

MARCH PREVIEW

First United Methodist Church, W. Laf., IN
Vol 58, Issue 3, 2021

From Pastor Duane...

Again & Again

Our Lenten Refrain

*"Yet even now, says the Lord,
return to me with all your heart" Joel 2:12*



As I write this, we are approaching the month of the March and we find ourselves stepping deeper into our Lenten Journey. The words and liturgies of our Lenten refrain echo. We experience the season, the scriptures, the practices, the traditions Again & Again.

Not only is Lent very different in 2021, but some have said that we really are still in the season of Lent that began a year ago in 2020. We remain in a wilderness of separation that started last spring due to Covid-19. Though we see hope on the horizon, our 2021 Lent feels like one long continuation. Here we find ourselves again.

I appreciate the creative aspects of our worship series inviting us to embrace the rhythms and repetitions. We are invited to examine what is familiar and experience it in new ways. We will use art and poetry and liturgy to think about the ways that God meets us Again & Again.

Last Sunday I closed my sermon with a poetic blessing by the poet, Rev. Jan Richardson. I want to leave another Jan Richardson Poem with you now. It is from her book *Circle of Grace: A Book of Blessings for the Seasons*.

RETURN

For Ash Wednesday

Remember.

You were built for this,
the ancient path
inscribed upon your bones,
the persistent pattern
echoing in your heartbeat.

Let this be the season
you turn your face
toward the One
who calls you:

Return, return

Let this be the day
you open wide your arms
to the wind that knows
how to bear you
home.

Here are a few of the images that will accompany the weekly themes in Lent. Look for new images each week on the Sunday bulletin covers. Some of these images will also create a growing gallery in the CLC worship space.



Light Wave



Overturn



Prevenient



Transfiguration

Governance Board & Church Conference Meeting

The next Governance Board meeting will take place virtually by Zoom on Monday, March 15 starting at 7:00pm. Agenda items are due to Bill Walker (wswalker03@gmail.com) by March 1. The agenda and the Zoom link for the meeting will be announced by March 8.

This meeting includes a Church Conference meeting where we will vote on the 2021 Operating Plan, approval of the 2021 Governance Board Officers, & approval of the Governance Board Operating Principles.

Operating Plan, a budget totaling \$644,300 was shared during the Governance Board meeting on Feb. 15.

Governance Board Officers, Reid Hochstetler is nominated to be the vice-chairperson & Mike Johnson is nominated to be the secretary.

Governance Board Operating Principles, a copy is available for review <http://www.fumcwl.org/news-updates>



Season of Lent

All services live streamed at...

<https://www.youtube.com/c/FUMCWestLafayette/live>

Sundays of Lent 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

- March 7 "We are shown the way"
- March 14 "God loves us first"
- March 21 "We are reformed"

Palm Sunday 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM

- March 28 "We draw on courage"

Maundy Thursday 7:00 PM

- April 1 "We are held together"

Holy Friday 7:00 PM

- April 2 "We find ourselves here"

Easter Sunday 11:00 AM (One Service)

- April 4 "The sun rises"



Missions

Operation Vaccination: With the encouragement of Reid & Khala Hochstedler, First UMC began an outreach project to connect with our 60+ age members to see if anyone needed assistance navigating the registration process for the COVID-19 vaccination. Thanks to our volunteer team members (Jana Day, Suzie Kline, Deb Downey, Angie & Tim Delworth, & Ann Caddy), we have been able to help several members of our congregation register for the vaccine. If you need assistance or know anyone who needs assistance registering for the vaccine or need a ride to your vaccine appointment, please call Ann Caddy at 765-412-2521.

FUMC Tech Angels & Rookies Program. A program to match Tech Angels to Tech Rookies to help those with tech needs get connected to our church family. Tech Angels are people (of all ages) who are knowledgeable about computers & can work one-on-one with a FUMC member who is having trouble connecting to Zoom or watching the FUMC streaming services on YouTube. You might need advice on what technology needs to be purchased or you might have other tech questions. To maintain social distancing, Tech Angels will be working with you via phone calls. If you'd like to get connected to a Tech Angel, email Ann at ann@knititng.email or call 765-583-3061.

Klondike Coder Closet: Please donate boys sweat pants (small, medium & large) & girls jeggings (small, medium & large)

Equal Exchange! COFFEE & CHOCOLATE orders from Equal Exchange can be made upon request. Contact Mary Welch tsmith.mwelch@gmail.com. Remember, you are helping small farmers in developing countries support their families!

Feed the Kids:

For more info, contact Denny, frankdenise41@gmail.com.

Klondike Kids Club: For more info, contact Denny, frankdenise41@gmail.com.

Food Finders: Give online: <https://www.food-finders.org/give/>. Or make checks payable to Food Finders Food Bank, 1204 Greenbush St., Laf, IN 47904.

Lafayette Transitional Housing: Give online: <https://lthc.net/donate-lthc/>

Family Promise: Give online: <https://www.fpgives.org/organizations/family-promise-of-greater-lafayette-inc>



Adult Classes

Pause for Parents: "MOMMY!" "Hey, DAD!" Yes, you! Are you a parent that feels like you're running on empty? Do you love your kids but sometimes just want to scream? I get it. For some time, it's been on my heart that FUMC needs a parents group but it always seems like just one more thing that needs to be done. But, now's the time. We are still living in unprecedented times & we need each other now more than ever. And, we need God. I'm inviting any parents out there to join me on zoom for a time of devotion & connection, a "pause for parents." Sunday evening at 8pm when (hopefully) kiddos are tucked in, I'd like to gather virtually to take a few minutes to regroup, recenter, & recharge before heading into another week. Someday, a book study might be nice, but for now, no prep work needed, just come & share this crazy parenting journey with me. -Vanessa Martin (essavill@yahoo.com 765-479-6094)

Pause for Parents – Sundays @ 8:00pm,

<https://zoom.us/j/4725927350?pwd=R0lYSE1Rb01ZVUs5WGdQU0RHTmZMZZ09>

Meeting ID: 472 592 7350 Passcode: 4j9Bhp

"Thinking Critically, Living Faithfully" 9:30am Sunday Class, contact Kris, bross.kristina@gmail.com. You are invited! If you are looking for a new way to connect with others in FUMC . . . If you are interested in thinking critically about how we live faithfully . . . You are welcome to join us. Led by Kris Bross.

Vital Conversations resumes with a Book Study on **Wednesdays at 6:30pm** using the book, "A House Divided: Engaging the Issues through the Politics of Compassion." The book is written by Rev. Mark Feldmeir, senior pastor of St. Andrew UMC in Highland Ranch, Colorado.

A House Divided asserts that we can find a better way of relating to each other & responding to today's controversial issue in ways that transcends political partisanship & emphasize universal care, mutual concern, & the flourishing of the common good.

Weekly topics will be as follows:

March 3 Health Care

March 10 Medical Aid in Dying

March 17 Islamic Extremism

March 24 Homosexuality

March 31 Social Isolation and Suicide

Each chapter is accompanied by scripture companions & discussion questions that will aid in the group conversation. Drop ins are welcome! Please feel free to join the conversation even if you have not read the book or chapter. Discussion is our goal.

Click here to join the ZOOM meeting: Meeting ID: 822 3297 3420 Passcode: 101763

Trustees Corner

Behind the Scenes: Streaming Production at FUMC

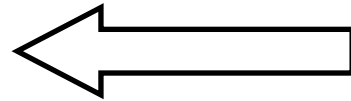
Many of us have enjoyed being able to sit at home & watch the worship services on-line, but few know how much upgrading equipment & infrastructure has been done behind the scenes to make streaming each week possible.

Remember back to the first livestream service we had after Covid started in March 2020? Our video & sound quality badly needed improvement. The Governance Board decided to invest \$15,000 to upgrade the church's video equipment. In addition, FUMC applied for & received a \$5,000 technology grant from the Center for Congregations. Those monies were used to buy the video equipment needed to produce the quality streaming service we now enjoy.

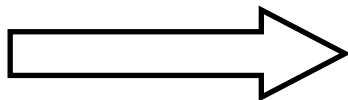
However, this additional equipment did not fit in the existing AV booth, plus it is difficult to mix the sound for a video stream when you are in the same room where the service is happening. Two members of the Trustee Team (Jonathan Heinz & David Caddy) came up with a plan to convert the storeroom next to the AV Booth to an isolated video production room where they can hear & see the video the way you see it when you watch it at home.



Video Production Room: Video & camera controls (table on left) & audio controls for video stream (on right table)

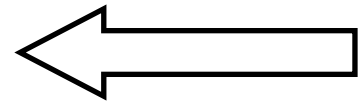


View of Video Production Room: The gray panels on the walls are acoustic treatments & the shelving is storage for AV gear.





Another view of the Video Production Room: note the patch panel under the acoustic treatment on the right – all the wires from the cameras, soundboard & data network come into the room through this panel.



This new Video Production Room is now key to livestreaming & will become even more important when we go back to in-person & streaming. Members of the tech team run the equipment in the AV Booth to control what goes on in the sanctuary, while additional tech team members operate the equipment in the video booth to control the streaming video.

Both rooms were painted, & acoustic treatments were added to the Video Production Room. David & Jonathan installed all the video, audio, & network wiring in the AV booth & Video Production Room to bring it up to current standards, while Don Caddy added some additional electrical outlets. David & Jonathan set up desks & shelving for the equipment, built the computers needed, & installed & configured all the equipment & software that we use every Sunday. Donations covered the cost of the carpet, paint, shelving, & lighting. The result is not only very functional but looks good as well.

Jonathan & David did all this work over the past year, each of them putting in hundreds of hours while keeping the system functioning every Sunday morning to stream the worship service. To put that in some perspective, that would be like telling your kitchen remodeling contractor that every evening you need all the appliances to work so you can fix dinner. It was not always pretty during the renovation & installation, but the results are worth it. Few churches are blessed with young people like this who are willing to volunteer so much of their time & have the necessary skills to put together this level of production facility while still attending school full time & holding down additional jobs.

If you get a chance once we are in the building again, come check out the Video Production Room & AV Booth. And if you see Jonathan or David around, let them know you appreciate their contributions to FUMC.

That Warm Feeling You had Last Winter

You can thank the FUMC Foundation for that. The Foundation is an independent organization that invests donations to support the work of FUMC. Not all that support is very glamorous, but it is all necessary. Last winter (you remember – before Covid when we all got dressed up & went to Church) the furnace for the Sanctuary failed. We managed to get it going but it was rusted out to the point of being no longer trustworthy. A new furnace that size is over \$10,000 which was not in the budget. The Foundation approved funding for a new furnace & we now have a new furnace for the Sanctuary. The new one includes stainless steel components so that we can get a longer life out of it.

Most of you missed the experience this summer when one of the Air Conditioning compressors failed. Our worship team spent a couple very warm Sundays putting on the service while we figured out the problem. The culprit was a failed compressor on the Sanctuary Condenser unit. A new compressor installed was almost \$11,000 & the current budget does not have any extra money in it. The Foundation stepped in again & reallocated some funds to pay for the new compressor. Next summer when we are back in our seat in the Sanctuary remember to thank the Foundation for the cool temperatures inside.



If you want to learn more about the Foundation or want to help on the Trustees Team, please contact Don Caddy at don.caddy@gmail.com or 765-491-7855.



Weekly Events

SUNDAYS

9:30am "Thinking Critically, Living Faithfully" Sunday Class, contact Kris, bross.kristina@gmail.com.

10:00am Conversation & Fellowship Hour by Zoom. Hosted by Tim Delworth timdelworth@gmail.com. Meeting ID: 828 838 841 Password: 906997

9:00am "First Up" contemporary service – can be seen at fumc.live/stream. Past Sundays: fumc.live/recorded.

11:00am Live Stream Service can be seen at fumc.live/stream. Past Sundays: fumc.live/recorded. Get the Sunday Bulletin on our website at <http://www.fumcwl.org/>.

12:00pm Listen Up! (immediately following worship) post worship conversation, by Zoom, ID: 854 6893 3398; Passcode:395261

1:00pm DKUMC Worship, CLC

1:00pm Youth Group, by Zoom or in person.

4:00pm Kids Connect by Zoom. Contact Lauren, lhall@fumcwl.org

Worship Express is now available online! A weekly Express service will be uploaded to the website and can be found under the Ministry tab.

8:00PM Pause for Parents by Zoom, ID: 472 592 7350 Passcode: 4j9Bhp

MONDAYS

5:00pm Morning Star Choir, by Zoom, contact ewilson@fumcwl.org

TUESDAYS

7:30pm Hymn Sing with Conversation. Join Ellen as we sing our favorite hymns, share hymn stories, inspirational

thoughts, & chat. Zoom meeting ID, Password & copies of the hymns emailed Tuesdays to those on weekly Event. Contact ewilson@fumcwl.org

WEDNESDAYS

9:30am Women in the Word Online, contact jexibug@gmail.com

6:00pm Vital Conversations by Zoom, Meeting ID: 822 3297 3420 Passcode: 101763

7:00pm Hands@Work, contact Ann, ann@knitting.email

7:30pm Chancel Choir, by Zoom, contact ewilson@fumcwl.org

FRIDAYS

5:00pm DKUMC College Students, AC, 205, 209, 211

SATURDAYS

1:00pm DKUMC Praise Team Practice, CLC

Meeting Occasionally "Devotions Fellowship & Connection" Class, contact Karen, karenelizabethhull@gmail.com



Children's Classes/Activities



Join us each week from 4 – 4:30 pm. Call the church if you would like to receive materials for the crafts.

Many of the crafts have instructions with them, so if you are unable to make it to our Zoom time, you are welcome to complete them at a different time.

The Zoom link for this time is below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85638752407?pwd=R3BzT3FoaTQ3dCsZWHM2dTVONVlwQT09>

Meeting ID: 856 3875 2407

Passcode: 184353

Worship Express is also available online every Sunday. It includes a brief lesson & a high energy worship song & ends with a prayer. The whole service lasts about 15 minutes, so if you are looking for a way to engage your kids in a worship service online, this is for them!

The link changes every week. So you can find it on our website under the ministries tab. Click on Worship Express.

Have a great March! ~Pastor Lauren

John Chapman	5 years old
Nolan Gorski	8 years old
Benny Martin	7 years old
Nate Martin	7 years old
Parker Rife	4 years old

Youth Activities

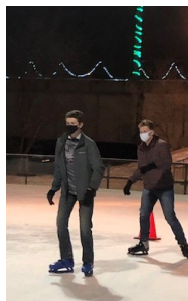
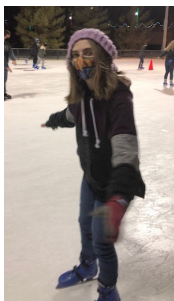
Youth from First joined Grace UMC & Wesley Foundation for an evening of skating at Riverside Skating Center last month. We had a great time! Make sure we have your email & cell phone information updated so you don't miss out on future fun activities!

In March we will begin meeting in person for Youth Group every week, while continuing to offer Sunday School by Zoom. We understand that virtual church isn't anybody's first choice, but it is important that we continue to nurture our understanding of the Bible, especially during times of crisis. Join us on Sundays & get a clearer picture of what the Scriptures are all about. Peggy & Elizabeth are leading us through an overview of the Scriptures & offering us a powerful foundation for our faith. Look for the link in the weekly youth email or on phones on Sunday Morning. Please contact Pastor Lauren if you are not receiving this link. We may need to update your number. (lhall@fumcwl.org)

March Schedule:

10:00am Sunday School by Zoom

1:00pm Youth Group (in the Activity Center)





Village Nursery School

1700 West State St, West Lafayette 47906

Affiliated with First United Methodist Church

www.vnswl.com

Director : Beth McCool

(765) 743-4039 or bmccool@fumcwl.org

Open Enrollment starts March 12, 2021 for fall classes

Ages as of 8/1 for A.M. classes.*

Preschool 2 (Ages 2-3):

M/W/F	9:20-11:50AM	\$135/month
T/Th	9:20-11:50AM	\$100/month
T/Th PM*	12:30-2:50PM	\$100/month

(*P.M. is for PS 2/PS 3—Must turn 2 by 1/1/21.)

Preschool 3 (Ages 3-4):

M/W/F	9:20-11:50 AM	\$135/month
T/Th	9:20-11:50AM	\$100/month
T/W/Th*	12:30-3:00PM	\$135/month

(*P.M. is for PS 3-PK— Must turn 3 by 1/1/21, younger 3's may attend T/Th)

Spanish Immersion Class (Ages 3-5):

T/Th	9:20 -11:50AM	\$100/month
------	---------------	-------------

(Spanish + 3-day class) \$225/month

Pre-K (Ages 4-5):

M/W/F	9:20-11:50AM	\$135/month
T/W/Th	12:30-3PM	\$135/month
M-F	9:20-11:50AM	\$215/month

Enrollment Fee/Supply Fee (due at enrollment):

2 Day Enrollment/Supply Fee:	\$100
3 Day Enrollment/Supply Fee:	\$110
5 Day Enrollment/Supply Fee:	\$120
3 Day + 2 day Spanish Fee:	\$200

Parent-Infant-Toddler:

Parent and child attend class together for play, large & small motor activities, music, and parent education. 10:00-11:30 AM, one day a week. Tuition: \$125/semester (Sept-Dec & Jan-April—14 weeks total)

Call to schedule a tour today!

Stay and Play Childcare:
Perfect for younger siblings! Must be 12 months + and walking.

Offered M-F 8:45-12:00
\$25 / per day

Play-based Learning

Powerful learning takes place through play! We offer sensory-rich learning opportunities and a safe, loving environment, encouraging children to feel confident as they explore, learn, and grow.

- Zoo Phonics
- Handwriting Without Tears
- Minds in Motion
- Theme-based

First United Methodist Church
1700 W State St.
West Lafayette, IN 47906
(765) 743-1285 Website: www.fumcwl.org



Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Clergy: Pastor Duane Carlisle (*Senior Pastor*) & Pastor Lauren Hall (*Senior Associate Pastor*)

Music Ministries Director & Worship Planner: Ellen Wilson

Director of Admin & Missional Services, Financial Officer , Website Helper: Ronda Kroeschen

Youth Praise Band: Kory Pritchett

Threshold Counseling: Dorothea Goid

Jr. / Sr. High Youth Coordinators: Peggy Foster & Elizabeth Sowinski

Village Nursery School Director: Beth McCool, Village Nursery School phone: (765) 743-4039

Building Custodians: Joanna Cook, Fabian Silva & Betty Urbano-Smith

Welcoming Statement

We, the people of First United Methodist Church West Lafayette, welcome everyone, through all life's stages, with arms that are open, respectful, and loving. And by everyone, we mean regardless of a person's sexual orientation, gender identity, nationality, race, ability, bank balance, or background. As a Reconciling Congregation, we welcome you into our church family, for it is by joining hands that we support one another and share our faith journey together. Whoever you are, and wherever you are in your spiritual journey, you are welcome here.

Let all  you DO
be done
in  Love.
1 Corinthians 16:14

Mission, Vision & Core Values

Our Mission:

To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our Vision:

- 1) Adopt & Embrace the Families of the Klondike School District in partnership with Klondike Elementary School & Teachers;
- 2) Embrace the Purdue Community in partnership with Wesley Foundation;
- 3) Ensure our First United Methodist Church Community is connected & growing in their walk with Christ.

Our Core Values:

We are a loving & joyful church committed to celebrating God's love in all that we do.

*Welcome, Acceptance, & Support;

*Christ-centered Worship;

*Spiritual Growth Towards Discipleship;

*Active Christian Service.