
MOUNT COMFORT BLESSING

Mt. Comfort United Methodist Church of the Risen Christ

June/July 2017

Pastor's Corner By Pastor Dave Galbraith

Dear Church Family,

It's been four years and eleven months since I was appointed to this church. I knew this would be my last appointment of my full-time service to the United Methodist Church. And I am quite pleased to tell you that these past five years have been the most productive in my twenty-two years as a pastor.

The Mt. Comfort United Methodist Church of the Risen Christ has had a really interesting past. There's been great joy and growth, and there's been unbelievable pain and lessening of active members. The really good news about this church is that the desire to be a viable church has never been more prevalent than these past two years.

You have made the decision to look beyond your own desires and seek what is best for this church and the community by agreeing to the tenets of the Ministry Action Plan that was designed specifically for us through the Conference Church Development Team and the Fruitful Congregation Journey program.

Right now we have four teams working on different parts of the Ministry Action Plan; Prayer Team, Future Task Force, Discipleship Pathway Team, and Community Connection Team. As these groups work through their different responsibilities, you will be informed as to how this will affect you and the future of our church.

I look forward to hearing about the forward motion you will be making in the community and in the church. You are the future of Christianity at the Mt. Comfort United Methodist Church.

I preached the same message for almost five years, and I believe you are about to perform your part of the Great Commission very soon. Here it is just one more time; *"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

I love you all,

Pastor Dave

Galbraith Reception

Then said I, "Here am I; send me." – Isaiah 6:8

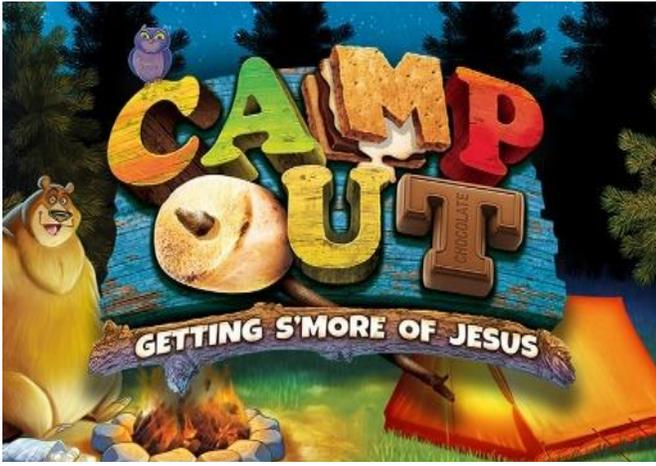
Sunday, June 25, after worship service at Mt. Comfort UMC, please joins us for a reception to honor Pastor Dave and Myrna Galbraith. Cake and punch will be served in the Lobby of the Family Life Center. The congregation is encouraged to share this information with the community and also to bring cards of thanks and encouragement as we bid farewell to our much-loved Pastor and his wife.

Spaghetti Dinner June 3

Be sure to attend the Spaghetti Dinner, Saturday June 3, from 4 – 7 p.m. at MCUMC. The dinner is a free will offering and will include spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, dessert, and drink. The funds raised from the dinner will pay for food purchases and advertising for the upcoming Mt. Comfort Car Show, set for Saturday, July 8.

Please plan to attend both events; invite friends and neighbors, and share this information with the community. To help with the dinner, contact Chris Sexton.





VBS June 9 – 11

Who doesn't want S'more??? S'more of Jesus that is! We invite you to attend VBS at Mt. Comfort United Methodist Church of the Risen Christ!!!

Who: Kids ages 4 years – 5th grade

When: Friday, June 9, 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 10, 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 11, 9:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Where: Mt. Comfort United Methodist Church

Contact the church office by June 5 to pre-register.

SonShine Kids

SonShine Kids, year five, has concluded for the current school year. This after-school ministry served approximately 35 children on Thursdays when school was in session, meeting from 2 – 5:30 p.m. The faith-based program included devotions, homework help, art, nature, exercise time, music, and snacks.

Thanks to Herb Hale for directing this year's program and to the many volunteers who made the program possible.



David Gioe, left, accompanies the children of SonShine Kids as they sang during worship service on May 7.



The UPWARD Soccer sports ministry of MCUMC will conclude its season with its final game Saturday, June 3. This season 42 children participated in the contests, which included half-time devotions, food, fellowship and lots of fun.

Throughout the month of May, the players have been challenged to contribute to a collection in support of the Undie 500. The Undie 500 is a month-long drive to collect new underwear for Lambswear, Inc. This organization was founded by Heidi Taylor at Outlook Christian Church with the hope of providing gently used clothing and shoes for foster children. It has since expanded to include victims of house fires, domestic abuse, as well as others. New underwear and new socks are always on their list of needs. Their sock drive, Sock-tober, is held annually throughout the month of October. To encourage the Upward kids to bring in their change, the concession stand decided that it will match their donations up to \$200. Additionally, Erica Salmon of Erica Salmon Photography, who does a wonderful job with the team pictures, has upped the challenge by offering to match the donations as well.

Sunday, June 4 will feature UPWARD teams during worship, followed by the end-of-season celebration. Church members are asked to join the players, coaches, volunteers and their families for the meal after Sunday worship. Please call or text Teresa Sexton to let her know you are coming to the June 4th celebration so she can plan accordingly: 317-716-1282.

Trustees' Corner By Tim Waymire

May was a wet month for the Trustees, and it slowed down any exterior projects they wanted to accomplish. The location of our new sign has been staked off in the front yard of the church. Now we just need the rain to cooperate. We will be preparing for Carla and Alex Stoner to move into the parsonage. We are painting, putting in baseboard, repairing cabinets, and working with the air conditioning upstairs; the list keeps growing. When the Trustees are finished, Advanced Pro Cleaning, Dave Branson, will clean the carpets for us.

MISSIONS

By Rose McKinney

HENDERSON SETTLEMENT MISSION TRIP

Representing Mt. Comfort Church on the Mission Trip to Henderson Settlement in Frakes, Kentucky, during the week of June 4-9 are Connie D' Angelo, Doug and Margo Detzler, Scott Ellenberger, Dan Johnson and grandson Caleb, Levi, Logan and Rose McKinney, and Tim Waymire. Thanks to Dan Johnson for making the arrangements and thanks to those who have given to Missions; your contributions help pay for the materials needed for the job. All of the ten have paid for their own week's stay and travel expenses.

FLETCHER PLACE

The next opportunity to feed the people at Fletcher Place will be Monday, June 12. You can help by baking two dozen cookies. (I need four people to bake cookies.) If you are willing to help with cookies or plan to help serve the meal, please contact Rose McKinney. Future opportunities to participate in this activity are Monday, August 14; and Monday, October 30.

A CONNECTION TO DAYTIME MINISTRIES

Thanks to all who have participated in our greeting cards for Daytime Ministries children and their teachers. The Director, Mrs. Staci Wilson, reports that she has had favorable comments about our efforts. We will look forward to next school year, starting earlier and continuing throughout their school year.

MISSIONARY VISIT

Thank you to Ben Parry for telling us about his experience as a missionary in Papua, New Guinea. He serves at a center there that helps the people in many ways, working as a mechanic throughout the year and assisting in the Summer Institute of Linguistics, where English is taught as a second language and work is ongoing to translate the Bible into the language of the local people. He is a jack-of-all-trades, helping with many needs of the people there. We supported Ben with a donation of \$615, and he will welcome further support.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD (SHOE-BOXES) UP-DATE

Remember, the Operation Christmas Child shoebox collection is coming in November. Take advantage of summer sales and back-to-school discounts for filling your shoeboxes with special gifts for children around the world. In 2016, boxes were delivered to children in 104 countries.

FUNERAL DINNERS

Thank you to those who signed the sheet for Funeral Dinners. We had over 30 people sign up to help with food and serving. The Funeral Dinner Committee consists of Cindy Kendall (Chair), Pat Ringer and Rose McKinney. We appreciate the many who are willing to help and will contact you when the need arises. If anyone missed the opportunity to sign up to donate food or help serve at the dinners, please contact Cindy, Pat, or Rose.

Shepherding

By Cindy Kendall

The Shepherding Committee recognized the births of two new grandsons for Dennis and Jerri Stang with a red flower on the altar. Maxwell (Max) Evan Bartel was born March 26 to Jessica and Evan Bartel. Max has a big brother, Eli. Jacob Michael Hutslar was born April 22 to Jackie and Jon Hutslar. Jacob has a big brother, Joshua. Congratulations to the entire Stang family.

The April 18 birthday of Hudson Grey Phillipp was honored with a red flower on the sanctuary altar on Sunday, April 30. Hudson is the son of John and Morgan Phillipp and the little brother of Madison, Katelin, and Austin. Best wishes to Hudson and his family.

In May, the birth of Lillian (Lily) Audrey Lynn Richardson was celebrated with a red altar flower. Lily was born May 11 to Sarah and Aaron Richardson. Her grandparents are Tammie and Andy Sparks, and Connie Jones is her great-grandmother. This is Connie's fourth great-grandchild! Claire Harper is Lily's big sis. Blessings to everyone!

Two former members of Mt. Comfort Church were remembered with white flowers displayed on the altar. The passing of Helen Eastes Kottowski was recognized on Sunday, April 16, and Chris Gartrell on Sunday, May 21. Our thoughts and prayers go out to both their families.

As always, the Shepherding Committee asks for your help concerning needs of our church family. Please contact Pastor Dave, Pastor Alex, or Cindy Kendall (317-326-8193) with your info. Thank you!



Easter service at Mt. Comfort United Methodist Church of the Risen Christ began with a darkened sanctuary and a spotlighted cross, a visual reminder of Christ's great sacrifice for our salvation.

Club 56

Club 56 has remained very active since our last update. The entertainment center fund that the congregation so generously supported raised over \$2,500. The large screen TV, sound bar, Blu-ray player and mobile stand have all been purchased and are available for all church functions. We had a cleanup day at the church and raked leaves and picked up trash around the church. The youth recently embarked on a Random Acts of Kindness campaign to recognize and serve others. Club 56 had its first movie day on Sunday, May 28th at 4:00 p.m. Refreshments were served (popcorn, of course,) and it was a fun time for all.

Club 56 has laid out its plans for June, which include a field trip to the Ark Encounter in Williamstown, Kentucky; an afternoon at Sky Zone Trampoline Park; and a Sunday afternoon nature walk.

Club 56 was originally started for fifth and sixth-graders, but we now have regular attendees as young as age 8 and youth helpers up to age 18. If any young people are looking for a fun program, please see either Neetra Debartoli or George Winterstein for more information. We would love to include you in the fun!!



Club 56 members participate in clean-up day at the church, raking leaves and picking up trash and debris. Thanks to Club 56 and their leaders for their service to MCUMC

From the Janitor's Closet

By Dave Branson

God, You are awesome. Thank You for the many blessings so graciously bestowed upon MCUMC of the Risen Christ.

A lot went on the last two months in the church building: Boy Scouts every Tuesday, weekday Preschool and Childcare, ladies' Bible Study on Thursday mornings, Club 56 on Sundays at 4:00 p.m., UPWARD Soccer on Thursdays and on Saturday mornings, choir and handbell rehearsal on Wednesday night, Hancock County Children's Choir on Monday evenings, and Monday morning prayer group, spaghetti dinner, birthday parties, anniversary parties. A karate studio rented the church for all day karate demonstrations, and had between 150 – 200 persons attend. God is blessing our church. I pray that people who come to MCUMC see who Jesus is, or at least give us the opportunity to plant a seed about Jesus in their minds.

Vacation Bible School is coming soon. Tell your friends and neighbors about it. It's June 9, 10, and 11, with the theme "Camp Out." God willing, I'll be there. June 3 the church is having a spaghetti dinner from 4 – 7:00 p.m. Come and bring your friends.

I would like to point out some awesome persons in our church. Chris Sexton is our head chef and cook, and his assistants are Candy Adkins and Pat Adkins; also, Doug Hampton, Herb Hale, Lily Sexton, Teresa Sexton, Jo Sullivan, and many more who jump right in and help where needed. All did a fantastic job during the last spaghetti dinner. Also, I want to mention Julian Marshal, my company manager. I told him we don't get paid to sweep and mop the gym floor, kitchen, and café, and that I would do it. Before I was finished sanitizing the four restrooms in Building #2 (Family Life Center), he swept and scrubbed the gym, kitchen, and café. He said, "This is my donation to the church." Thank you, Julian, because I was really exhausted.

Hope everyone is blessed by our God this summer, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Dave Branson (317) 626-6226

Janitor, Trashman, Environmental Services,
& now Batman

P.S. If you want to know why Batman, you'll need to ask me when I see you in church.

Daytime Ministries News

By Staci Wilson

Well, Preschool has wrapped up the school year, and we had so much fun. We enjoyed learning about Spring, God's Critters, Our Mothers, Vacation Time, and so much more these last few weeks of spring. The children enjoyed the transition to spring and being able to play outside again.

A few special days highlighted the last few weeks of preschool. The children had a visit from the Buck Creek firefighters, and everyone enjoyed seeing the firetrucks. We also had a visit from Crocodile Chris, Silly Safari. He brought lots of God's creatures to share with us. Crocodile Chris showed us a tree frog, milk snake, owl, rabbit, blue-tongue lizard, a fox, and a few others fun animals. The children had so much fun learning about the animals and being able to touch them.

To finish off the school year, on May 24 we had our preschool program! The children did an amazing job singing for everyone. Each child received a certificate and a book to end the year. Our Pre-K class received the Dr. Seuss book, *Oh, the Places You'll Go!* We know each child is going to enjoy the next adventure in elementary school.

We are so excited to see our school year come to an end, and are very excited for summer adventures. We cannot wait to hear all of the children's stories when we return in the fall. We are still accepting registrations for the fall, so please share our program with your friends and family. Thank you.

Switching gears, the Mt. Comfort UMC childcare program is very excited to get summer started! We have so many fun things planned for this summer. This includes bicycle ride days (so be aware in the parking lot on Mondays and Wednesdays), water days, scavenger hunts, drive in movies, tie dye, painting, and so, so much more. Full-time and part-time openings are available in our childcare program, so please share with everyone you know.

Registration papers can be found on our bulletin board in the Family Life Center, so please take one and share!



*Above, the Preschool children of Mt. Comfort United Methodist Church assemble to sing at the spring program on May 24. The four-year-old children in the Pre-Kindergarten class received the Dr. Seuss book, *Oh, the Places You'll Go!*, which was signed by staff members, and the children were encouraged to ask each teacher throughout their school career to sign the book as well. Thanks to Director Staci Wilson and the Daytime Ministries' teachers and assistants for a successful school year. Best wishes to the Pre-K students as they enter kindergarten as the graduating Class of 2030!*

Music

By Shawn Gilliland

The chancel choir and handbell choir will be taking the next three months off. Once again special music will be featured throughout the summer. On Sunday, June 11, we have a handbell soloist scheduled. This is something special to watch, especially if you have never witnessed a soloist on handbells. As of May 22, there were still a couple of Sundays available for people to sign-up if they wish to sing (or play) this summer. The choir is expected to resume on Sunday, September 10.

Thanks to everyone who helped behind the scenes (there were many) in making the spaghetti dinner and concert a great success on the evening of May 21.



Christian Education

By Pat Ringer

Wow! Another school year has been completed, and summer is just around the corner. Hopefully, your summer plans include Vacation Bible School. This year's VBS, June 9-11, is "CAMP OUT, Getting S'more of Jesus." Tiffany Kelly is the director of VBS, and she needs lots of helpers, so we will be calling and asking for volunteers. This is a weekend Vacation Bible School held on Friday, June 9 from 6:30-9:00 p.m., Saturday morning, June 10 from 9:30 a.m.-12:00 noon, and concluding with practice and a program on Sunday morning from 9:15 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Please prayerfully consider giving a bit of your time and talent to help make VBS a big success. Bring/invite your children, your grandchildren, your nieces, your nephews, your friends, and your neighbors to come and join in the fun!

Do you spend time in prayer and reading the Bible with your children? This is something that I encourage every parent to do. Reading from the Bible every day is a lesson for our children that sets a lifelong example. The Bible is God's plan for each of us, and in order to know what He wants for us, reading the Bible is the answer! Because of our busy and often hectic lives, this is something that I have to make time to do each day, and I have found that the more I read, the more I want to know. It is truly an amazing book!

Future Task Force – FCJ Report

The Future Task Force (FTF), an outgrowth of the Fruitful Congregations Journey (FCJ), met five times the past three months to review the Ministry Action Plan for Mt. Comfort United Methodist Church and to move forward with implementation. At the April 26 meeting, Rev. Steve Clouse and Coach Mark Eustler joined the meeting to guide the group through the process. Rev. Clouse pointed out that a healthy church re-launches a new vision every three to five years. Visioning will be one of the tasks for MCUMC as we move forward. A key step in the process is identifying the Core Values of our church. The consensus of the FTF is to make our focus a re-launch and revitalization of Mt. Comfort UMC.

At the May 9 meeting, the Future Task Force members engaged in a Core Values audit to gauge the group's perceptions of what is most important for a church. The following represents, in rank order, the group's responses.

1. Worship – Attributing worth to God
2. Prayer – Communicating with God
3. Community – Caring about and addressing the needs of others
4. Bible Based/Bible Knowledge – A familiarity with the truths of the Scriptures
5. Encouragement – Giving hope to people who need some hope

The timeline for the work of the Future Task Force sets January 1, 2018, for a report with recommendations to be shared with the Indiana UMC Conference and then shared and discussed with the congregation in a series of meetings. By April 1, 2018, the final report – after congregational input – will be presented to the Mt. Comfort UMC Council. By May 1, 2018, the final report will be presented to church members for an up or down vote.

If you have questions about the work of the FTF, feel free to talk to any of the team members: Michael Adkins, Roger and Sandi Hudson, Tiffany Kelly, Rose McKinney, Jan Pope, Chris Sexton, Kenny Thompson, Tim Waymire, and George Winterstein.

In addition to the Future Task Force, three other Fruitful Congregation Journey teams are working to carry out the Ministry Action Plan: Prayer Team, Discipleship Pathway Team led by Susan Parry, and the Community Connection Team led by Matt Kelly.

Mt. Comfort Community Car Show July 8

Don't miss the first annual Mt. Comfort Community Car Show, Saturday, July 8, from 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. on the front lawn of Mt. Comfort United Methodist Church. Food will be available for purchase; trophies and plaques will be awarded for cars, motorcycles, trucks, and tractors; and prizes will be drawn.

There is no charge to attend. Please invite your family and friends. Registration is \$20.00 to participate in the car show. Funds raised will be used to support the children's programs of the church.

To register for the event or for flyers, contact John and Libby Bales. To help with food, contact Chris Sexton; sign up for other duties on the sheets placed in the narthex. Those of you in the congregation who have vintage cars, we hope you will plan to participate!

Worship Committee Updates By Pat Zarse

Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory. Isaiah 6:3

June special services at Mt. Comfort UMC include Father's Day, June 18, and Pastor Dave's last Sunday, June 25. A reception will be held in honor of Pastor Dave and Myrna after worship on June 25 in the lobby of the Family Life Center.

On July 2, Rev. David Parry will be preaching. On July 9 we will welcome our new pastor, Rev. Alex Stone and his wife Carla, with a reception in the narthex after worship. Rev. Stone comes to us from Woodmar United Methodist Church in Hammond, Indiana. Those wishing to donate cookies, please contact Kathie Petty.

The next meeting of Worship Committee is Monday, June 12 at 6:00 p.m.

June & July Birthdays and Anniversaries

June Birthdays

- 1 Dottie Copeland
- 2 Draeven Grubb
Morgan Sellers
- 3 Gary Stewart
- 6 Chris Forcum
- 7 Amy Hoepner
Lois Neuerman
Larry Simmerman
- 8 Carrie Griffin
Velma Thomas
- 9 Jim Cohee
- 10 Scott Ellenberger
- 12 James Foddrill
- 13 Elizabeth Bales
Dominc Morris
- 14 Kevin Sheets
Jo Sullivan
- 15 Elizabeth Harris
- 16 Shelbie Heckman
- 17 Victoria Hodson
Janice Pope
Barbara Stewart
- 18 J.D. Cohee
- 21 Neetra Dibartoli
- 23 Lisa Yanan
- 24 Micki Chatman
Jack McKinney
- 25 Nora Allen
John Bowery
Kira Hendrix

June Birthdays

- Gerry Henry
Shirley Thompson
- 26 Jerri Fry
Carole Schutt
- 27 Jordan Gerlach
- 28 Jody Lillyblade
Vason
Ruijiraviriyapingo
Jarred Sheets
- 29 Debra Dickson

July Birthdays

- 1 Amelia Anderson
Sue Rodgers
- 2 Roger Pryor
- 4 Bob Perry
- 5 Jerin Meredith
- 10 Kevin Lewellyn
Madison Phillipp
- 12 Ernie Alder
- 13 Tia Nicole
Banayote
Michelle Sheets
Carol Simmerman
- 14 Matthew Kelly
TJ Lewellyn
Melinda Waymire
- 15 Pat Nigh
- 17 Jennifer Elliott
- 20 Helen Pryor

July Birthdays

- 20 Shirley Ross
Lily Sexton
- 22 Austin Gibson
- 23 Raymond Sexton
- 27 Jessa Dickey
Virginia Waymire
- 29 Erika Bundy
David Galbraith
- 30 Sharon Farmer
- 31 Elaine Holloway
Patty Johnson
Jeffrey
Winterstein

June Anniversaries

- 11 Michael & Tena
Jones
- 13 Ev & Pat Zarse
- 14 Tom & Pat Nigh
- 15 Jay & Janet Kleine
- 17 Gary & Barbara
Stewart
- 21 Kevin & Carrie
Smith
- 23 Brandon & Angie
Ludlow
Mark & Marcia
Piercy
- 25 Don & Melinda
Waymire
- 26 Tim & Bonnie Boyd

June Anniversaries

- 26 Jason & Jan Pope
- 28 Dave & Myrna
Galbraith
- 29 Mike & Darla
Gibson
Wade & Maribeth
Sellers
- 30 Don & Gail Rush

July Anniversaries

- 1 Chuck & Jo Sullivan
- 5 David & Susan
Parry
- 7 Bruce & Julie
Heckman
- 8 William & Heather
Meredith
- 9 Gary & Heather
Johnson
- 10 Frank & Debbie
Denton
- 14 John & Christina
Bundy
Ron & Amy
Hoepner
- 17 Ernie & Betty
Alder
- 19 George & Cindy
Winterstein
- 24 Tom & Carol Seng
- 26 Paul & Carol
Lillyblade

Mt. Comfort United Methodist Church
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Mark Your Calendars for These Important Dates!

Men's Bible Study Wednesdays at 7:00 a.m. at Bloom Care
Kingdom Kids Sundays from 4 - 5:30 p.m.

June 3 UPWARD Soccer last game day
 Spaghetti Dinner, 4 – 7 p.m., MCUMC
June 4 UPWARD celebration & meal after worship
June 8 – 10 Annual Conference Indiana UMC, Indpls. Convention Center
June 9 Vacation Bible School, 6:30 – 9 p.m.
June 10 Vacation Bible School, 9:30 a.m. - noon
June 11 Vacation Bible School, 9:15 – 11:30 a.m.
June 12 Fletcher Place mission ministry, prepare & serve meal
June 18 Father's Day
June 25 Pastor Dave Galbraith reception, following worship service
July 8 Car Show, MCUMC 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
July 9 Pastor Alex Stone reception, following worship service
August 14 Fletcher Place mission ministry, prepare & serve meal
October 30 Fletcher Place mission ministry, prepare & serve meal

LOVE GOD LOVE OTHERS SERVE THE WORLD

Visit our website: <http://www.MCMethodist.com>