



SELLERSBURG

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Words to the Wise

September | 2023

Pastor's Pen...

I saw a headline a couple of weeks ago that said, this is the last weekend of 2023 without an NFL game. The football fans among us are gearing up for a new season. The baseball fans are getting excited as we edge closer to the playoffs in October. Spain just celebrated winning the Women's World Cup in soccer. There is a lot of excitement for our sports fans. There is an excitement, I suppose, in watching an event not knowing how it's going to turn out. You hope your team wins, but you can't be sure of the outcome until the final whistle is blown or final out is called.

Winning and losing isn't just for our sports fans, however. There are a lot of places in our lives that make us feel like we are winning, or perhaps losing. Working extra hard in hopes of a promotion is one example. Those with major health issues often talk about beating their illness, or not letting it win. Sometimes we set personal goals for ourselves around health, or money management. We can feel like we are winning or losing in attaining our goals. Where are you winning...or losing?

Our faith journey can also feel like a struggle that we are winning or losing. Sometimes, we feel closer to God than others. Perhaps you feel like you are losing ground in your faith journey. Or perhaps you are concerned about the faith journey of someone else. Jesus, and the Bible as a whole, had a lot more to say on the subject than you might imagine. Over five weeks, starting August 27th, we will take a close look

at our weekly scriptures from the Gospel of Matthew from the perspective of winning and losing. You might be surprised by what Jesus has to say on the subject of winning and losing.

Join me August 27 through September 24th for my sermon series "Winning and Losing in the Gospel of Matthew" If you miss a week, the recording will be available on our Youtube channel and links are now being posted each week on our Facebook page.

Blessings, **Pastor John**



Bible Study



Pastor John will be leading a Bible study Friday mornings at 10:00am. They will meet in room 2.

Everyone is welcome to join the Bible study, even if you can't come every week.



Beyond the Walls Ministry



During this month, Pastor John and I are going out to visit the members of the church who are no longer able to get into the church. If you would like us to visit you, please let me know so that we can set up an appointment to visit.

Kathy Waterman - 812-256-5298



Young at Heart

The Young-At-Heart Pitch-in will gather at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, September 6, in Fellowship Hall. On the menu will be fried chicken and meatballs. The entertainment will be BINGO. All are welcome!

Phyllis Hunefeld (502-693-3696)

Maureen Atkinson (812-786-2119)



United Women in Faith

A special event is planned for Sellersburg United Women in Faith on September 10. Stay tuned for more information.



For more information please contact **Phyllis Hunefeld** at 502-693-3696 or phyllis.hunefeld@gmail.com.





Program Information

Hello SUMC!

We are very excited to share *The Gospel According to Seuss* with the kids for this year's Kids Club. From September through June, Kids Club will be held from 5:45 PM to 7:00 PM on the second Wednesday of every month. We will begin with a light snack followed by learning valuable lessons and creating some fun crafts as well as enjoying other activities.

Additionally, we are planning monthly Family Outings. Our first will be a Louisville Bats Game on Sunday, September 24, at 1:00 PM. Tickets are \$9 and kids get a free meal. Adult refreshments will be \$2 each for hot dogs, popcorn, chips and sodas. If you are interested in attending the game, please text your name to Lori at 502.298.2727 with the number of tickets needed.

Watch for more exciting monthly updates in the church newsletter!

Lori Carmichael-Shields
Brenda Croucher
Melissa Dunn



Music Ministry

"Be to me a rock of refuge, to which I may continually come; you have given the command to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress." Thus reads the third stanza of Psalm 73. Our God is a steadfast anchor upon which we are invited by Grace to rely. This analogy captures the hearts of believers today as it did in the days of the Apostles. Exemplary in these prayers is the hymn we call *Rock of Ages*.

Penned in 1775 by Anglican minister Augustus Toplady, there is an often repeated fable of its writing. The story goes that Toplady, while traveling through a valley in the north of England, was struck by a storm. To seek shelter, he wedged himself among the rocks and was inspired at that moment to write the hymn's opening lines. Though this story is likely a later fabrication it yet illustrates just the same longing for shelter in life that leads us all to walk as Christians.

Whether He is to you a firm foundation on which to build your life, an anchor on which to rest the weary, or the shelter from wrath, we remember that God is the rock of all of our lives.

You can reach me at 502-741-3965 or at collindaily41@gmail.com.



Feel free to approach me after service as well.



Habitat for Humanity Clark & Floyd Indiana has volunteer opportunities this summer to participate in their WomenBuild and Community Build. Sign up on their site at <https://events.civicchamps.com/organizations/2879/calendar/month>

SUMC Prayer Chain

If you'd like to be a part of our prayer chain, you can join by sending the message "@sumcprayer" to the number "81010" in a text using your phone. If you'd like to sign up for emails, then you can send an email to sellersburgumc@gmail.com and let us know so we can get you signed up.



PORK BBQ DINNER

Sellersburg United Methodist Church
226 N. New Albany St., Sellersburg



Friday, September 15, 2023

Pork BBQ Dinner \$12

Hot Dog Dinner \$5

Bake Sale in Fellowship Hall

Eat in or Carry-out

Drive-thru on Street

Cash, Credit Card & Venmo Accepted

Birthday List

See a mistake or omission? Need a mailing address for a card? Contact the church office sellersburgumc@gmail.com

September

- William Durham Aug 1
- Allison Sims Aug 1
- Lori Rice Aug 1
- Betsy Boman Aug 2
- Janice Jones Aug 2
- Marcia Schiller Aug 3
- Alan Pritchett Aug 5
- Judy Lewis Aug 5
- Sheila Mapes Aug 8
- Lois Lewis Aug 10
- Carolyn Curtis Aug 11
- Rodney Lewis Aug 12
- Ralph Raeinhardt Aug 16
- James Mattingly Aug 16
- Alice Jones Aug 22
- Juliette Sanford Aug 22
- Lyla Sanford Aug 22
- Jim Lewis Aug 27

October

- John Wesson Oct 5
- Doris Prentice Oct 8
- Bob Waterman Oct 13
- Kendra Reuille Oct 18
- Calista Werle Oct 21
- Jared Lickliter Oct 25
- Peggy Sayre Oct 28
- Regina Kerber Oct 28
- David Pickel Oct 31

Prayer List

1. Joyce Adams
2. Don & Janet Broady
3. Mark Ritter's Grandfather
4. Jan Johnson
5. Dianne Merillat
6. Alice & Denny Jones
7. Janice Jones
8. Harlo Hardy's sister Heather for healing
9. Larry Dewitt
10. Monte & Anna (Carol Voyles' brother)
11. Danny Mills - cancer
12. The Curtis family in the death of Eleanor Jane Curtis
13. Monty Stewart
14. Pastor John's parents in their recovery
15. McClain Family in their grief
16. Chris Dunn family in their grief (Janet Werle's nephew)
17. The Mary Daily family in their sorrow
18. Misty Prettyman-upcoming surgery
19. The people of Ukraine
20. Maui, Hawaii wildfire victims



FINANCIAL UPDATE

Below is the SUMC financial report for July, 2023:

- **Income Comparison 2022 vs. 2023 per ChurchTrac:**

Income for first 31 weeks in 2023 (30Jul23):	\$131,884.55
Income for first 31 weeks in 2022 (31Jul22):	<u>\$140,827.25</u>
Difference:	\$ - 8,942.70

- **Projected Giving for 2023**

Income for first 31 weeks in 2023 (30Jul23) from above:	\$131,884.55
Number of Sundays:	31
Average Giving per Sunday:	\$ 4,254.34
Projected Giving at this Rate to End of Year:	\$221,225.70
Approved Budget per Governing Board, 23Jan23:	<u>\$240,671.76</u>
Projected Giving in Comparison to Budget:	\$ -19,446.06

- **Income versus Expenses**

The Income versus Expense Report for the end of July, 2023, per Treasurer's report is shown below.

Income through End of July, 2023:	\$132,035.44
Expenses through End of July, 2023:	<u>\$128,242.41</u>
Net Income:	\$ 3,793.03

The church remains current in their obligations to the United Methodist Church. All other bills are also current.

If you should have any questions or comments, please e-mail me.

R Waterman
Finance
August 15, 2023

In August, Pleasant Grove UMC hosted our Annual Cluster Picnic; beautiful weather brought out a large crowd. The food table was laden with delicious salads, vegetable dishes and desserts while anchored with hot dogs and hamburgers supplied by the Cluster. There was a very competitive tournament of Corn Hole that entertained the participants and observers, board games, a play set for the children and lively conversation.



The United Methodist Congregations that were represented were: Emmanuel, Otisco, Vienna, Pleasant Grove, Memphis and Sellersburg. We were organized in 2010 and have been faithfully ministering to our communities since then. We have distributed coloring books and bibles at the Clark County 4-H Fair, held revivals, co-hosted VBS, packaged foods for distribution to food pantries and foreign missions, prayed and supported each other through the Covid pandemic and other trying times of change.



Our next River Ridge Cluster meeting is scheduled for October 9, 2023, 7:00 p.m. at Memphis UMC, Memphis IN. Everyone is welcome to attend and join us in our next mission project to support the homeless.



**Janet Werle,
Chair**

