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# Monticello

## United Methodist Church

October 2024

### Monticello United Methodist Church

200 South Main Street  
 Monticello, IN 47960

(574) 583-5545

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### COMING UP: PACK AWAY HUNGER

On November 9, we will be hosting our 7th Annual Community Pack Away Hunger event! Last year, nearly 250 volunteers in 3 shifts packed over 50,000 non-perishable meals. In the past 6 years, MUMC and friends have funded/packed 276,846 meals! These meals are used here in Indiana and also shipped to feed the hungry in Guatemala, Haiti, and Ukraine. In 2023, 20,000 of these meals went directly to the White County Food Pantry. This is a community-wide project. Last year six area churches helped fund the event, along with a generous grant from the Community Foundation of White County. Volunteers represented churches, a Girl Scout Troop, a Wolf Pack Troop, Boy Scout Troops, Fellowship of Christian Athletes (North White), and Alliance Bank Junior Board.

This year we'd like to see even more of our MUMC families participate! Better yet, we'd love for you to form teams, not just church, but from all the arenas of your life—your family, friends, work, school, neighborhood, hobbies, service groups! It's such a great feeling working in community with others to feed the hungry here in White County, in Indiana, and around the world!

Watch for upcoming information about registration for one of the three shifts at 8am, 10am, and 1pm.

### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD - A CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

On November 3rd and November 10th, our Children's Ministry will be collecting your donations for Operation Christmas Child. See the Children's Ministry section of this newsletter for more info. OCC Shoeboxes go all over the world to needy children, carrying the Good News of Jesus. Each box is packed full of small gifts. These quality toys, school supplies, and personal items become a tangible expression of our Jesus's love. See Amazon for great gift ideas for boys and girls of all ages. Pro-tip: they love soccer balls with pumps! (Avoid: Candy; toothpaste; gum; used or damaged items; scary or war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures; chocolate or food; seeds; fruit rolls or other fruit snacks; drink mixes (powdered or liquid); liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol can.) MUMC children will pack the boxes. They'd be grateful for your gifts for the boxes and donations to cover shipping.

## SEASONS

Fall is my favorite season. The crispness of a fall morning cannot be beat. I love wearing sweaters, going to corn mazes with my family, and I love the superior fall flavor...apple! However, I also love fall because usually it means that the hustle and bustle of a busy summer is ending, and we are getting closer to Advent. In my life, fall has been a time to reassess time commitments and to revisit those goals that I have set out for the year in January. How am I measuring up to the person that I thought I would be in January? What course adjustments do I need to make now to continue to grow? Where do I need to cut back? All of these questions I ask myself in the fall.

There are seasons in the world for a reason. Seasons help us mark different parts of our year, but also different parts of our lives. King Solomon, with the gift of wisdom, wrote in Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 NIV these words:

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing, a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace."

Reading that passage, I find myself instantly choosing the one that I would prefer be now. I want things to be born, I want to plant, I want to heal, I want to build, and laugh, and dance. I want to gather, embrace, search, keep, mend, speak, love and peace. I want all of those things, not the other. Yet they still come. Death, uprooting, pain, fear, brokenness, mourning, and giving up present themselves constantly in our lives, and we cannot run away from them. These are all part of the seasons, all a natural part of life. That doesn't mean that it is easy or that we are supposed to act like everything is okay when we go through the hard seasons. On the contrary, it means that we acknowledge when we are struggling and the body of Christ comes around us to hold us up.

We are all currently going through different seasons. Some are good, some are hard, but the truth we know in Scripture is that they are seasons. They are here for a certain amount of time. Sometimes they are fleeting, and sometimes it feels like we will never get past it. But God isn't waiting for us on the other end of the season, gesturing us forward. No friends, God is with us in the valley. God is with us in the mourning, and the rejoicing. God is with us, we are not alone. As the body of Christ, we also are there for each other. We hold on to one another because God holds on to us.

So whatever season you're in right now, know that you are not alone. God is with you, and so are we. We will get through this together, by the power of the Spirit and with the love of Christ. Because we are not alone.

Yours in Christ,

*Pastor Justin*

# Celebrations

There are two very special MUMC men celebrating milestone birthdays this month! Please help them celebrate by sending cards!

**Gerald Delzell turns 97 on October 26.**

(105 S 650 E; Monticello IN 47960)

**Charles Bogart turns 98 on October 29.**

(814 S 6th St; Room 502; Monticello IN 47960)

## RECENT 648 AND REVOLUTION HIGHLIGHTS

This past month in 648, we began a series on "Words of Wisdom." We are taking passages from Proverbs and James and emphasizing their importance in how we live our lives for Christ. Revolution has been walking through a series on "How to Live Out Your Faith." We've been discussing main factors such as reading scripture, prayer life, worship, and our day to day actions. It has been really great to help provide immediately applicable lessons and see their impact from week to week! There also was a small sweet treat surprise for the Revolution group.

## UPCOMING IN 648 AND REVOLUTION:

For 648, we are excited to announce an upcoming "Girls Night" and "Guys Night!" We will be asking that only our girls come to 648 on October 27, and only our guys on November 3! This will allow more open conversations and a bonding opportunity for each group!

## SENIOR HIGH FALL RETREAT:

Fall retreat registration is OPEN! We will be attending the Wildfires retreat at Epworth Forest Conference Center on November 8-10. This is open to all 9-12th grade students. Registration cost is \$95 and is payable at the online registration on the Impact2818 website. You can scan the QR code to access the website or email Ella Miller (emiller@monticelloumchurch.org) with any questions!

## WANT TO SERVE?

We are also looking for people who would be interested in helping provide snacks for our middle and high school ministries! We don't provide a full meal, but rather a small snack, so something as simple as rice crispy treats, bags of chips, etc. If this is something you would be interested in, please contact Ella Miller (emiller@monticelloumchurch.org)!



## ADVENTURES IN FAITH

People often say, "It's about the journey, not the destination", when their travel plans don't work out how they expected. This phrase couldn't be truer for Job, who went through a shocking journey. In this 4 week series in October kids will hear from Job's story as he learned to navigate loss and trust God's itinerary every step of the way.

Through the story of Job's perseverance and faithfulness, kids will learn that God is with them no matter what they go through, they can show God's love in small ways, God is bigger than they could ever understand, and they can trust God will make everything right.

Please make sure you are bringing your child down no earlier than 10:50, and please come down to their room to pick them up afterwards. We cannot allow the children to leave without someone coming to get them.



## IGNITE

Our first Sunday evening with Ignite was so much fun! Matt Conrad led us through a worship time with music and movements. Pastor Justin taught us about our very first Fruit of the Spirit, gentleness. We ate like royalty with breakfast for dinner including homemade cinnamon rolls and ate together as a family. Jocelyn led the kids in a craft and the kids enjoyed playing some fun games with their classes. The kids and teachers seemed to like the new format as it kept them moving around a lot. I have had several kids ask me when the next one is and I am very glad to see them anxious for the next Sunday evening we get together. We still have a need for donations on several evenings. Please see Miki with questions or to sign up to bring in a meal.

## TRUNK OR TREAT

We are once again joining the Community Trunk or Treat which will be on October 26 from 3-5pm. I would love to meet here at 2pm and go over as a group so we can all be together. We will be collecting candy on October 13 and 20. There will be tubs located at the starting point of both services to put candy in. There will be a form that will need to be filled out and those will also be available at each starting point. Please let Miki know at (574)870-0561 if you would like to decorate a trunk and be a part of this fun event.

## OCTOBER DATES TO REMEMBER

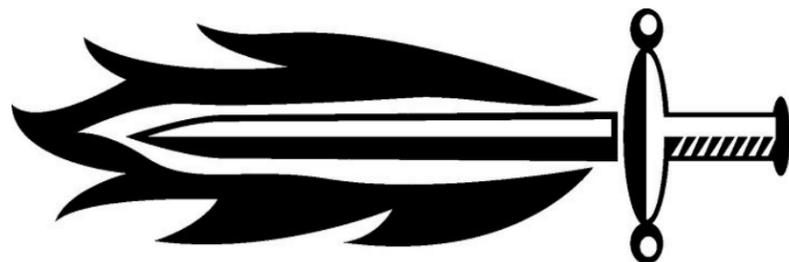
Sunday, October 13 - IGNITE 5-6:30pm  
Saturday, October 26 - Community Trunk or Treat

## \*LOOKING AHEAD\*

We will be having our family event in November packing shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. The packing event will be on November 17. Donations will be happily accepted up until that date.

## SWORD DRILLS

Sword Drills will be Sunday, October 27 during the 11am Adventures in Faith. This is for 2nd through 5th graders and is a fun, fast way of learning the books of the Bible. Helpers will be available. Don't forget your Bibles!



## MUMC ONLINE

In September, I (Pastor Justin) received a message from a young man in Nigeria. He has been attending The Couch for a few months, and reached out to me because he wants me to mentor him in his faith, or to disciple him. Nigeria. Think about that for a moment. A young man in another country thousands of miles away somehow, by the grace of God, has found MUMC Online, become connected, and is now doing discipleship with a church in Monticello, Indiana. That is amazing friends! Because of your faithfulness, because we were able to follow a vision that God has placed in our hearts, we are making disciples for the transformation of THE WORLD. God is good. So with that story in mind, let me ask you a question. How are you making disciples? If you have social media, would you consider your page a discipleship hotbed? Or is it something else? We know that God can use the tools of social media, mixed with the testimony of our own lives, to bring people to Himself. Are you a part of that hope online? I invite you to do a spiritual inventory of your Facebook or Instagram and ask the Spirit, "Is this the face of Christ that I want to portray?" If it is, then praise God! If the answer is no, then let's start that hard work of making changes in our lives.



## SOUP FOR THE SOUL

Soup for the Soul will take place on October 8 and 22 this month. The serving line and dining room are open from 4:30-6pm. If you would like to make a donation or volunteer your time to this mission, please reach out to the Church Office at (574)583-5545 for more information.

## LUNCH BUNCH

Lunch Bunch is for any and all women in the church (and their friends)! We will meet on Wednesday, October 2 at 11:30am at Wolcott Cafe. We will carpool leaving from the church parking lot at 10:50am. This is by reservation only. Call Bootsie (574)581-0859 by September 30 to reserve your spot! \$10 will cover your entree, drink and dessert (not tip) and money can be given to Bootsie ahead of time (preferable) or that day.

November Lunch Bunch will be at USA Restaurant on Wednesday, November 6. Christmas Lunch Bunch will be the last Lunch Bunch. It will be on Wednesday, December 4 at Wolcott Cafe at 11:30am. It will be by reservation only and sign ups will begin October 2.

## Missions in Bloom

We are thrilled to report that our Missions in Bloom campaign was a huge success!  
Thank you for your faithfulness and compassion!

Local Ministries  
White County Food Pantry \$1,619  
Women to Women \$1,000  
White Cnty Comm Couns'g \$2,130  
  
National/International  
Charity: Water \$1,250  
World Central Kitchen \$500  
UMCOR \$1,000  
Heifer International \$1,250

State  
Bashor Children's Home \$950  
Lebanon Children's Home \$950  
Wesley Foundation at Purdue \$200  
Exodus/Church World Service \$200  
Lucille Raines Home \$30  
  
May our gifts to these ministries help them bloom and grow with the love of Jesus! 🙏



**REGULAR SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE**

- 8:30 Adult Sunday School
- 9:30 The Classic Worship Service
- 9:30 Adventures in Faith (Children)
- 11:00 The Current Worship Service
- 11:00 Adventures in Faith (Children)

# October 2024

**Narcotics Anonymous  
M—7:00 PM Room 201**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> 8pm– Seven Realities Zoom	<b>2</b> 12pm– Lunch Bunch 7pm– Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7pm– The Couch	<b>3</b> 6:30pm– Grace Notes Rehearsal	<b>4</b> 6:30am– Men’s Emmaus	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> REG SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES 3:15pm– Disciple Fast Track 5pm– The Chosen Season 4 5pm– Revolution 6:45pm– Seven Realities Study 6:48pm– 648	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 4:30pm– Soup for the Soul 8pm– Seven Realities Zoom	<b>9</b> 7pm– Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7pm– The Couch	<b>10</b> 11am– MMW Meeting 6:30pm– Grace Notes Rehearsal 6:30pm– Line Dancing Lessons 7pm– Prayer Bead Zoom Class	<b>11</b> 6:30am– Men’s Emmaus 8:30am– Thrive	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> REG SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES 3:15pm– Disciple Fast Track 5pm– The Chosen Season 4 5pm– Ignite 5pm– Revolution 6:45pm– Seven Realities Study 6:48pm– 648	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 6:30pm– Trustees Meeting 7pm– Finance Committee Meeting 8pm– Seven Realities Zoom	<b>16</b> 7pm– Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7pm– The Couch	<b>17</b> 6:30pm– Grace Notes Rehearsal	<b>18</b> 6:30am– Men’s Emmaus	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> REG SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES 3:15pm– Disciple Fast Track 5pm– The Chosen Season 4 5pm– Revolution 6:45pm– Seven Realities Study 6:48pm– 648	<b>21</b> 7pm– Church Council Meeting	<b>22</b> 4:30pm– Soup for the Soul 8pm– Seven Realities Zoom	<b>23</b> 7pm– Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7pm– The Couch	<b>24</b> 6:30pm– Grace Notes Rehearsal 6:30pm– Line Dancing Lessons	<b>25</b> 6:30am– Men’s Emmaus	<b>26</b> 3pm– Trunk or Treat
<b>27</b> REG SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES 11am– Sword Drills 3:15pm– Disciple Fast Track 5pm– The Chosen Season 4 5pm– Revolution 6:45pm– Seven Realities Study 6:48pm– 648	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 8pm– Seven Realities Zoom	<b>30</b> 7pm– Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7pm– The Couch	<b>31</b> 6:30pm– Grace Notes Rehearsal		