

First United Methodist Church of Wabash, Indiana



110 N. Cass Street, Wabash, IN 46992

Mission Statement...*To provide a loving fellowship that brings about spiritual transformation through worship, prayer, study and action in order to know Christ and to make Him known.*

Vision Statement...*Our passion for God and for people means we will be a church which offers Christ to all and is open to God's leading.*

FEBRUARY 2011

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THE PASTORS' PAGE

Today is when people who one will usually show form of a gift, generally that is meant to express person. I want you to know that I loved you before you even knew who I was. It was a long time ago, but as I deeply loved you then, I love you equally as much now. I will always be here when you need someone to comfort you, and to love you. The Heart-Gift I have for you is pure, always true and never failing. My love is a love that never ends, it is not jealous and desires only the very best for you. The love I have for you is not understandable by the world's standards, but someday it will be understood by all. My heart has bled for you, and my love for you is eternal. I love you so very, very much.

JESUS



This month when we celebrate LOVE at Valentines Day, may we always be reminded of God's great promise in John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, He gave us His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not perish, but may have eternal life."
NRSV

Let all God's children come, Pastor Heather



Internet address: www.wabashfirstumc.org
Phone: (260) 563-3108
Senior Pastor - David Cross
8:00 a.m. Rise and Shine Worship
9:00 a.m. & 10:15 a.m. Sunday School

E-mail: office.wabfirstumc@cinergymetro.net
FAX: (260) 563-3109
Minister of Family Life & Outreach - Heather Olson-Bunnell
9:00 a.m. Christ Alive! Worship
10:00 a.m. Mid-Morning Worship

CLUB 45

On Sunday, February 13, Club 45 will meet 11am-1pm. We will be setting up tables in the MAC for the Supper and Song (5:00—6:30 p.m.). Our young people will be helping serve during the supper. For our light lunch that day kids are asked to bring red or pink food! Friends welcome.



CHILDREN'S MISSION PROJECT



Our offerings in envelopes used by children have purchased animals once again through the Heifer Project. These animals will provide a steady supply of life sustaining food for families who struggle with hunger and poverty around the world. Each class chose which animals they wanted sent (\$300.00 total)

Pre-school: pair of rabbits and flock of geese

1st-3rd Grades: pig

4th-5th Grades: llama

If your child or grandchild needs new "animal envelopes" contact Pastor Heather.



"Visions for Generations" Campaign Report

At the beginning of 2010, we had a balance of \$950,000 on our mortgage. As of the end of 2010, we had a balance of \$210,000. For the pledges that were made for 2010...99.3% of those were received. Congratulations to all in our congregation who have made commitments to this campaign and have followed their commitments. Our congregation's prayers have been answered to this point as we work to completing the goals of this campaign. The funds for completing the youth room and chapel have been received in total and we will soon be asking for that "sweat equity" from our youth and all members able to help from our congregation. This is an exciting time and we continue to ask for your prayers and commitment to these projects.

For many, we have pledges committed to 2011, 2012 and early 2013 and I look forward to reporting that those commitments will also be completed. We have already saved some interest on the loan and are ahead of schedule on meeting this obligation. We can look forward to expanding our ministry in serving all of God's community.

Dave Mann, Campaign Chair

FROM KIDS 1ST CHILD CARE

We are pleased to report that we finished another year in the black. We are very hopeful that 2011 is going to be just as strong. We would like to thank the United Methodist Women for the generous donation and everyone that made some kind of donation to us throughout 2010. Thank you for your continuous support, we hope that everyone has a blessed 2011.

Thank You & God Bless,
Missie Edwards, Director of Kids First.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL OPTIONS

9:00 a.m. - "Great Old Testament Themes"

led by Elaine Leach in the Conference Room

9:00 a.m. - "Romans" led by Jon Higgins in the Chapel

9:00 a.m. - Various short topics for the young married, led by Christy Cross in the Office Workroom

10:15 a.m. - beginning Feb. 6 "Crazy Love"

led by Donna Highley in the Conference Room.



DEADLINE FOR NEWS IN THE MARCH
"FIRST EDITION"

IS Monday, February 21 by noon.

Altar flowers for 2011



You will find the sign up chart for 2011 Altar Flowers on the table under the stairway in the foyer. Please consider signing up to help provide flowers. The cost is \$30.00 and if you choose to pay ahead the money saved by not billing will be put toward more flowers. You may take the flowers home following the 10:00 a.m. worship service. (Please don't take the vase inserts home.)

BOY SCOUTS SELLING FIREWOOD

Troop 429 is selling firewood as a fundraiser. If you want firewood, please contact Richard Bird at 563-1647.



Heart Smart Valentines

Valentine #1: Please, No Smoking! Your parish nurse has resource information to help you stop.

Valentine #2: Eat a healthy diet that includes healthy fats. Enjoy cooking, baking, and sautéing with olive oil, canola oil, and peanut oil. Your parish nurse has information on the DASH diet and the MEDITERANEAN diet.

Valentine #3: Move it, don't lose it! Modest amounts of exercise can be heart healthy. Exercise is known to help manage cholesterol and triglyceride levels. There are groups walking at the church several times a week during this season of cold weather. Remember, if you have risk factors for heart disease, shoveling snow is discouraged.

Valentine #4: Jesus loves you. Tell the children in your life. But also, remember to tell yourself.

A message about cholesterol:

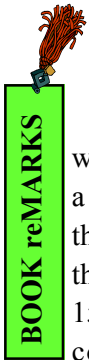
Because it is possible to have high cholesterol for many years without symptoms, it is important to have your blood cholesterol level checked periodically. Current guidelines recommend that adults older than 20 undergo a full fasting lipid profile once every five years. This test measures LDL and HDL cholesterol and triglyceride levels. If the numbers are outside the desirable range, your doctor may suggest that you change your diet and monitor your cholesterol more frequently.

For more information:

Linda Gardner, Parish Nurse

<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/>

<http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/heart-disease/DS01120>



The Christian Book Club met on January 18th to discuss *The Help* by Katherine Stockett. This fictional book set in Jackson, Mississippi in 1962 deals with the manner in which black maids are treated in the homes of white families. Our February book is *Same Kind of Different as Me* by Ron Hall and Denver Moore. Ron Hall is a millionaire who shares his story of meeting Denver Moore in a homeless shelter. Mr. Hall's wife is the bridge that connects the two men and I know you will find their story to be a powerful one. We hope you can join us on the 15th of February at 12:30 p.m. at the Great Wall Restaurant. A few of the other books on our list are: March 15th, *Handle with Care*, April 19th *Wrapped in Rain*, May 17th *Sarah's Key*. If you have any questions, please contact Sondra Harrell.



Thank You!

Thank you so much for the huge Christmas bag of items to keep us busy at this time. Also, we appreciate your prayers and care. Sincerely, *Harriet Benjamin*

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for the Christmas gift bag. Your kindness and thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated. I miss coming to Sunday service. I am thankful to Bettie Miller who faithfully brings tapes of the service to me weekly. Thank you for thinking of me and keep me in your prayers.
Catherine O'Connor

I would like to thank members of the church for remembering me at Christmas. I am enjoying the snacks and lotions. The cross is beautiful. I miss the services. Again—thank you.
Kate Mitting

To my Church Family, thank you so much for the Christmas gift bag full of good things. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated. Please keep me in your prayers as I do you. May 2011 be a blessed year for all.
Kate Brady

MY CHURCH FAMILY

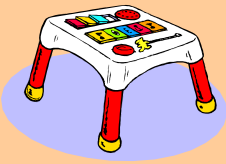
My church is special to me in so many ways, Lord. I am so thankful that you have placed me among such a wonderful group of believers who encourage me and pray for me. Allow me to be a blessing to them, as well and help me to never forget how important they are in my life.

This prayer is found in the book of "Everyday Prayers" which was in the beautiful Christmas gift bag given to me by friends at First United Methodist Church. It was delivered to me in such a kind and loving manner. It is my prayer.

The items in the "bag" were well chosen. It contained food to nourish the body, mind, and soul. I appreciate your thoughtfulness. Thanks be to God.

Lovingly and Prayerfully, *Jayne Lutz*

PLAY'S THE THING



Play isn't only for fun - it's also foundational to children's learning and faith development. David Elkind, author of The Power of Play, says today's "screen culture" robs children of hours of valuable play. They're using technology at home and school, rather than exercising their imaginations and interacting with others.

Now, more than ever, children need unstructured time to play, explore, and learn... especially in faith settings. If you haven't checked out our Discovery Play Zone for pre-schoolers in the children's area, stop in and watch them play and learn together.

Our nursery supervisor, Emily Boardman, designed this interactive learning environment which includes large muscle activities as well as a quiet "book nook." It was funded through a grant from our Memorial Endowment Fund and is used midweek as well as Sunday mornings. **As we develop more ministries with our pre-schoolers, we will be needing more volunteers to supervise activities there. Let Pastor Heather know if you are willing to help.**

SOUP FOR THE SUPERBOWL

The youth are collecting "Soup for the Superbowl" on February 6. Bring in cans and vote for your favorite team.

First Youth Info

Wabash 1st United Methodist MIDDLE SCHOOL and HIGH SCHOOL Youth

Upcoming Events

February 6, 11am-1pm (Note: time change!)

Packing cookies for college and military...

Bring 1 dozen cookies or donations for the military. Lunch will be served.

February 13, No Meeting Valentine Dinner

February 20, No Meeting . . .

School Winter Break

February 27, 6-7:30 pm in the MAC,

Youth Meeting

March 6, 11am-1pm in the MAC

2nd Annual Chili Cook-off...

March 12, 4 p.m. "Overnighter"

REMEMBER F.I.S.H. & Kids First

The first Sunday of every month is collection Sunday for F.I.S.H. and Kids First Child Care. Please bring items you would like to contribute and they will be delivered for you during the week.

PRE-K SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS TO DELIVER BEARS

February 6, the Pre-K 9:00 a.m. Sunday School Class will deliver the prayer bears they have made to the nursing home following the 10:00 a.m. worship service. Anyone is welcome to join us. Contact person, Angel Hostetler

THANK YOU

Dear Friends,

We feel so blessed to have such a wonderful Church Family. Your outpouring of love, prayers, cards and calls following the deaths of Linda's mother and John's sister, and Linda's hospitalization were very comforting. Thanks also for the lovely prayer shawl and Pastor David's visit to the hospital.

John & Linda Gilpin

2ND ANNUAL CHILI COOKOFF

March 6, 11am-1pm

MAC

Hosted by the youth

Gather your team, find your best recipe, and make some decorations! Registration and rules available on Feb. 6th. See Andrea Schuler or Marc Shelley for more information.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

1. Easter "Egg-stravaganza"

Sunday, April 24 during Kids Connexion 10 a.m.

Need: Clean empty egg cartons

Volunteers: to organize activities in advance and on that day

Contact: Pastor Heather

2. Vacation Bible School "Shake it Up"

June 13-17 from 9am to 11:30 a.m.

Where kids carry out God's Recipe.

Need: Aprons—all styles and colors

Volunteers: to help kids learn how to bake & cook!

Contact: Angel Hostetler (VBS Coordinator) or Pastor Heather.

Wabash 1st UMC will be presenting

“Crazy Love” Series

Based on the book authored by Francis Chan

Beginning February 6th thru March 6th

During the 8 am, 9 am and 10 am services

Small group discussions will be provided at 10:15 am



Have you ever wondered if we're missing it? It's crazy if you think about it. The God of the universe – the Creator of nitrogen and pine needles, galaxies and e-minor - loves us with a radical, unconditional, self-sacrificing love. And what is our typical response? We go to church, sing songs, and try not to cuss. Whether you've verbalized it yet or not...we all know something's wrong.

Reading the book is not required but would benefit your study.

BOOK CAN BE PURCHASED @ Joy Christian Bookstore or @ Bookschristian.com



SUPPER AND SONG

FEBRUARY 13, 2011

5:00 P.M.—6:30 P.M.

\$5 Adults \$1 Students

K and under free

MENU: Chili or Potato Soup

Ham, Turkey, Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwiches

Fresh vegetables & fruit

Cookies Drink

Entertainment: Wabash High School

Symphonic Voices & Men's Choir

Tickets on sale in Foyer, January 30 & February 6

FROM OUR CHURCH TREASURER

Our income was greater than our expenses in December, a good finish to a financially fantastic year with our income exceeding our expenses for seven of the twelve months. Our average monthly income has been over 100% every month of the year and our average monthly expenses were under a 100% every month.

We recently upgraded our main church software to provide more features to our church membership. One of the main components of the program is fully utilizing email addresses and at the same time keeping the email addresses hidden from other users or email recipients. This will allow the church to send emails for committee meetings, and attach minutes or other information when required. From the contribution module we may now send contribution statements by email. If you are interested in receiving a monthly contribution statement by email and saving the church money, please let the church office know.

Mel Rennaker

2010 FINANCIAL REPORT

December 31, 2010

Approved Budget	Monthly Amount	Year-to Date	Percentage
\$383,983.00	\$ 31,998.58	\$,383,983.00	100.00%
	December	Year-to Date	
Income	\$ 35,860.86	112.07%	\$392,128.67 102.12%
Expenses	<u>\$ 33,394.85</u>	104.36%	<u>\$364,854.28</u> 95.01%
Difference	\$ 2,466.01		\$ 27,274.39

GENERAL BUDGET OVERVIEW

2010	2010	2010	2010
<i>Beginning Balance</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenses</i>	<i>Ending Balance</i>
\$ 12,299.50	\$392,128.67	\$364,854.28	\$39,573.89
YTD Percentage	102.12%	95.01%	

2010 GENERAL BUDGET INCOME

	YTD		Annual		
	December	YTD Income	Est. Income	Est. Income	
Member Pledges	\$ 22,626.25	\$294,281.00	\$302,967.00	\$302,967.00	97.13%
Member Contributions	\$ 2,795.00	\$ 37,882.00	\$ 34,000.00	\$ 34,000.00	111.42%
Non-Member Contributions	\$ 8,070.00	\$ 21,342.57	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	213.43%
Loose Offering	\$ 232.00	\$ 3,865.25	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	128.84%
Sunday School Offering	\$ 67.56	\$ 521.23	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	104.25%
Checking Interest	\$ 54.55	\$ 625.12	\$ 556.00	\$ 556.00	112.43%
Upper Room	\$ 3.00	\$ 53.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	220.00%
Offering Envelopes	\$ 1.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	90.00%
Building Use	\$ 175.00	\$ 1,825.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	91.25%
2009 Pledge Payment	\$	\$ 310.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 325.00	95.38%
Reimb from Other Accounts	\$	\$	\$ 2,577.00	\$ 2,577.00	0.00%
Extra Gift Contributions	\$ 1,232.00	\$ 31,376.50	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	104.59%
TOTAL	\$ 35,860.86	\$392,128.67	\$386,000.00	\$386,000.00	102.12%

2010 GENERAL BUDGET EXPENSES

	YTD		
	December	Expenses	
Committee Groups			
Missions	\$ 2,180.00	\$ 15,423.00	\$ 16,350.00 94.33 %
Denominational Ministries	\$ 3,950.00	\$ 43,134.00	\$ 41,235.00 104.03 %
Personnel	\$ 13,243.06	\$167,767.42	\$170,418.00 98.45 %
Council on Ministries	\$ 2,157.52	\$ 10,847.62	\$ 14,180.00 76.50 %
Building & Grounds	\$ 10,934.96	\$123,994.84	\$137,140.00 90.44 %
Office Operations	\$ 193.98	\$ 1,924.06	\$ 2,475.00 77.74 %
Finance & Stewardship	<u>\$ 735.33</u>	<u>\$ 1,763.34</u>	<u>\$ 2,185.00</u> 80.70 %
TOTAL	\$ 33,394.85	\$364,854.28	\$383,983.00 95.01 %

Non-Budget Missions

	December	YTD
UMCOR-Haiti Relief	\$ 200.00	\$ 3,646.00
Kids First Day Care	\$ 310.00	\$ 375.00
World Communion	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00
Bishop's Children's Offerings	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00
Advent Offerings	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00

February 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Each Sunday morning 8:00 a.m.—Worship Service (Sanctuary) 9:00 a.m.—Alternative Worship (MAC) 9:00 & 10:15 a.m. -Sunday School 10:00 a.m.—Worship Service (Sanctuary)</p>		<p>1 9am-Newcomers Committee (Office Workroom)</p> <p>6:30pm-Intentional Faith Dev. (Gathering Room)</p> <p>6:30pm-Staff Parish Committee (Conference Room)</p>	<p>2 4pm-Walk With the Lord (MAC)</p> <p>4pm-Men's Prayer Group (Pastors Study)</p> <p>6:15pm-Handbell Practice (Handbell Room)</p> <p>7:15pmChancel Choir Rehearsal</p>	3	4	5
<p>6 5th Sunday after Epiphany (white) <i>Crazy Love Series begins</i> Collection Sunday for Kids 1st and FISH 11am-1pm-Youth Fellowship</p>	<p>7 8am-Men's Bible Study (Pastor's Study)</p> <p>10:30am-Bible Study (Conf.Rm)</p> <p>7pm-Boy Scouts (Scout Room)</p>	<p>8 9am-Newcomers Committee (Office Workroom)</p>	<p>9 4pm-Walk With the Lord (MAC)</p> <p>4pm-Men's Prayer Group (Pastors Study)</p> <p>6:15pm-Handbell Practice (Handbell Room)</p> <p>7:15pmChancel Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>10 9am-Margaret Wilson Circle (Beckett's)</p> <p>6:30pm-Christ Alive Service Rehearsal (MAC)</p> <p>7:15pm-Doris Blake Circle (Cross's)</p>	11	12
<p>13 6th Sunday after Epiphany (green) 8:30-11am-Blood Pressure check (church office) 11am-1pm-Club 45 5pm-Supper & Song (MAC)</p>	<p>14 8am-Men's Bible Study (Pastor's Study)</p> <p>10:30am-Bible Study (Conf.Rm)</p> <p>7pm-Boy Scouts (Scout Room)</p>	<p>15 9am-Newcomers Committee (Office Workroom)</p> <p>12:30pm-Book Club (Great Wall)</p> <p>6:30pm-Administrative Council</p>	<p>16 4pm-Walk With the Lord</p> <p>4pm-Men's Prayer Group (Pastors Study)</p> <p>6:15pm-Handbell Practice (Handbell Room)</p> <p>7:15pmChancel Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>17 6pm-Trustees (Conference Rm)</p> <p>6:30pm-Christ Alive Service Rehearsal (MAC)</p>	<p>18 9am-6pm-Red Cross Blood Drive (MAC)</p> <p>Donations from 11am-5pm</p>	19
<p>20 7th Sunday after Epiphany (green)</p> <p>No Youth Fellowship</p>	<p>21 8am-Men's Bible Study (Pastor's Study)</p> <p>10:30am-Bible Study (Conf.Rm)</p> <p>NOON-Newsletter Deadline</p> <p>7pm-Boy Scouts (Scout Room)</p>	<p>22 9am-Newcomers Committee (Office Workroom)</p>	<p>23 4pm-Walk With the Lord</p> <p>4pm-Men's Prayer Group (Pastors Study)</p> <p>6:15pm-Handbell Practice (Handbell Room)</p> <p>7:15pmChancel Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>24 6:30pm-Christ Alive Service Rehearsal (MAC)</p>	25	26
<p>27 8th Sunday After Epiphany (Green)</p> <p>6pm-Youth Fellowship (MAC)</p>	<p>28 8am-Men's Bible Study (Pastor's Study)</p> <p>10:30am-Bible Study (Conf.Rm)</p> <p>1:30pm-UMW Board Meeting (Conference Rm)</p> <p>7pm-Boy Scouts (Scout Room)</p>					<p>SATURDAY MARCH 5 COMMUNITY BREAKFAST 7:30-10AM (MAC)</p>

February 2011

A = Wedding Anniversary

B = Birthday

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 B-Eric Highley	2 B-Brenda Coble B-Austin Keffaber	3 B-Ines Gillespie	4	5 B-Lisa (Pilgrim) Laskowski B-Wayne Rees
6 B-Terry Stewart	7 B-Colleen Boardman B-Carrie Leach	8	9	10	11 B-Caroline Bower	12 B-Ralph Marshall B-Trevor Patton
13 B-Mary Jane Baker B-Brandon Holder	14	15 B-Austin England B-Alex Hentgen B-Bob Schmalzreid	16 A-Jeff & Whitney Myers B-Harriet McLaughlin	17	18 B-Kari Halderman B-Daniel Martin B-Sierra Monroe	19 B-Joel Leach
20	21 B-Maxine Haist	22 B-Edwin Langstaff	23 B-Tina Palmer	24	25 B-Genevieve Cochley	26 B-Ainsley Dale B-Cassie Fanning
27 B-John Bower B-Stephen Downs B-Richard Ford	28	Natalie Schuler (2-29)				