
MOUNT COMFORT BLESSING

Mt. Comfort United Methodist Church

August/September 2018

Pastor's Corner

Are There Benefits to Mt. Comfort and MTC Ministering Cooperatively?

By Rev. Dr. John D. Abbott, Jr.

The words that come to mind when responding to this question never seem to give me any real comfort because they are words that move me out of my comfort zone. Change: most people resist any kind of change. Challenge: as we age, the degree to which we want to be challenged seems to decrease. Cooperate: this usually means that we need to go along to get along, and we seem to naturally resist that. Unique: our congregation is somewhat older than the congregation of MTC, and that shows up in music styles, preaching styles, use of computers, cell phones, iPad, power point and other amazing ways of communication. It has amazed me that I usually don't get a response to texts or emails from our congregation but quickly do from those who attend MTC. One of our major problems as we attempt to minister together with MTC is our desire to protect what is ours, and that is very normal because of the blood, sweat, tears, and money that has been put into our beautiful church building. So where are the benefits?

Over the years our congregation has aged and decreased in attendance, leaving us with a small congregation and a huge church facility. MTC was in the dire need of a place to worship since Washington Square Mall was no longer a very safe venue. So, there are two benefits here; one, we have a beautiful facility that needed to be used to glorify, God and MTC needed a place to worship so they could glorify God.

Another benefit that I see is the younger people of MTC give us hope for the future of the United Methodist Church. What a blessing it is to see young families in church. Our congregation can and should be energized by a facility being filled with vibrant young families and mature Christians with years of active faith behind them. The major benefit is a simple one; we help each other, and together we reach more people with the message of Jesus Christ.

God, help us to find ways to minister together, love one another, work together to keep our beautiful facility a marvelous place to worship, fellowship, and grow in God's amazing grace.

Blessings, John Abbott

Sermon Schedule

Rev. Dr. John D. Abbott, Jr. Interim Pastor

August 5 (Communion Sunday)

- Sermon Title: What Spiritual Milestones Would You Highlight?
- Responsive Reading: Psalm 77:11-15
- Old Testament Reading: 1 Kings 6:11-13
- Sermon Scripture: Philippians 1:3-11

August 12

- Sermon Title: Are We the Least of These?
- Responsive Reading: Isaiah 9:2-4
- Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 18:1-4
- Sermon Scripture Reading: Matthew 25:31-40 (continued, page 2)



Sermon Schedule (continued from page 1)

August 19

- Sermon Title: When Was the Last Time You Blessed God?
- Responsive Reading: Psalm 117:1-2
- New Testament Reading: John 3:16
- Sermon Scripture Reading: Psalm 103:1-5

August 26

- Sermon Title: I Had Heard About You Before
- Responsive Reading: Job 5:8-16
- Old Testament Reading: Job 1:1-5
- Sermon Scripture Reading: Job 42:1-6

September 2 (Communion Sunday)

- Sermon Title: He Spoke Kindly to Him
- Responsive Reading: 2 Samuel 22:1-4
- New Testament Reading: John 3:11-15
- Sermon Scripture Reading: 2 Kings 25:27-30

September 9 (Grandparents' Day)

- Sermon Title: Hallelujah Any Way
- Responsive Reading: Habakkuk 3:2-4
- New Testament Reading: 2nd Thessalonians 2:13-17
- Sermon Scripture: Habakkuk 3:17-19

September 16

- Sermon Title: The World He Has Placed us in Is Enemy Territory
- Responsive Reading: Mark 1:1-3
- Old Testament Reading: Malachi 4:1-6
- Sermon Scripture: Matthew 28:16-20

September 23

- Sermon Title: Thirst Quenching Worship
- Responsive Reading: Luke 5:27-32
- Old Testament Reading: Proverbs 16:1-4
- Sermon Scripture: Psalm 63:1-8

September 30

- Sermon Title: Come and Listen
- Responsive Reading: Revelation 15:3-4
- Old Testament Reading: Numbers 9:15-18
- Sermon Scripture: Psalm 66:5-20

"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can."

-John Wesley, 1703-1791

Founder of the Methodist movement



The Reverend Dr. John D. Abbott, Jr., currently serves as interim pastor of Mount Comfort United Methodist Church while Pastor Alex Stone is on extended medical leave.

Shepherding Committee By Cindy Kendall

In June, a red rose on the sanctuary altar honored the May 29 birth of June Marlene Jeanette Fisher, granddaughter of Pastor Alex and Carla Stone. Baby June was welcomed home by her parents, Jacob and Chelsea Fisher, and big brother, Malcolm. Congratulations to the entire family!

The passing of Bill Springer, brother of Gene Springer, was remembered with a white rose on the altar in early July. Bill passed away on June 29. Our condolences and prayers go out to the Springer family.

We ask that you continue to keep us informed of the needs of our church family. Please contact Pastor John at the church office or Cindy Kendall 317-326-8193 with any information. Thank you!

Car Show

The second annual Car Show at Mt. Comfort UMC is set for September 15 from noon to 3:00 p.m. on the front lawn. Music, prizes, and food for purchase will make for a fun-filled day. The photo right shows the July 2017 Car Show entries. Save the date! (Photo courtesy of Dale Dickson)



Music Notes

By Shawn Gilliland

Handbell Choir and Chancel Choir will begin practicing again on Thursday, August 23 – Handbells at 6 p.m., and Chancel Choir at 7 p.m. We would welcome any new members for Handbells and for Chancel Choir. For the Handbell Choir, it would be very beneficial to be able to read music.

Look for the choir to resume being part of worship service in September.



SonShine Kids

Year Seven

Planning Meeting August 23

It is time to plan for SonShine Kids, the MCUMC after-school ministry which begins September 13. Lots of help is needed for this children's ministry to be successful. Planning begins August 23 at 6:30 p.m. at MCUMC. Please plan to attend. If you are unable to help after school, you can serve in other ways.

The program for grades K-5, now beginning year seven, meets most Thursdays when school is in session, from 2:15 – 5:30 p.m. at the church. Activities includes a light snack, a character development lesson, homework help (if needed), enrichment sessions, and activity time. The primary goal of SonShine Kids is to bring Jesus into the lives of the children who participate.

For more information, please call Herb Hale at 317-703-0495.

From the Janitor's Closet

By Dave Branson

I've seen new faces at Mt. Comfort United Methodist Church on Sunday mornings. (Must be the donuts, LOL.) I give all credit to Jesus Christ; He is always blessing our church.

It's time for schools to start the 2018-19 school year. A lot is going on at Joyful Days childcare and preschool – an added class, infants in childcare. I told you we were blessed.

I had pneumonia for about three weeks in July. I've sneaked in and helped Julian clean here and there – finally. I could not move a muscle for about a whole week. I feel about 99.5% better now. Thank you, God, for pulling me through.

A few things got done outside this summer. The shelter house received a coat of Thompson Water Sealer. A lot of weeds got pulled up and brushes got trimmed. We hope to power wash the garage and put a fresh coat of paint on exterior brick.

I am behind on a few extra things I would like to get done this summer. Let me know if you see anything than needs cleaning or light maintenance.

Dave Branson

Custodian, Trashman, Environmental Services, Light Maintenance

317-626-6226



Baptism, Membership Class

Anyone interested in being baptized or joining a membership class should contact Pastor John Abbott at 317-894-8965.

Missions By Rose McKinney

HELP! HELP! A recent article in the *Daily Reporter* (“Nonprofits experience volunteer shortage...,” July 10, 2018, p. 1) indicated there is a need for volunteers to help others in our community. The article specifically spoke of the need for help with Meals on Wheels, but other non-profit organizations need help as well. Most of these will work with you to schedule a time period that is best for you. Meals on Wheels needs people willing to prepare the meals and others to deliver them. Bentley’s Buddies and Friends sends people with dogs to sit and listen to individual children read in school. (They need some more dogs since some of theirs are getting older.) If neither of these possibilities work for you, there are many others in Hancock County that could use our help. FYI: You can contact Meals on Wheels of Hancock County at mealsonwheelsonline.org/get-involved/volunteer; or Bentley’s Buddies and Friends at bentleysbuddies.com or call 317-642-7707.

UPCOMING EVENTS—As you know, during July we collected, in cooperation with the Movie Theater Church, school supplies to hand out to teachers and students in our area. Our plan is to continue to do joint mission activities with MTC with the August collection being for products to help The Landing. It is an organization that houses children from 13 to 19 who need a place to live or to recover from a bad experience. Watch for a list of needs beginning with paper products for August. We are exploring the possibility of providing a Wednesday evening meal for the residents and staff of the Landing once a month. In September we will collect for the Kenneth Butler Kitchen. In October we will collect for Hope House. November will be Operation Christmas Child shoe box collection, November 11-19. In December we will once again give Christmas presents to families of Mt. Comfort School.

FOOD PANTRY—The grocery carts are always available in the foyer for any donations of food for the local food pantries. You have been very generous through the years with your donations, and your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Youth Involvement – Photo top right shows blankets to donate to first responders and birthday bags for food pantries made by children at VBS. Photo bottom right shows MCUMC youth at Holiday world at the July outing (Photo provided by George Winterstein).

Worship Committee By Pat Zarse

This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24

The Worship Committee met July 9 with Pastor John. Four members were in attendance. It was announced that Choir and Bells will start up August 24, volunteers are needed in the sound booth to assist Dale, and volunteers are needed to assist Hospitality Chair Donna Zering with Sunday morning refreshments. If you can help with any of these requests, please contact that chairperson or me.

August 5 will be Communion Sunday. We welcome back the Hancock County Children’s Choir, which returns on Monday’s after school.

September Communion will be Sunday the 2nd. SonShine Kids, the after-school program for Mt. Comfort Elementary students, resumes in September. The Fundraising Committee has the second Annual Car Show planned for September 15. Watch for coming announcements and sign-up sheets to help that day.

The Worship Committee’s next meetings are August 13 and September 10 at 6:00 p.m.

INVITE SOMEONE TO WORSHIP!



Youth Group News

By George Winterstein

The Youth Group of Mt. Comfort United Methodist Church (formally known as Club 56) capped a busy year by sending three young people (and one old adult) on a mission trip to Knoxville, Tennessee. Each of us was assigned to work groups and assisted in a variety of home improvement projects in the area. From painting to light construction, we spent three days of the four-day trip sweating and getting dirty, while sharing the joy of giving with some less fortunate and elderly residents. We spent each morning and evening in devotions and group activities, the days on our work team, and somewhere in there got a little well-needed sleep. We all came home happy, exhausted and content in knowing, in true Christian fashion, the satisfaction of helping others and sharing the love of Jesus.

We recently completed a fun and busy week with a picnic at George and Cindy's house, complete with yard games and plenty of food. And 300 water balloons!!! I regretfully have to report that Dale Dixon is the newly crowned croquet champion, having passed me by in a close finish.

Three days later we loaded up the cars and headed to Holiday World for a wonderful day of fun in the sun. The roller coasters seemed bigger and faster than ever, and the Lazy River was the perfect spot in the afternoon. We took our own food and had a picnic in the shade of a pavilion to complete a great day. Special thanks to Teresa, Dale, Neetra and Beulah for helping to "herd the cattle" (chaperone). We brought home everyone we took, so I guess they did a good job. And as a special surprise, Pastor Dave Galbraith was there the same day with the youth group from his new church in Waldron. Call it a coincidence, but I think God fills our lives with wonderful surprises. Dave asked me to say "hi" to everyone.

Finally, the youth attended our Sunday worship service to thank the members and friends who have supported them and their fundraisers over the last year. As a gift to everyone, they passed out packets of "business cards" to everyone in hopes it will remind us to invite people to visit with us for a worship service. It is our responsibility to "make disciples of Jesus Christ." The cards just make it a little easier.

God bless all, and thanks again to your support of the Mt. Comfort youth program.



The youth of MCUMC and MTC served those in need of home repairs in Knoxville, Tennessee, during the July 2018 youth mission trip. (Photo provided by George Winterstein)

Joyful Days

Preschool and Childcare News

Summer has been busy in the Joyful Days Childcare and Preschool rooms at Mt. Comfort United Methodist Church. The childcare program has expanded and will include infants and toddlers beginning the middle of August, and preschool will add another class for two-year-olds. Director Staci Wilson has been busy all summer with preparations and painting. Some classrooms were reassigned to meet the needs of the expanded program, and the director's office will move to the space right off the Family Life Center lobby, while Pastor Ethan Maple will relocate to an adjacent space that is under construction.

Help will be needed to assemble cribs and set up the finished infant/toddler room in August. Also, some part-time staff positions are still available, so please spread the word. For more information on hiring or helping with furniture assembly and set-up, please call Staci Wilson at the Joyful Days office, 317-894-6276.

Important Dates

August 12 – Meet the Teacher Night, 5:30 – 7:00

August 13 – Preschool begins this week.

September 27 & 28 – School picture days

October 1 -12 – Preschool Fall Break



PSALM 23 Word Search

T P Q P R S D L I I S L S D P
 N Z J A T E M O U E F U H E R
 I I E T P R J W R K J O P I E
 O F X H Z U A O T B H S H O P
 N S K S M T T C E L B A T B A
 A P D L E S G O O D N E S S R
 A L A R E A J G N M Z Z F N E
 L S S R E P J T W P F N W S G
 P E V I L H G R E E N O T R P
 R Q G F M W P W O W S A R L M
 Y E L L A V O E U D F T M T U
 G I O S D E Z D H F Z V I C M
 R G P X Y R D B A S Q V M L E
 S S E N S U O E T H G I R Z L
 S G X W E T F L T D S B Q V L

ANOINT	LORD	RIGHTEOUSNESS	STILL
COMFORT	PASTURES	ROD	TABLE
EVIL	PATHS	SHADOW	VALLEY
FEAR	PREPARE	SHEPHERD	WATERS
GOODNESS	PSALM	SOUL	
GREEN	RESTORES	STAFF	

BIBLE QUIZ

1. God blesses Noah and provides what sign of His covenant?
a. ark b. flood c. rainbow d. Tree of Life e. olive branch
2. God spoke to Moses on Mount _____.
a. Gilboa b. Nebo c. of Olives d. Sinai e. Tabor
3. Solomon asked the Lord for _____.
a. a long life b. wisdom c. the death of his enemies d. land e. riches
4. The devil tempted Jesus in the desert, saying, "If you are the son of God, _____."
a. tell these stones to become bread b. turn this water into wine c. fly away from here
d. tell the angels to bring you food e. ask God to deliver you from this place.
5. On the road to _____, Saul heard a voice from heaven saying, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"
a. Caesarea b. Jerusalem c. Antioch d. Tarsus e. Damascus

ANSWERS

1. See Genesis 9:13 2. See Exodus 31:18 3. See I Kings 3:12 4. See Matthew 4:3
5. See Acts 9:3

Cooperative Ministries Leaders Training

Indiana Conference Central District Superintendent, the Reverend Jim Bushfield, conducted a Cooperative Ministries Leaders Training for MCUMC and MTC on July 16 in Fellowship Hall, with 22 people in attendance.

Rev. Bushfield asked everyone to reflect on the following questions regarding the MCUMC/MTC partnership.

- What has God done already? How have you seen God at work?
- What is God doing beyond our walls? What has been the impact on the community?
- What is God going to do?

The District Superintendent then referenced a list generated at the Executive Team meeting on July, the keys to success for this partnership. What do these words mean to us? Communication, Cooperation, Prayer, Planning, Sharing, Team Work, Patience, Expectations/Goals, Perseverance, Trust, Grace, Humility, Outward Focused, Positivity, Encouragement, Learn from each other.

In the ensuing discussion, both prayer and communication were identified as critical elements. Rev. Bushfield asked that the cooperative teams focus on what God is calling us to do and to have a united vision and a united purpose in achieving that mission. In short, the challenge for leaders will be to formulate the collective mission and vision for the cooperative ministries and to deliver them in such a way that will motivate and excite both congregations.

The Cooperative Ministries Executive Team meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Happy Birthday – Happy Anniversary

August Birthdays

- 1 Jennifer Benson
- 2 Sandi Hudson
Alex Stone
- 3 Vickie Miller
Dennis Stang
- 4 Ethan Ludlow
Don Waymire
- 5 Dale Dickson
Dan Linville
- 6 Layne Dickey
Jerri Stang
Sandy Winter
- 10 Ben Thompson
- 11 Joyce Ellenberger
- 12 Mike Gibson
- 13 Chris Sexton
James Stricker
- 14 Delores
Breedlove
Mitchell Gibson
Kevin Smith
- 16 Austin Phillippe
- 17 Alison Copeland
- 18 Lyndsey Helling
David Murphy
Gail Rush
- 21 Lilly Vasquez
- 23 Jordan Kendall
Cynthia Winterstein
- 25 Norman Benson
Ron Hoeppepner
Gail Malloy

August Birthdays

- 26 Jerry Satterly
- 27 Austin Heckman
- 28 Linda Fugate
Margaret
Rujiraviriyapingo
- 29 Jarrod Beeson
Robyn Hendrix
Morgan Stricker
- 30 Paul Lillyblade
William Meredith
Amy Waymire
- 31 Bonnie Boyd
Tyler Heckman

September Birthdays

- 2 Linda Creed
Mary Satterly
- 4 Kyle Banayote
- 7 Nancy Grandstaff
- 8 Steve Ringer
- 9 Jim Waymire
- 10 Pat Bright
Brad Estes
Drew Malloy
- 11 Jamie McClellan
- 12 Herb Hale
Tim Waymire
- 13 Frank Stricker
- 14 Deanna Keene
- 15 Brock Anderson
- 17 Amanda Mowery
- 19 Julie Ewing
Cathy Waymire

September Birthdays

- 20 Chuck Sullivan
- 21 Rick Aldrich
Bodonna Hale
- 22 Patricia Adkins
Bennett Romeril
- 24 Frank Bunten
Emily Richardson
- 25 Chris Gibson
- 26 Aiden Grubb
Grant Hoeppepner
Connie Jones
Matias Marie
Rujiraviriyapingo
- 28 Gale DeWitt
Pat Grinstead
John Stumph
- 29 Barry Cook
- 30 Pat Montgomery



August Anniversaries

- 8 Gene & Mary
Springer
- 12 Dale & Debra
Dickson
- 17 Bruce & Cindy
Kendall
- 25 Norman & Melody
Benson
- 27 Harold & Barbara
Olin
- 31 Roger & Sandi
Hudson

September Anniversaries

- 7 Ken & Jerri Fry
- 18 Matt & Tiffany
Kelly
- 21 Dick & Jackie Gast
- 24 Herb & Bodonna
Hale
- 25 Mark & Dottie
Copeland

Mt. Comfort United Methodist Church
3179 North 600 West
Greenfield, IN 46140

Mark Your Calendars for These Important Dates!

August 9 – 11	Harvest of Quilts show
August 12	Meet the Teacher Night, Joyful Days MCUMC Preschool 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
August 13	Joyful Days MCUMC Preschool begins this week
August 23	Handbells 6 p.m. and Chancel Choir 7 p.m., practice resumes Planning meeting, SonShine Kids, 6:30 p.m.
September 3	Labor Day
September 5	Fletcher Place Meal -- prepare and serve
September 13	SonShine Kids begins, 2:15 - 5:30 p.m.
September 15	Car Show, front lawn MCUMC, 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.
September 27 – 28	School picture days, Joyful Days Preschool
October 1 – 12	Fall break, Joyful Days Preschool
October 20	Fall Festival (MCUMC/MTC), 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
October 31	Fletcher Place Meal -- prepare and serve
December 1	Christmas Bazaar, 9 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

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