## Notes To and From Our Church Family

"Thanks to my wonderful church family for preparing the meal for the Gladys Hunter's funeral."  
*Sandy and Dale Hunter*

"The brothers and sisters of Gladys Hunter wish to thank you for your gracious hospitality. Thanks to all who prepared the dishes of food we so enjoyed. Thanks to Pastor John Young for the message at Gladys' funeral—she would have approved. May your church be blessed and go forth for the Lord Jesus Christ."  
*Mornie Thomas*

"Dear Christian Friends: Thank you for your special gift of \$200.00, sent as an Advance Special through the Indiana conference. This generosity evidences your commitment to the ministry at the Lucille Raines Residence. We are truly most appreciative. Lucille Raines Residence is an extraordinary ministry. The common denominator for LRR residents, men and women who have become undone by their own doing, is a desire to live clean and sober. In a caring, loving and sharing atmosphere, residents experience the support needed to become whole persons again. With gratitude for your support and a prayer that God's blessings will enrich, encourage and enfold you always."  
Gratefully, *Carolyn M Marshall, Executive Director*

"Thank you so much for the cards you sent and all the signatures. You are a friendly church and we miss all of you." *From the parents of Deb Dolak*

"Here it is October and I have been in the nursing home since June 15. I can hardly believe it. Don't think I could have made it without the love of Jesus and his peace plus all the prayers, cards, visits from friends—plus flowers and gifts. It is quite a struggle to learn to walk again. I was very fearful for awhile but the people here do wonders with someone like me. They are going to check our home to see if I can go home in a couple of weeks. I pray that I can. Praise God, and love to all my church family. Rex has been a rock to me.

*Donna and Rex (Pittenger)*

"To our brothers and sisters at Riverside UMC – Thank you for the financial donation to Covenant Partners Ministries. We appreciate your support of this ministry. God bless you."

*Pastor Linda and everyone at Covenant Partners Ministries*

"Thank you so much for allowing us to hold our charity rummage sale in your parking lot on July 27, 2013. We truly appreciate the use of your tables and for allowing us to stay overnight to set up. By generously allowing us to hold our charity rummage sale at your church we were able to have a very successful sale in which we raised \$1080.36. We know that the location along with your advertising helped to make it as successful as it was. Money helps Adoption Connections help people in need in Indiana. Help from people who care like you have made it possible for Adoption Connections to help children needing permanent homes, adoptive families desiring to provide loving family environments, and birth parents who sacrificially choose adoption for their children. Thank you for all of your kindness and generosity."

*Rebecca Bruce, Executive Director*

*Amanda Ramsey, Administrative Assistant, Adoption Connections*

## Give thanks with a grateful heart for...

Pat Brown, Nancy Campbell & Jeanne Richardson for organizing the meals following the celebration services for Jim Reese, Gladys Hunter Betty Satterfield, and thanks to everyone who donated food, helped prepare and serve.

Melinda Shocklee for creating the beautiful centerpieces for the Baoma Block Party luncheon.

Judy Turner, Missi Young and Sara Mitchell for volunteering as Team Teachers for the youngsters who come to Riverside.

Everyone who donated coats, hats and gloves for the Coats Against the Cold project. Approximately 425 adults, children and infants were given a warm coat.

Everyone who donated candy and/or donated money toward the purchase of hot dogs, beverages, etc. for our annual Trunk-n-Treat festivities. Thanks to Bob & Earlene Harvey and Jay & Erika Pugsley for organizing this very popular event again this year.

## The Well on Wheeling - Transportation

Attendance at The Well has been great and we hope it will continue to grow. We thank God for bringing the talented Hart family to Riverside. We will be facing a challenge however, in the coming months due to dusk coming earlier and making it difficult for some to attend. Therefore, we are asking for volunteers willing to transport someone to and from RUMC who is not able to drive or drive after dark. Please note on the Blue Connection Card if you can help on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday's of each month, arriving at church by 5:30pm.

## A New Tradition

On Dec 6 & 7 Riverside will be celebrating the season with a special ceremony beginning at 6:00pm. As we have done for many years, the Star/Cross & Crown will again be hoisted up to the roof of the bell tower. This year you all will want to attend a special ceremony on Friday evening Dec 6 when the Star will be lit. Do I hear “countdown”? Along with the Star being lit, you will notice the two, twenty foot pine trees that face Wheeling have lights. They will be lit by the scouts from Troop 1 & Crew 1 who decorated the trees. Additionally, luminarias will be placed on the sidewalk along Wheeling and Neely. During the evening Colin and Emily will be leading the singing of carols.

On Saturday evening The Well on Wheeling will be held outside (weather permitting) on the corner lot beneath a canopy.

Our festivities on Dec 6 & 7 will take place as an extension of the Minnetrista Cultural Center's annual Luminaria Walk. As folks are strolling by Riverside they will see a church alive and celebrating the real reason for the season.

## United Methodist Women

Riverside United Methodist Women will hold a Thank Offering Service on Thursday, Nov. 21 at 1:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. The YWCA chorus will present a program. Following the program, dessert will be served. All are invited to this meeting. Come and enjoy the program and the dessert.

UMW will again sponsor the decorating of a Christmas tree with hats, gloves, scarves, and mittens which will then be given to needy children within our community. Please help us decorate this tree by bringing your contributions and placing them on the tree. Thank you for your help with this project.

## Red-Kettle Bell Ringers

Riverside will again be ringing bells for the Salvation Army on Dec. 19 and 20, for 2 hour shifts, from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm. A schedule will be available for you soon to sign up for specific times on those two dates. We will again be ringing bells at JC Penney and Sears at the Muncie Mall.

## News From The Missions Team

YEA – Way to Go Riverside! We reached our goal of 600 blocks for the Baoma Secondary School. Once again you have met a need in Sierra Leone. Hopefully the students will soon have an assembly hall to take tests, hold classes, and community meetings. We will be sending the Lego blocks over to the school for the younger children. THANKS to EVERYONE who bought Baoma Blocks to spread God's love in Sierra Leone.

On September 22, Riverside hosted the annual CROP WALK. Thanks to Tom Schamp for setting up and facilitating the event, to Mary Schumacher for being Riverside's representative and helping with the registration, and Colin and Emily for blowing up the balloons and passing them out. Karen Blank, Wilma Grile, John and Missi Young, and Judy Turner enjoyed the beautiful walk for hunger through Ball State. Thanks to everyone who donated money to help stop hunger and support our local Christian Ministries.

On October 27, Riverside provided the food for the evening meal following the worship at Covenant Partners. Thanks to everyone who provided food, paper supplies, drink, and helped served for that event.

Over the past few weeks we have been learning about JOYFUL GENEROSITY. November and December offer many opportunities for Riverside people to be GENEROUS.

Nov. 1-30 The Mission Committee will be collecting twin bed sheets, pillow cases, towels, washcloths, and bedbug mattress covers for the YWCA.

Nov. 8 & 15 Christian Ministries Stuff-a-Bus – Donate food items to fill the buses located at the Marsh stores. You can also help “unstuff” the bus on Saturday, Nov. 9 & 16 at Christian Ministries.

Nov. 15&16 Carson Community Day- Purchase a coupon book for \$5.00 and the money will go to Christian Ministries. *\*\*See article below for details*

Nov. 18 Covenant Partner Sacks

Dec. 1-31 Heifer Project. This is the time of the year to spread “Joy to the World” by purchasing a sheep, llama, goat, or heifer to help a family become self-sufficient.

Dec. 19&20 Bell Ringing for the Salvation Army.  
Experience the Joy of the Season by being generous.

**Thank you Riverside for always supporting Mission projects.**

## CARSON'S COMMUNITY DAYS

Buy a Carson's Community Days coupon book good on Nov 15 & 16, from **Christian Ministries** at the cost of \$5.00. Your \$5.00 goes directly back to Christian Ministries!! You get the following:

1. \$10 coupon to use on any item \$10 or more
2. Shopping pass to save up to 25% off online items or at the Muncie Mall store.
3. 30% off Early Bird Coupon, valid both days until 1 p.m.
4. Coupon offers for extra dollars off on items throughout the store.
5. Web-exclusive offers, plus free shipping November 15 and 16.

**\*\* Coupon books available at the church on Sundays, November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. \*\***

## COVENANT PARTNERS MINISTRIES Community Day Dates

Bags are due: Monday, November 18 for distribution on Wednesday, November 20.

Bags are due: Monday, December 16 for distribution on Wednesday, December 18.

Please put the following in each bag: 1 hand soap, 1 dish washing liquid, 1 box of tissues, 4 rolls of toilet paper, 1 small bottle/box laundry detergent.

## Riverside Workcampers

Fifteen of the Riverside work campers traveled to Manistique Michigan in September. They found accommodations in an elementary school converted by the local Habitat to house their offices, resale store and campers. The campers attended First United Methodist Church, and followed that with a cruise on Lake Superior to see the Pictured Rocks which are beautiful rock formations on the lake. On Monday the work began to prepare a house that had been returned by a home owner. Painting and repairs were made in preparation for the new owner. When the campers left the house it was in better condition than when the first family took possession. They also finished projects on three other houses that other groups had started and were unable to finish. The cooks prepared excellent food, and everyone gained a few pounds. The workers fit in some additional site seeing including a couple of state parks.

## Scoutmaster's Minute

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for your wonderful support of Troop 1. I appreciate all the different types of help the congregation has given, from participating in our fund raisers, to working with the youth on service projects, to financial help for boys to attend summer camp. I have made it a priority in the unit to get reconnected to the church and people, and I believe it is paying off for both the youth and the church members. This is a youth program for the church, and as the scoutmaster, I have committed to getting more youth to join. We are making an effort to form bonds with several Cub Scout packs, so that we have boys flowing to the troop as they get old enough. We are also working on special activities for the Webelos scouts, so that they get to know the troop and choose us as their troop when they cross over to Boy Scouts.

There are two things I want the congregation to know about the troop. First, the goal of the Boy Scouts is to instill a good set of values in the youth, and to develop leadership skills. The Scout Law teaches the boys values that are in alignment with Jesus's teachings. Taken as a whole, the Scout Law teaches the boys to always think of others, be helpful, and to remain reverent to God. And, as the Troop grows, more leadership opportunities present themselves to the boys.

Second, the troop is structured so that each boy can pay his own way. Each boy has an account set up, and as they participate in fundraisers, the money earned goes into their account. They use this money to pay for activities, uniforms, books, and other materials needed. Some boys have paid for everything themselves, including big trips and summer camp. As you help the troop by participating in our fundraisers, you are directly providing the youth earnings for their scouting career. Also, all the money from our fundraisers go to the participating troop members, with no overhead going to the troop. We have separate fundraisers for the troop, and the boys earn service hours when they work these.

In summary, from me, the troop leadership, and especially the youth, thank you for all you do for Troop 1. We are the oldest continuous troop in our district, and you are a big reason we have been around for so long. I love you all.

Jay Pugsley



## Weather Related Church Closing Information

The Trustees wish 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.

If a meeting is cancelled, please contact Tom Schamp (765) 749-4410. He will contact WLBC 104.1, WTHR Ch 13 and Fox59 Ch 11. An e-mail will be sent to those who have given their e-mail address to the church. If possible, an announcement will also be placed on the church's answering machine. If in doubt, please call the church 288-4257 or Pastor Young at 288-3826 or his cell at 278-8733. Committee chairs may also consider establishing a telephone chain call procedure for their committee.

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 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."

## UMCmarket

If you shop online you can create micro-donations to Riverside UMC.

UMCmarket is the United Methodist Church's gateway to micro-donations through online shopping. UMCmarket has been vetted and proven by the United Methodist Church's General Council of Finance and Administration, GCFA, as a new way to create income-streams to our local churches and their ministries. All donations acquired through the member's shopping go directly to our churches or church-related organizations.

Our GCFA has partnered with hundreds of stores who've agreed to give back a portion of your purchase. It's their way of saying "thank you" to UMCmarket for referring customers to them. The money that they give back goes automatically as a donation to Riverside UMC when you've selected it in your account.

To join UMCmarket go to [umcmarket.org](http://umcmarket.org). You will receive an e-mail to confirm your registration e-mail address. Then you can login. Click on the organizations tab and then type "Muncie R" in the search box and then enter. "Riverside Muncie, IN" should appear just below the search box. Click on it and then click on the green join organization button. Then click on the "Download our micro-donations plug-in and donate to your church when you shop." The plug-in will automatically let you know if an online store is participating with a pop-up window. Or you can go to the UMCmarket homepage and select a category to see what stores are participating.

The more people who know about UMCmarket, the more our church benefits. So, spread the word!

## *The Goldsboro Curve*

Our own, Bill Campbell, has recently published a book. Here is a review by someone who grew up in the area where Bill grew up and wrote about in his book:

It is very meaningful for me to get the opportunity to review *The Goldsboro Curve*. Although my home was in a neighboring county, I grew up attending the Sunday school at the church in Goldsboro that my uncle pastored and in which I was married. Author Campbell's perspective is that of growing up in the area at the time in which this story initially takes place. With the advent of the Appalachian Highway and its bypassing Goldsboro, I thought that I needed to revisit the area while reading this book, which I did, and successfully navigated the Goldsboro curve. The area looks different today from what I recalled in the late 1950s and early 1960s when I was there each Sunday, but the curve on which many accidents occurred remains as sharp as ever.

Admittedly, I began reading the book and trying to picture people and the location that I remembered while getting into the story which primarily began as a reflection by the main character Buck--about the same time as my youthful memories. Soon I became engrossed in the story and gave up trying to identify people and place and took up my highlighter on page 14! I read descriptive phrases and sentences relating to and describing Appalachian values, not only at the time of Buck's reminiscences of his growing up years, but also later as an adult living and working in the same area.

Besides a well-written, interesting story context dealing with boys and their cars and with the automobile industry and small industries in southern Ohio that supply parts to the larger corporations like Ford (named in the book), management, labor, greed, ethics, and the “good ole boy system” are all at play in the small industry in which Buck works as a middle manager. The underlying theme of Appalachian values with insightful details of everyday living really captured my attention since about twenty years of my career (continuing in retirement) deal with Appalachian cultural awareness training. Another theme, bullying (or “picking on someone” as it used to be known) is carried out throughout the story. Not only in Buck’s youthful reflections, but also in his adult life and courtroom difficulties, the local justice system and traditional values all intertwine with his workplace and the automotive corporations and youth-adult relationships. The author spends a lot of words on bullying in Buck’s life--as one who was bullied and his reactions to such, his adult relationships with former bullies with possible ramifications as Buck finds himself accused (incorrectly) of killing a bully from his youth, and the community’s response to both. The ending of the book is written to sufficiently close this particular story while leaving some issues “hanging” which could easily result in a sequel!

*The Goldsboro Curve* is an enjoyable read with an element of mystery taking place in a locale that exists in southern Ohio, written by a native son. It is a multi-thematic story with a heavy dose of Appalachian values which correspond closely with Loyal Jones’ typology of these traditional values and beliefs and how they are played out in ordinary life in rural Ohio Appalachia. Both men and women can enjoy the story while learning more about the people, time and place. Bullying and its impact on Buck as a youth and as an adult with his relationships and problems can be significant for today’s youth who could also gain from reading this book.

*The Goldboro Curve* would make a good selection for book clubs in the area as it can facilitate discussion that extends into current problems and issues facing people and the region as well as providing an awareness of and better appreciation for strengths of the culture which are sustaining for folks in good and difficult times. I have added this book to my list of recent Appalachian resources as a handout for Appalachian culture training programs and talked about it in recent programs with organization and agency staffs. This book makes a wonderful addition to literature of Appalachia, especially validating southern Ohio in that cultural context with its values, world view and everyday living. Mr. Campbell has “done himself proud,” as we say, in his first book. We look forward to the next one.

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Campbell, William. *The Goldsboro Curve*. Bloomington, IN: AuthorHouse, 2013. Softcover, 203 pp., \$16.95.

**WELCOME - HOST AND MINGLER SCHEDULE**

Date	Outside Door	Inside Door	Lobby Mingler	Sanctuary Mingler
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Nov 3	Ron Brown & Larry Campbell	Nancy Campbell	Tom Schamp	Pat Brown
Nov 10	Jay & Erika Pugsley	Pat Brown	Marge Salisbury	Karen Blank
Nov 17	Susan Reno & Sandy Hunter	Darwin Keyton	Janet Schamp	Linda Keyton
Nov 24	Jack Stanton & Ron Brown	Cindy Miller	Virginia Sharp	Lynn Wright

Dec 1	Mark & Amy Clevenger	Karen Blank	Herb Blank	Dorothy Bowman
Dec 8	Jerry & Ann Golden	Marge Salisbury	Betty Lacey	Mary Schumacher
Dec 15	Fred & Bob Wallace	Sandy Jordan	Sara Mitchell	Marlene Boyer
Dec 22	Jack Richardson & Pat Ashcraft	Sandy Abbott	Wilma Grile	Kay Rankin
<b>Dec 24</b>	Sandy Hunter & Fred Wallace	Susan Reno	Janet Schamp	N/A
Dec 29	Joe & Judy Van Winkle	Jennifer McGunegill	Virginia Sharp	Judy Turner

**New addresses**

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Bob & Earlene Harvey  
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Brooksville FL 34613-5730