



September
Lamplighter



“JESUS REMEMBER ME...”

- LUKE 23:42

The words of the thief on the cross next to Jesus loom large, “Jesus remember me...” We can speculate about what motivated him to speak these words, and we can do so with a fairly high degree of certainty because we understand. We are all at different places when it comes to our willingness to acknowledge our own mortality, but it is there nonetheless. I had a biology teacher who reminded our class on more than one occasion that we are all terminal from birth. His was a bit of a cynical reminder that death is an inevitable eventuality for all of us. Death is a reality that (unfortunately) our society tries to deny. Death’s finality can be grief-filled, but it can also be so much more. It can also remind us to embrace life to its fullest and point us to the powerful hope of death overcome by Jesus’ resurrection.

As a pastor, I have had the privilege of sitting with families following the loss of a loved one to talk about how the life of the person who has departed will be celebrated and remembered. I do consider it a privilege. It is humbling and challenging. At times it is painfully difficult but at

others an immense blessing. Above all, it is intimate. Intimate in the sense that families trust me enough to enter into what they are experiencing by openly sharing their thoughts and feelings with me. Sometimes I travel this road with those of you I see each Sunday and at other times it is with people I will never see again. I have learned some things along the way.

With the recent passing of Melissa’s mother, Dianna Martin, I had the opportunity to sit on the other side of the table as we talked with Melissa’s parents’ pastor about the memorial service. I was reminded of the important role that a funeral or memorial service plays for the family and friends of those who have passed away. Such a service serves several purposes including: worship, remembering, and releasing. We worship God to give voice to the hope we have in Jesus; we remember the life of the departed; and we release them (and us) to move on with new life.

I have done quite a few funerals (I could probably figure out exactly how many but I have never felt the need to do so). In my opinion, what makes for a good funeral/memorial service is when the ‘voice’ of the departed speaks to those in attendance. I am not talking supernaturally but in the sense that the music, the readings, and the sharing paint such a vivid picture of the person that brings who they were to life. Some families can do this through their memories and stories of their loved one, but in my experience it is the most meaningful when the person who has departed leaves notes and instructions. Sometimes it is a note left in their funeral prearrangements, instructions shared with a family member, or even passages of Scripture marked and commented upon in their Bibles. For sometime I have thought that it would be helpful for me and a blessing to families to have a workshop on planning for your funeral. My hesitation has been that people would think it too morbid and not attend. I have now decided that it is too important to not offer such a workshop.

Drawing on the materials of Dr. Alan Wolfelt, author and educator on the topic of grief, I would like to begin this conversation with those who are interested. We will spend some time

talking about the purpose of the funeral and ideas for what makes a service meaningful and healing. My hope is that this workshop will help us think about the things we want our loved ones to know and remember about us after we have departed. I am calling this workshop "Remember Me" and want to provide you with some tools to give your loved ones the gift of a meaningful service (and one that eases the amount of preparation that they will have to do when that time comes). There are no commitments if you attend. I will share some information, and if you choose, there will be some things for you to complete in your own time. I will be offering this workshop on September 20 from 1pm-3pm. Please RSVP with the church office so I can have enough hand-outs prepared. Depending on interest, additional dates and times may be scheduled. I hope that you will consider joining in this conversation about how we confidently live as those prepared to die. May it be a gift to your loved ones and a testimony to the faith that we have in Jesus who has overcome the power of sin and death. - IN CHRIST, Pastor Tom



Children's Moments

Pastor Jen welcomes all ages to sign up to do a children's moment on a Sunday morning. She provides the scripture and sermon topic for you to prepare your short time with the kids during the worship service. You would be great at helping our children to feel like they are an important part of the service! Contact Pastor Jen if you're interested!

Sunday Treats!

Our hospitality table in the parlor is a great way to connect with each other before and after worship on Sunday mornings. We would like to offer a variety of treats during our Sunday coffee hour. If you would be interested in helping contribute to these treats, please contact the church office or put your name on the sign-up sheet.

70th Anniversary of Rev. Ted Halsted's First Pastoral Appointment

Rev. Ted Halsted, a retired pastor of the Michigan Annual Conference and part of our Central congregation, is celebrating the 70th anniversary of his first pastoral appointment in 2018. In 1948, while Ted was a senior at DePauw University, Bishop Richard Raines appointed Ted pastor of the Gosport and Quincy congregations in the Bloomington District. From 1949 to 1952 Ted was a Methodist missionary in India, where he met Marcy, a missionary nurse, who became his wife and partner in ministry for 52 years. Returning to the U.S. in 1952, Ted attended Yale Divinity School, then was a pastor in Michigan, where one of his appointments was as United Methodist district superintendent of the Upper Peninsula. Here at Central, Ted is a member of the Koinonia Class, sings tenor in the choir, and for eight years has led Central's bread baking project for the benefit of Mujila Falls Agriculture Center in Zambia in southern Africa. On Sunday, September 16, Ted will be in the pulpit at Central. His message will be on "Following Jesus in the 21st Century."

AGAPE Sunday School Class Study

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|-------------------|--------------|
| July 29 - Sept 16 | John 1, 2, 3 |
| Sept 23 - Oct 28 | Galations |
| Nov 4 - Jan 20 | James |
| Jan 27 - March 17 | Colossians |

All of these studies are on Right Now Media, so feel free to follow along with us even if you aren't able to join us on Sundays.

Primetimers

Primetimers has been a long standing group for senior and close to senior persons as a lunch and learn (from outside speakers) group of our church. We once met more often but we were meeting only one time each month during the last 2-3 years. Due to declining attendance and lack of people able to cook (one of our "things" was to have a prepared meal) on a rotational schedule, we have decided that this group has run it's course. It is time to end this group. Thanks to all for those who have faithfully participated both by serving and attending.



**CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1425 EAST MAIN STREET**

SEPTEMBER 29TH • 10AM - 2PM

GIFT ITEMS

FALL • HALLOWEEN • CHRISTMAS

*Complimentary Tea with
Styles by Secret Ingredient*



A Mission Opportunity

Randy and I will again be joining members of the Plainfield UMC on a short term mission trip to the Henderson Settlement in Frakes, KY. The group will leave Sunday, Oct 14 at noon and return on Friday, Oct. 19. The trip is inexpensive and close by. Frakes is only a 4 1/2 hour drive. Individuals, couple, and families are welcome. There is something to do for everyone and all skill levels are needed to do building, painting, gardening, quilting, and to help sort and hang up clothing in their Thrift Shop. Contact Ann or Randy SOON if you are thinking about joining us. Email Ann at dovesnestphotos@gmail.com or leave a phone message at 765-962-8458. Let's be in mission together!

Mark Your Calendar

for our first UMW unit meeting of the fall. On the evening of Sept. 6, at 6:30 in Fellowship, Felicia Stewart, will talk with us about Child and Maternal Health. This program isn't just for young mothers. Felicia has tailored the talk to our area of the state so she can present ideas of how all of us can help the children and mothers in our community to improve their lives. Come join us for refreshments and a time of fellowship. We will be collecting socks and underwear for Communities In Schools here for children ages 5-14. Please be generous. Questions? Call Ann 962-8458

More UMW News

On Saturday, Sept. 8 the East District's Fall meeting will be held at Yorktown UMC, from 9:00-Noon. This meeting will feature Judge Kimberly Dowling, who will speak on the Human Trafficking taking place here in Indiana. We will also have our annual Memorial Service for the District. There is no cost for the meeting. Registration will take place at 8:30 a.m. and will be followed by a coffee bar and a time of fellowship. A carpool will be going, so if you would like to be part of this carpool, let Ann Cashner know by Thursday, Sept 6.



TRIBE NEWS

"For where two or three gather in my name, I will be with them" - Matthew 18:20

**Sunday, September 9 6:30pm
(at the end of Youth Group)**

PARENT MEETING

YOU DO NOT WANT TO MISS THIS!

We will discuss meeting places and times for the year, special events you want to see happen, and other schedule info. We will also vote on location and date for next summer's mission trip!

SMALL GROUP LEADERS NEEDED

We have students each Sunday night that range in ages from 12-17. It is always great if we can break up into smaller groups in order to have more effective lessons and discussion. Please contact Sheri if you think this is something you would like to learn how to do! Amanda and I would love to have you!

DO YOU PLAY A SPORT?

Don't forget! Sheri would love to come to one of your games but needs a schedule! You can email them to her or drop one off at youth group! Thanks!

Need Sheri?

Text or call: 806-759-0485

Email: sheri@richmondcumc.com and/or joggermom1@yahoo.com

Central United Methodist Preschool

is now enrolling children ages 3-5 for our 2 and 3 day classes. Come play, learn and grow with us. To learn more about our preschool or to schedule a tour contact Tiffany Cullers at tiffany@richmondcumc.com or 765-373-3108.

*Bring in this article to get a discount on enrollment. - Rebecca Lafuze

Preschool and Childcare Board Vice Chair

Box Tops

Thank you all for contributing soup labels and Box Tops for Education through the years. Campbells has discontinued their soup label promotion.

However, we are still accepting Box Top for Education labels for Red Bird Mission in Kentucky and used stamps. Aluminum tabs are also collected for the Ronald McDonald House as well as used glasses for Lions' Club. They can all be left in the boxes near the office (by the drinking fountain). United Methodist Women

Creative Hands

Creative Hands will meet September 13th and 27th as we prepare for the POP-UP on SEPTEMBER 29th. Many seasonal items from fall through Christmas. Join us for fun, fellowship, and food from 9 through lunch.

Monday Morning Connections

We will begin meeting at the church starting in September. We will also be moving the meeting date from the 3rd Monday of the month to the 2nd Monday of the month at 10am in the Parlor. Our first meeting will be September 10th.

Food and Fun!

Join us for a church picnic on Sunday, September 9th following worship. We will meet at Glen Miller Park, Shelter #9, by the playground! Please bring a dish to share (Last name A-H: Dessert, I-Q: Side, R-Z: Main Dish). If you have outdoor games, feel free to bring those, too. We're also not far from the lake if you want to bring your fishing gear!



For Your Review:

| | 2018 Budget YTD | YTD 7/31/18 |
|---------|------------------------|--------------------|
| Income | 271,308.33 | 235,636.21 |
| Expense | 316,164.33 | 298,023.33 |
| Net | -44,856.00 | -62,387.12 |

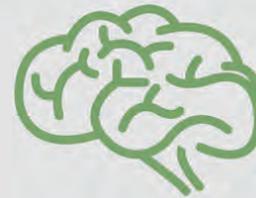
As previously shared by the Trustees, extensive repairs and replacements listed below totaling over \$24,000 have far exceeded the budgeted expenses for Building Maintenance and Improvements. Some of these items were unexpected, and some were necessary maintenance. Unfortunately, this same period of time has also seen a decrease in contributions from years past. As we head into the last third of 2018, please be reminded of your 2018 pledges and contributions. Thank you from the Administrative Council for all of the contributions that have been received to date and are being used for God's work.

- Boiler - \$8000.00**
- Hot Water Heater - \$3100.00**
- Sump Pump - \$1250.00**
- Carpet Cleaning- \$2800.00**
- Sewer Grinder Pump - 1400.00**
- Drain Outside Multipurpose Room - 1500.00**
- Sanctuary Projector Lights - \$2100.00**
- Church Lights - \$3000.00**
- Parking Lot Lights - \$ 827.00**

More information regarding finances can be found on the bulletin board in the entry area. To better help identify the contributor and maintain accurate giving records, the church's preferred method of receiving funds is a check payable to the church, placed in a church envelope.

IMPLICIT BIAS

WHAT WE DON'T THINK WE THINK



September Sermon Series: Implicit Bias

"Implicit Bias is all about 'what we don't think we think'...As each of us experiences life - in school, at home, in church, at work, watching T.V. - we are surrounded by a number of biases. Some of these biases we consciously accept as our own, some we consciously reject, while many more fall into the subconscious level. Even though we are not aware of implicit biases, they constantly help to form our beliefs, values, ideas, and actions every day. By looking at "what we don't think we think" we can get to one root of the problem between our intended goals and the actual outcomes.

As followers of Jesus, we are created and called by the God who consistently questions beliefs, values, and motives. By taking an intentional look at implicit bias and the ways it works in our brains and in our actions, we commit to rooting out the biases that are corrupted by stereotype or prejudice and separate us from one another. "

Join us as we learn to see (recognize), ask (question), and transform our implicit bias through the lens of Jesus Christ. We look forward to exploring this topic with you on Sunday mornings and during the Pastors' Study on Wednesdays at 10am in the Parlor.

Cornerstone Sunday School Class

Cornerstone Sunday School Class, Room #211 is excited to begin a study of the book of James beginning Sunday, September 16, 2018. We will be using Right Now Media with famed pastor of Cornerstone Community Church in San Francisco, Francis Chan, leading the study. More information will follow. We would LOVE to have you join us for this in depth look at James!

Threshold Singers of Richmond, Indiana:

Our goal is to bring ease and comfort to those at the thresholds of living and dying. A calm and focused presence at the bedside, with gentle voices, simple songs, and sincere kindness, can be soothing and reassuring to patients, family, and caregivers alike. If you would like more information about what we do, or would like us to sing at the bedside of a loved one, please contact Amy McKee or Janie Jordan.

Joysingers

Joysingers will begin Thursday September 6th at 4pm - 4:45pm in the Joysingers room. Ages 4 thru 2nd grade are welcomed. We hope to see you there so we can make a joyful sound together! - Miss Debbie & Miss Kathy



Thank You

I want to thank everyone involved in David's Homecoming Service. Thank you to everyone who prepared the food and helped out financially. And a special thank you to Jamie Puckett who created beautiful decorations. Jamie, you blew my mind. - Kim Lewis

Calendar of Events

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|------|---------------------------|---------|
| 9/3 | Church Closed | |
| 9/4 | Preschool Board Meeting | 6:00pm |
| 9/5 | Pastor's Study | 10:00am |
| 9/5 | Security Meeting | 6:00pm |
| 9/6 | UMW Meeting | 6:30pm |
| 9/8 | Bread Baking | 8:00am |
| 9/10 | Monday Morning Connection | 9:00am |
| 9/10 | Medical Monday | 1:00pm |
| 9/12 | Pastor's Study | 10:00am |
| 9/12 | Lunch Bunch | 11:30am |
| 9/13 | Creative Hands | 9:00am |
| 9/13 | Soup Kitchen | 9:00am |
| 9/15 | Disciples Hand | 8:30am |
| 9/18 | Bread Basket | 4:30pm |
| 9/18 | Trustees Meeting | 6:30pm |
| 9/19 | Pastor's Study | 10:00am |
| 9/20 | Friendship Circle | 9:30am |
| 9/26 | Pastor's Study | 10:00am |
| 9/26 | Lamplighter Assembly | 10:00am |
| 9/27 | Creative Hands | 9:00am |

Greeters

TBD

Scripture Readers

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|------|--------------------|
| 9/2 | Gayla Parker |
| 9/9 | Donna Jurgens |
| 9/16 | Mary Alice Bolser |
| 9/23 | Alisa Clapp-Itnyre |
| 9/30 | Shirley Hester |

Ushers

| | |
|------|--|
| 9/2 | Electa Berk, Larry Parker, Linda Witter, Jim Robinson, Lester Robinson |
| 9/9 | Electa Berk, Larry Parker, Linda Witter, Jim Robinson, Lester Robinson |
| 9/16 | Rick Eyer, Phil Scott, Jackie Scott, Roger Clark, Beryl Wesler, Ned Toms |
| 9/23 | Rick Eyer, Phil Scott, Jackie Scott, Roger Clark, Beryl Wesler, Ned Toms |
| 9/30 | Lowell Robinson, Sam Willman, Jim Puckett, Jamie Puckett, Dylan Puckett, Philip Weimer |

Altar Guild

Aileen Githens and Betty Ridenour