



SELLERSBURG

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Trumpet Sounds | April 2022



**Enjoy the “wow”
that’s happening now!**

One of the joys of having younger children is the reimmersion into the world of cartoons. I know far too much about dozens of Disney characters and the character traits of many fairies, wizards, trolls, and the citizens of The Land of Make Believe. One of the shows we have watched over the years is “Daniel Tiger’s Neighborhood” based on the make believe land created by Fred Rogers. The characters are the children of the puppets from Mr. Rogers’ Neighborhood. It’s nostalgic to enjoy an extension of the world I grew up in.

Each episode features a clever little 5-second jingle which offers a lesson. The entire episode is about this little lesson and the jingle is repeated several times by the characters to help the young audience grasp the idea. One of those messages is “Enjoy the wow that’s happening now.” Daniel Tiger is struggling to think about what is coming next to the point that he is missing out on the opportunity to find joy in the moment. We can all identify with being anxious for what comes next. We can identify with being detached from the present moment due to excitement, worry, dread, joy, or even fear.

One of the most pivotal scenes in the Gospel narratives is the last supper Jesus has with the disciples. Traditionally we might picture DaVinci’s version, but the real scene would have included all of the disciples—women and men—along with families and children. They gathered for a Passover Meal (in Matthew, Mark, and Luke). The

entire context for the cup and bread is best understood through the lens of Jewish Passover.

The most memorable part of the meal, for me, is the humanness we see in Jesus. He is fully aware of the coming hours of betrayal, arrest, accusation, rejection, flogging, procession, crucifixion, death, burial, and resurrection. But...he somehow sits at the table with everyone and enjoys the moment. He relishes the chance to have a meal with his closest friends in one of their final moments together. Sure, they will see each other again, but their entire worlds will have been flipped upside down by the events of the next 72 hours.

In the moment of the meal, there is joy for Passover. There is joy for the life they’ve been living as disciples. There is hope and anticipation for what God is doing through Jesus and what it will mean for their people. There is innocent confidence that nothing bad will happen. When Jesus rises and stands before them again, they are riddled with emotions to the point where Jesus has to repeatedly say, “Do not be afraid.” At the last supper, fear is not present. Jesus soaks it up.

We are on the road to Easter. We’ve been traversing some deep reflection and personal examination in the time of Lent. Let’s not get ahead of ourselves. I know you are planning for Easter meals and celebrations. Planning is great, but make sure you enjoy the wow that’s happening now. Don’t let the planning and excitement remove you from the path of Lent just yet. Take time to reflect and soak up the work of the Spirit in this time of simplicity and fasting. We will emerge from our 40 days in the wilderness, but not yet.

In the moments where you realize you are getting ahead of yourself, stop and picture Jesus at that table with his friends and chosen-family. Imagine what he must have been thinking and feeling as he shared a meaningful meal with his companions while offering elements that would

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redefine the meal forever into the future. Picture him stopping every now and again and simply looking around and listening to the laughter and stories of his friends. Imagine him smiling and intentionally enjoying the wow of each and every second with the kind of presence and intention of which we can only dream.

Let us enjoy the coming Holy Week (when it arrives) and joyfully process through the week of meals, washings, praying, and passion. Let us take time to reflect upon each of the significant moments as they come. Attend Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday (4/14 at 7pm), Good Friday (4/15 at 7pm), Sunrise Service (4/17 at 7:30am), and Easter Worship (4/17 at 9 and 11am). Enjoy the wow of each moment, as Jesus did, and let what's happening bring the full joy and life of the Good News into your hearts and lives.

—Rev. Joseph Sanford



Beyond the Walls Ministry

After many months of staying away from people due to COVID, it is becoming safe to visit again. Please let me know if you feel safe with me coming to visit you. And if not, please give me a call so that we can catch up on the latest news in our lives.

Kathy Waterman



What is a Penpal? People who write to each other. How many of you had a penpal growing up?

This year during Lent (March 2) and Easter (April 17) let's connect with more people.

There will be a sign up sheet if you would like to connect with a penpal and share with each other a card/letter of

encouragement, prayer, scripture or maybe learn what are their hobbies? What is their favorite food?

If you have any questions or are interested in being a penpal, please contact me or the church office.

LET'S GET CONNECTED!

Brenda Croucher - 812-256-4262

A Note from our Financial Director

Thanks to all the church family who participated in the church-wide meeting, on Sunday, March 13. The purpose of the meeting was to seek the guidance and direction from the church in regards to establishing the 2022 Church Budget. As explained during the meeting, the church has experienced declining Budget Giving and increased expenses. If you have any thoughts on how the church can increase Budget Giving or lower expenses, please contact one of the Governing Board members. Remember, that "everything is on the table" at this point. Every idea will be carefully considered by the board, when developing the new General Fund 2022 Budget.

If you missed the meeting, below is one section of the presentation, concerning Budget Giving:

- Income To-Date Comparison 2021 vs. 2022

Budget Giving Income for first 9 Weeks in 2022 (through 27Feb22):	\$ 38,590.20
Budget Giving Income for first 9 Weeks in 2021 (through 28Feb21):	\$ 45,575.08

Difference: \$ -6,984.88

- Projected Budget Giving Income to End of 2022 at Current Rate of Giving

Budget Giving Income to Date (27Feb22):	\$ 38,590.20
Number of Weeks from 01Jan22 to 27Feb22:	9
AVG Budget Giving Per Week (as of 27Feb22):	\$ 4,287.80

Projection to Years End (52 weeks): \$ 222,965.60

If you would like to have a copy of the full report, please contact the church office.

After the church-wide meeting, one member suggested that older members in the congregation may want to consider giving to the church through their IRA (Individual Retirement Account). For those over 70½, you are required annually to take a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD).

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Instead of receiving the RMD, you can request that this IRA distribution be made directly to a charitable organization, such as your church. This is called a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). It should be noted that you do NOT have to itemize your deductions to get credit for the QCD. Other significant tax benefits include: lowering your tax bracket, lowering your Medicare premiums, lowering the taxes on your Social Security benefits, lowering State Income tax, etc.

Another method to give to the church is through donation of common stock. This is particularly beneficial to the giver, if you have a stock that has increased in value over time. If you withdraw this stock, you will pay taxes on the difference between the initial value and the final value (capital gains). By giving the common stock to the church, you can claim, as an itemized deduction, the FINAL value of the gift, without paying the capital gains on the stock. The church gets the benefit of the gift, but does not pay the capital gains, since the church is tax exempt. Also, it should be noted, that if common stock is given to the church, the church will liquidate the stock per the SUMC Guiding Principles.

Before you make ANY financial decisions concerning giving to the church by IRA QCD or gifting of common stock, it is important that you check with your tax accountant, financial planner, or other tax professional, as each person's tax situation is different. The above information is not being offered as tax advice, but only providing general information that each individual giver should consider in their giving to the church.

Several members are also taking advantage of giving to the church online. Information on how to give online is found on the church's website. Also, information is given in each week's bulletin on how to give online.

Yet, another alternative is to use your bank's Bill Pay Method. Some banks are now offering their customers the opportunity to set-up their bills using a Bill Pay method. As soon as you set-up all of the payees, then the bank will send the checks to the payee without you writing a check, based upon your directions on when you wish to pay and how much to pay. This keeps you from writing a check. Some banks even have an AutoPay feature, where you can set-up a payment on a continuing basis (weekly, monthly,

quarterly, etc.), without you directing the bank at each payment. With this Bill Pay method, you can set-up the church as your payee.

In closing, continue to remember your church in your prayers as we face tough financial decisions.

R Waterman - Finance



Music Ministry



Fanny Crosby is one of the most beloved and influential songwriters/composers of the United Methodist Church, estimated to have authored more than 8,000 hymns over the course of her 94 years on earth. Born in 1820, she never set out to earn a personal fortune. In fact, she donated the few royalties received from her music

to help the immigrants and poor – the least among us, just as Jesus calls us to do in Matthew 25.

Her *vision* for writing music was beautiful, and through the music she brought forward, she used her God-given gifts to inspire others to see what a relationship with Jesus was like. She encouraged others to not just sing about their Savior, but to experience Jesus. The irony of helping others see through this *vision* is that Fanny Crosby was blind since infancy.

She once wrote in her autobiography that the songs she penned were purely God's work and not for her own personal profit. She continued sharing her God-given talents even when it came at the expense of barely being

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able to afford paying rent. However, she wrote that despite often being without enough cash to survive, the Lord would always provide – even at the last minute – as her steadfast faith in God seemed to bless her throughout even the most financially trying times.

Fanny Crosby always began writing new music with a prayer, seeking what she could do to serve as an instrument of God’s will. She worked with the marginalized and outcasts of society, and truly followed the example of Jesus. After spending an evening ministering to the homeless men in a local community shelter, she came up with the classic church hymn “Rescue the Perishing,” wherein she points out the way to help people was to treat them with kindness and gentleness. It’s no wonder she hoped to lead a million people to the Lord through her songs and actions.

Even in death, her legacy continues. We still sing many of her songs each week in churches across the world, spanning many countries, languages and denominations. You might recognize some of the titles. Hymns such as “Blessed Assurance,” “Pass Me Not,” “To God Be the Glory,” “Rescue the Perishing,” and “He Hideth My Soul” are just a few of the countless contributions Fanny Crosby made to church music. As we sing hymns, songs, and choruses each week while we worship, perhaps we can take a page out of her book and pray before each song. Instead of simply reading what we see on the screen in front of us, we can consider the meaning of the words and the theology behind them.

Furthermore, we can take the same fiery spirit and heart of outreach espoused by Fanny Crosby to engage our community’s least among us. Whether it’s teaching a Bible study or lending a hand to those struggling around us, with God’s help, our actions will be pleasing and honoring to Him. The reality is that most of us do not face a fraction of the hardships Fanny Crosby endured many years ago. Most of us are sighted, able-bodied, and capable of reaching out to a neighborhood in need.

Fortunately, Sellersburg United Methodist Church has a wide array of ministries you can become involved in to do all of these things! Whether it’s through music, missions,

neighborhood outreach, or even being a prayer warrior, there is no shortage of opportunities to worship and glorify God. Please prayerfully consider how you can be involved in growing the kingdom of Christ.

Mark D. Ritter



Young at Heart

Young at heart will be meeting Wednesday April 6th at 11:30am in the Fellowship Hall. Chicken and meatballs will be served. Pastor Joe will present part 2 (of 3) of his trip to the Holy Land. He will show pictures and items from Galilee and share history and scripture to offer context from Jesus’ day. This context can help us better understand some of Jesus’ most popular sayings.



(The smiling faces of March birthdays)

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United Women in Faith

United Methodist Women is now United Women in Faith!

The new name is part of a refreshment of our organization that includes a new look, new and improved programs, and a way to nurture our current members as well as welcome new women into our organization. United Women in Faith will continue to put love into action as we advocate for women, children, and youth.

Our new mission statement: *United Women in Faith seeks to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.*

Visit the new website (UMFaith.org) and United Women in Faith *FaceBook* page to learn more.

UWFaith Meeting on Sun. Apr. 10 @ 2p.m.

Ashley Braswell, assistant director, Clark County Youth Shelter & Family Services will be the speaker. Love Offerings for the Shelter: oatmeal packets, canned vegetables, Nilla Wafers, microwave popcorn, 33 gallon trash bags, laundry pods, gallon Zip Lock bags, plastic food storage containers, and monetary gifts.

South District Spring Gathering

Saturday March 26



United
Women
in Faith

Scottsburg United Methodist Church, 615 Honeyrun Parkway, Scottsburg is the location. Registration/Breakfast

is at 9 a.m. and the program is at 10. Kathy Byerly will speak on "What Can I Do in 2022?"



Sunday May 15 at 2 p.m.

SUMC Fellowship Hall

Join us for an afternoon of togetherness as you sip tea and enjoy finger sandwiches, scones, pastries and more! All ladies of the church and their guests are invited! Little tables will be set up for little girls. Dress up with a hat and gloves, if you like, and bring a memento of your mother to share. It's going to be fun for all ages!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR & STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFORMATION

Clark/Scott County Lenten Breakfast

Connie Ford, Phyllis Hunefeld, Elda Myers and Lois Ketterer attended the March 12 Lenten Breakfast at New Chapel UMC. On this cold, windy morning, twenty-three ladies came out to enjoy a scrumptious breakfast and hear an inspiring message on "God's Peace" by Cassia Elder, author, speaker, and founder of Sisters Forward. **For more information about upcoming events and carpooling to the District Spring Gathering, contact**

**Phyllis Hunefeld at 502-693-3696 or
Phyllis.hunefeld@gmail.com**



YOUTH MINISTRY

Women in Youth Ministry

Harlo and I had the wonderful opportunity to attend the inaugural Women in Youth Ministry Conference at St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Indianapolis on March 10th and 11th. Women in Youth Ministry was founded in 2014 as a Facebook Community, seeking to bond women in youth ministry together through community. The community has since grown to almost 3000 women! Their mission is to not only connect women together but to champion the voices of women any way they can, which is the focus behind their podcast, blog, and sticker store. Instead of big-name speakers, Women in Youth Ministry used women that work everyday in the field just like we do. That gave us the opportunity to hear a variety of opinions from the front lines and walk away with something we can use for our ministry. There were sessions with speakers who shared the same subject, but from different perspectives, which helped us to find valuable information designed more for our specific needs. There were also roundtable discussions, built on the principle that we learn better in circles than we do rows. This gave us the chance to share challenges and realize there are others dealing with the same issues.

We opened each day with worship and messages of inspiration and empowerment from a speaker. We also had sessions each day such as:

Managing Work-Life Balance

From the single leader perspective and also from the married-with-kids leader perspective

Gen Z and Predictions about Gen Alpha

From a Gen Z youth pastor and from a 20+ year veteran youth pastor Living into the "And" From a small church perspective and a large church perspective

There were also workshops we attended:

WISE UP - Mental Health in Youth
LGBTQ - Inclusion in Youth Ministry
Developing a Culture of Inclusion in the
DNA of Your Ministry
And a Hands-on Workshop called:
Innovation & Pandemic Ministry

It was an amazing opportunity to share ideas and challenges. It helps to know you are not facing these issues alone and others are dealing with the same struggles. Not only did we learn from others in our position, but we built relationships that last a lifetime. If you have any questions about the conference please ask. Harlo and I would like to thank our Church family for their support and continued prayers. It has been a challenging time for everyone, but we know GOD'S GOT THIS!!!

Lori Rice





Happy Easter and blessings to all!

Here is a fun and tasty activity that I do with my family and Sunday School.

Teaching kids about the true meaning of Easter with **Empty Tomb Rolls** is easy and makes a lasting impact...and they taste good too!

Prep Time 15 minutes

Cook Time 14 minutes

Total Time 29 minutes



Ingredients

- 1 (10 ounce) package jumbo refrigerated crescent rolls
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1 tablespoon ground cinnamon
- 8 large marshmallows
- 1/4 cup butter, melted

1. Separate rolls into eight triangles. Combine sugar and cinnamon. Dip each marshmallow into butter, roll in cinnamon-sugar and place on a triangle. Pinch dough around marshmallow, sealing all edges. Make sure to seal well or all the marshmallow will escape.

2. Dip tops of dough into remaining butter and cinnamon-sugar. Place with sugar side up in greased muffin cups. It helps to use jumbo muffin tins so that the juice doesn't overflow.

3. Bake at 375 degrees for 10 to 15 minutes or until rolls are golden brown. Allow to cool slightly then eat warm.

4. Read the Easter story from the Bible found in Matthew 27-28, Mark 15-16, Luke 23-24, and/or John 19-20. If you are not familiar with the Bible the story is recounted by these four men...the story is virtually the same but is found in these four places in the Bible.

1. Jesus — marshmallow
2. After Jesus died on the cross he was wrapped in linen— roll in butter and cinnamon
3. Jesus put into tomb — crescent roll dough
4. 3rd day Jesus has risen and no longer in tomb — open cooked roll to find no marshmallow

Brenda Croucher



Prayer List

1. Joyce Adams
2. Don & Janet Broady
3. Mark Ritter's Grandfather
4. Patricia Wallace, friend of Elda Myers
5. Shirley Barnhart
6. Frank, Nora Pritchett's brother
7. Doris Smith family in their grieving
8. Gary Schaar (and family) in death of his wife, Joyce
9. Jan Johnson (cancer treatment)
10. Dena Werle (recovery and treatments)
11. Dianne Merillat
12. Doug Reiter
13. Caden Elrod - eye surgery and recovery
14. Carolyn Curtis
15. Lois Pickel continued healing
16. The people of Ukraine and world leaders
17. Tim Johnson - waiting for heart transplant
18. Connie Schlieker

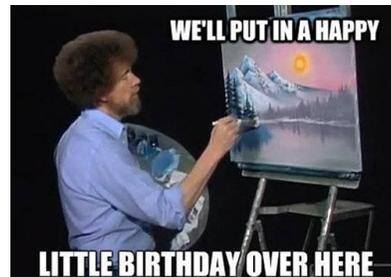


Birthday List

See a mistake or omission? Need a mailing address for a card? Call the church office (812) 246-2502 or email sellersburgumc@gmail.com

April

- Janet Smith Apr 2
- Elizabeth Wells Apr 3
- Fred Smith Apr 5
- Dorothy Meyer Apr 9
- Gary Appell Apr 12
- Johnny Potts Apr 17
- Belinda Martin Apr 17
- Evelyn Tuttle Apr 18
- Joy Gillis Apr 27
- Austin Brown Apr 27
- Shirley Barnhart Apr 30
- Tony Goforth Apr 30



May

- Betty McMillin May 2
- Mark Ritter May 3
- Deb Sappenfield May 4
- Kathy Waterman May 4
- Dalton Daily May 5
- Ellen Money May 7
- Tom Elrod May 9
- Sam Goodwin May 12
- Lilly Hardy May 13
- Jason Werle May 14
- Rev. Joseph Sanford May 15
- Grace Whobrey May 18
- Janet Broady May 19
- Stephanie Beyl May 21
- Ron Sappenfield May 27
- Bill Koehler May 30
- Darryl Moore May 30