

The Drive-In Worship Service Will Resume
Sunday, May 24 at 8:30 am
at

LAKE SHORE DRIVE-IN

Come as you are... Worship in your car!
Sundays at 8:30 am from Memorial Day to Labor Day

reach out in love



PO Box 87
200 South Main Street
Monticello, IN 47960-0087
Phone: (574)583-5545
Email: ChurchOffice@MonticelloUMChurch.org
Website: MonticelloUMChurch.org

Monticello
United Methodist Church

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Monticello United Methodist Church

April – May 2026

Monticello United Methodist Church

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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL RAINFOREST FALLS

Vacation Bible School is fast approaching and we are asking for your help! On May 31st and June 7th, we will have a donation board in the Parlor and Common Grounds for supplies needed to make this event successful. We would appreciate if you could visit the boards and see if there is anything you are able to donate. We will also have craft kits to take home with instructions the month of June.

There will be volunteer and student sign ups as well!



LUNCH BUNCH

We are not a group on a mission, except to make it easy to have lunch with friends, old and new. Come to Lunch Bunch, at noon at USA on the first Wednesday of each month! April 1st, May 6th, Dutch treat. We've been waiting for you to join us!

Dear Church Family,

Grace and peace to you in this sacred and holy week.

We have now entered Holy Week—the most profound and meaningful stretch of our journey through Lent. These are the days when we walk closely with Jesus through the final moments of His earthly ministry, from the shouts of “Hosanna” to the silence of the tomb, and ultimately toward the joy of resurrection. It is a time to pause, to listen, and to allow God to speak deeply into our lives in new and transforming ways. In this season of Lent we have learned more about Jesus: His way, His mission, His kingdom, and His power. I pray that you have come to know and love Jesus even more during this season.

Even now, as we reflect on Christ’s sacrifice, the world around us is beginning to bloom with signs of new life. The first fruits of spring are emerging—the tender green shoots, blossoming trees, and warmer days filled with light. These reminders of renewal echo the very heart of this week: that God brings life out of death, hope out of despair, and transformation out of surrender. But our world is also experiencing the fruits of humanity’s fall. Greed, war, destruction, famine. We can look our eyes to the hill and cry out where does our help come from? The answer is the Lord, but He has called us to be His representatives in the world. The humble, the meek, the peace makers and grace givers. We have a role to play, and our world needs us to play it.

As we look beyond Easter, there is a growing sense of anticipation in our community. Memorial Day will once again mark the return of our Drive-In service—a joyful and unique opportunity to gather in worship together. This will be the 49th year of the Drive In service, and there is something deeply moving about praising God under the open sky, surrounded by creation and one another. It reminds us that the church is alive wherever God’s people come together in His name.

My prayer for each of you this Holy Week and beyond is this: that you would draw near. Near to the cross. Near to the silence. And ultimately, near to the risen Christ. We can no longer rely on an intellectual understanding of God, but must move into an experiential encounter with the Lord. In the coming months, we are going to be leading more prayer gatherings, studies about the Holy Spirit, and opportunities to practice the life God has called us to live. May you be open to God’s voice in these sacred days, and may you experience the new life He is already bringing forth within you. Draw near, lean in, and live the life that was meant for the people who proclaim to follow our Lord Jesus Christ.

With hope and expectation,



GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

Last year, we were a host site for the Global Leadership Summit. It was a success (barring some technical difficulties on their end), and we have decided to be a host site again so that our congregation may grow in their leadership ability for the Gospel. We would love to have you join us August 6-7, 2026 in Connection Court to learn from industry leaders and pastors alike about how we can become better leaders, and thus lead better lives. For more information or to sign up, contact the church office.

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

- On February 8th, 648 hosted their Superb Owl Party at the church. This was a great time for food, fellowship, and fun. We played different games throughout the night and ate a lot of really good food.
- On February 6th, a group of high school students traveled to Indianapolis for Winter Jam. Winter Jam is a Christian worship concert that happens in Indianapolis every year. This year, the concert featured artists including Christ Tomlin, Matthew West, and Katy Nichole. Zane Black also spoke at the concert.



APRIL & MAY REVOLUTION & 648 NEWS

- On May 17th, 648 will have their senior banquet. On this night, we take time to celebrate our seniors, whether they’ve been coming to youth group for 4 years or 4 weeks. On this night, seniors will receive a special gift from their small-group leader to help them wherever life takes them after high school. All seniors are encouraged to bring their families. Seniors are asked to provide an estimate of how many guests will be joining them.
- On May 31st, 648 will host their annual MUMC LIFE Alumni Night! On this night, we ask all past and current members of 648 to join us for a time of games, worship, and food! We will be playing some 648 classics on the night, like chair ball and the couch game. This is our 4th year hosting this event, and it has been one of our favorite years after year! If you’ve ever been involved with our youth programs, we invite you to join us from 6:48-9:00 on May 31st.
- **ATTENTION 5TH GRADERS AND THEIR PARENTS**
 - 5th-grade students are invited to begin attending Revolution on the last Sunday of every month. Some of our fifth graders have been begging to come to revolution, and we finally caved in. I hope that your fifth graders are as excited as we are to see some new faces! ☺

IMPORTANT DATES

- 648 and Revolution will meet at their normal times on April 12th, 19th, 26th, and May 3rd, 17th, and 31st
- Neither group will meet on April 5th (Easter), May 10th (Mother’s Day), or May 24th (Memorial Day)

CHURCH CAMP

- Sign-Ups are now available for both middle and high school camps! Camp is a great opportunity for students to break out of their shells and experience Jesus in new and exciting ways! Every year, our students come back with so many stories to tell, from new friends to new commitments. We love going to camp, but camp is also expensive. The price for each student to attend camp has increased to \$500. As a church, we help students cover the cost of camp. We cover 50% of the cost for each student and offer full scholarships to those who need them. If you would like to donate to our Camp Scholarships fund, please designate it on your giving form. Your donations help us send our students to camp!!! Middle School Camp is June 7th-12th, and High School Camp is June 21st-26th.

RED ROSE SUNDAY

- Red Rose Sunday will be May 17th, and it is a time when we celebrate our high school and college graduates in our worship services. Students who attend Sunday services will be acknowledged and given a gift from the church for their accomplishments. If you have a graduating student, we need the following information: Name, School, Degree (if in college), and Future Plans. Please have this information in the Church Office no later than Monday, May 11th.

CONFIRMATION

- Our 2025-2026 Confirmation class has been busy at work the past few months. We held our final confirmation class on March 29th. Confirmation Class also traveled to Chicago on March 7th. On the trip, we visited the First United Methodist Church of Chicago. This church has existed before Chicago was established as a city and has stood the test of time. We will have one more trip, a day trip to Camp Adventure, so we can help them prepare for the summer camp season! Confirmation Sunday will be on May 3rd this year. Throughout Confirmation, we have been walking through the first season of “*The Chosen*.” This class has been one of the most curious classes we’ve had in recent memory. Our 2025-2026 Confirmation Class never runs out of questions!!!

OUR MEMORY VERSES

"For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son." John 3:16

"This is real love-not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins." 1 John 4:10

OUR BIBLE STORIES

Jesus Rides Into Jerusalem On A Donkey - Matthew 21:1-11

Jesus Dies and Comes Back to Life - Mark 15:16-16:8

John the Baptist Tells About Jesus - John 1:1-28

Jesus Is Baptized - Matthew 3:1-17

Men Bring Their Friend to Jesus for Healing - Luke 5:17-25

Jesus Brings Lazarus Back to Life - John 11:1-44



EASTER EGG-STRAVAGANZA

Join us on Saturday, April 4th for our Easter Egg-Stravaganza! This is a free family event open to the community. Our egg hunt will start promptly at 1pm. Pictures with the Easter Bunny and fun activities will be available from 1-3pm. We hope to see you there!

THANK YOU MMW GROUP!

A huge thanks to the Monticello Methodist Women Group who graciously stuffed thousands of eggs with treats for our egg hunt. Thanks to you all, we will have the best hunt and see a lot of smiling faces.

NEW MUMC KIDS EVENT - BIRTHDAY CAKE KITS

On May 31st, MUMC Kids and their families will come together for a brand new community outreach event. We will be putting birthday cake kits together to donate to our local WC food pantry, TL food pantries, and the MUMC Feed His Sheep ministry. The kit is put together by using an aluminum pan with a lid that includes a cake box mix, can of soda (to replace the oil and eggs), icing, sprinkles, candles, balloons, banners, and stickers. For many families facing financial challenges, a birthday cake isn't always possible, but every child deserves to feel celebrated on their special day. These kits help make sure more kids can experience the joy of blowing out candles and feeling loved. Donation bins will be put out in early May to help fund this event. We appreciate your support!

APRIL & MAY SAVE THE DATES

April 3rd - Good Friday Services at 7pm. Kids can join us downstairs in Jacobs Well for a lesson, snack, and activities.

April 4th - Easter-Eggstravaganza at 1pm

April 5th - Easter Sunday services at 9:30am for The Classic, and 11am for The Current.

May 3rd & May 10th - Accepting donations in each foyer for our birthday cake kits.

May 31st - Birthday Cake Kit Family Outreach Event at 4pm.



MUMC ONLINE

What does it mean to encounter the Holy Spirit through a live stream service? How can we feel the community of God through a Facebook group? I am asked these questions a lot by people within our congregation and other pastors, and they are good questions. With hundreds of years of church tradition telling us that we can only experience God a certain way, it may feel awkward or heretical to join a service online and seek the same sense of community. I believe that community online is the same as community in person, it depends on how you show up. We have people that come to our in person services every Sunday, slip in the door, sit by themselves, and slip out as fast as possible. Are they experiencing community just by their attendance? We encounter the Holy Spirit when we seek to encounter the Holy Spirit.

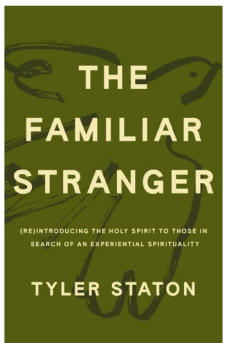
We feel community when we open ourselves up to being communed with, by God and by others. If you want to experience Christian community online (and in person), here are three tips:

1. Pray before you participate. Spend time praying that God would move in your life and the life of others through the service
2. Engage with those in worship with you. If a person ask a question that you've had as well, tell them! Ask questions on your own. If the Holy Spirit brings something to your mind share it so that others can experience the movement of God as well!
3. Serve. Serving is the number one way to build community, online or in person. Become one of our host, serve as a prayer partner online, follow up with people who share prayer concerns on the stream. If Jesus came not to be served but to serve, maybe He was on to something.

Follow these three things, online and in person, and see if your encounter with the Holy Spirit remains the same as it was before.

A FAMILIAR STRANGER

This past month, I read a book that deeply challenged me as a follow of Jesus to live into the power of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, I (Pastor Justin) will be leading an experiential study of the book, The Familiar Stranger by Tyler Staton, on Sundays at 2pm starting April 26th. In this six session study, we will dive deeper into living in the Spirit and how we can actually practice the gifts of the Spirit as a church. To sign up, contact Pastor Justin. Note: this will probably be different than most studies we have done, but I feel it will also deepen your walk with Christ in a foundational way. Hope to see you there!



Celebrations

There is one special MUMC friend celebrating a milestone birthday this month!
Please help her celebrate by sending cards!

Barb Fawley will celebrate her 91st birthday on May 7.

(PO Box 174; Buffalo, IN 47925)



MONTICELLO METHODIST WOMEN

February's annual Kitchen Clean-Up day was a great success thanks to a good turn-out and a lot of elbow grease.

Many thanks to everyone who donated eggs, candy and stuffed eggs. As of the March MMW meeting we had 6,000 ready for the Easter Egg

Hunt & Activities "Hop into Fun" on April 4th sponsored by the staff of the Children's Ministries and Coordinator Karisa Glover.

Our next meeting is April 9th at 11am in the quilting room. After our devotional, our main topic will be the preparation and planning for our May 1-2nd Treasure Trove Sale. All donations from this sale go toward our annual Mission Pledges and MUMC Service projects. We will also have a short presentation on "Spring Plantings" by Joyce Darnstaedt, and discussion and signing cards for our next service project.

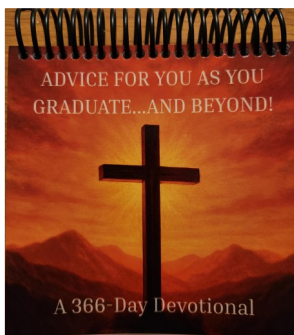
May is the month of honoring Mothers.

"A mother's heart is the loveliest masterpiece of God" -Saint Therese of Lisieux

May's meeting is on the 14th at 11am in the quilting room. After the devotional we will be hearing from the Spring Sale Chair on our Treasure Trove Sale and assembling our next service project.



DAILY DEVOTIONALS GRADUATION GIFTS ARE STILL AVAILABLE!



"Advice for You as You Graduate...and Beyond!" is a 366-day devotional designed by members of the High School Bible Study group in the early 2020's. Daily entries provide a verse of the day, brief explanation of how that verse can apply to your life, and a prayer of encouragement.

Members of the Bible Study group wrote these entries, and they have been compiled into a devotional that was initially offered in December and are still on sale! These can be excellent graduation gifts!

Each devotional is \$15 and is available during church office hours. ALL proceeds from the sale of the devotionals will go toward the reduction of the MUMC Capital Campaign loan!

Questions? Please contact Steve McKinley (mckinles@purdue.edu) for more information.

SOUP FOR THE SOUL AND FEED-HIS-SHEEP

Soup for the Soul will take place in April on the 14th and 28th and in May on the 12th and 26th, from 4:30pm to 6pm. This is a free community meal and everyone is invited! You may come and bring a friend, or make new friends while you are here! If you would like to contribute to this mission, dessert and monetary donations are always very helpful. If you would like to volunteer, please reach out to the Church Office for more information about how you may become involved!

Feed-His-Sheep will also be set up in Common Grounds during this time, distributing pantry items. This program is open to anyone who can use it, so feel free to stop by and check it out. If you'd like to contribute or volunteer, reach out to the Church Office or show up Tuesday at 4:30pm and ask Patty how you can help!

LENTEN OFFERING

Our Lenten Offering will be designated for Camp Scholarships once again this year. We believe in the power of camp to change the lives of young people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and we need your help to do it! Our goal is to provide a \$200 scholarship for five-day camps or up to 50% of the cost for shorter camps for each child connected with our youth and children's ministry. If there is greater need we want to meet it so that finances are not a prohibiting factor for any student who wants to go to camp. Please prayerfully consider how you can be a part of introducing one of our young people to Jesus at camp!



THE GATHERING

Join us on Sundays in April and May from 5 to 8:30pm, beginning April 12, for fun and fellowship! We will gather in the Parlor, Church Conference Room, Fellowship Hall, or wherever we fit. We will use this time to connect with each other, so bring some board games or cards, crafts, or a Bible, and be sure to bring your families and/or friends! We will follow the Youth Calendar, skipping Mother's Day and Memorial Day. Call the Church Office at (574)583-5545 or see Steph Stewart with any questions!

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Looking for a circle of friends who truly "get" you? Join the women of MUMC for an evening of spiritual growth and genuine connection. We aren't just a meeting; we're a sisterhood dedicated to supporting one another and serving our community. Come for the prayer, stay for the friendships!

Save the Date:

- April 21st | 6:30 p.m. – GAME NIGHT! (Laughter guaranteed)
- May 19th | 6:30 p.m. – Monthly Gathering & Fellowship at the Monticello Public Library

What to Expect: Light refreshments, heartfelt devotionals, and plenty of time to talk, laugh, and plan our local outreach projects. We welcome all women, no matter your background or stage of life.

RSVP / Childcare: Contact Linda Mylet at (765) 427-9108. (Note: Please request childcare at least 48 hours in advance.)



CHURCH PLANTING DAY

Weather permitting, we will have a church workday on Monday, May 25 starting at 9am. We will plant begonias in the memorial garden and the pots around the church, mulch, and do other grounds work needing done around the property of our church. If you are available to help with this very important project please call or text Joyce Darnstaedt at (574)870-1577. Any amount of time would be greatly appreciated.

MEMORIAL FLOWERS

Once again this year we will be planting Red Whopper Begonias in the Memorial Garden. This beautiful plant requires very little maintenance and flowers all summer. If you would like to order begonias in memory of a loved one(s) please fill out the order form below and mail it to, or turn it in to, the church office by May 18. Cost for these Begonias is \$5.00 each.

I would like to order _____ begonia(s) for Memorial Sunday to be planted later in the Memorial Garden.

In Memory of:

Given By:

ORDERS ARE DUE, WITH PAYMENT, TO THE CHURCH OFFICE BY MONDAY, MAY 18.




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)

April 2026

Narcotics Anonymous
Mon-7pm — Room 201

Alcoholics Anonymous
Fri-Noon — Room 201

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>5 REG SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES</p> <div style="text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p>EASTER</p> <p><i>He is Risen</i></p>  </div> <p>12 REG SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES 5pm- Revolution 6:48pm- 648</p> <p>19 REG SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES 5pm- Revolution 6:48pm- 648</p> <p>26 REG SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES 5pm- Revolution 6:48pm- 648</p>	<p>6</p> <p>13 9:30am- Calico Cut-Ups</p> <p>20</p> <p>27 9:30am- Calico Cut-Ups</p>	<p>7 6:30pm- Outreach Committee Meeting</p> <p>14 4:30pm- Soup for the Soul</p> <p>21 6:30pm- UWF Meeting 6:30pm- Trustees Meeting</p> <p>28 4:30pm- Soup for the Soul</p>	<p>1 12pm- Lunch Bunch 7pm- Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7pm- The Couch</p> <p>8 7pm- Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7pm- The Couch</p> <p>15 7pm- Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7pm- The Couch</p> <p>22 7pm- Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7pm- The Couch</p> <p>29 Spring Treasure Trove Sale Drop-off 7pm- Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7pm- The Couch</p>	<p>2 6pm- Maundy Thursday Service in Connection Court 7pm- The Chit Chat</p> <p>9 11am- MMW Monthly Meeting 6:30pm- Line Dancing Lessons 6:30pm- Grace Notes Rehearsal 7pm- The Chit Chat</p> <p>16 6:30pm- Line Dancing Lessons 6:30pm- Grace Notes Rehearsal 7pm- The Chit Chat</p> <p>23 6:30pm- Line Dancing Lessons 6:30pm- Grace Notes Rehearsal 7pm- The Chit Chat</p> <p>30 Spring Treasure Trove Sale Drop-off 6:30pm- Grace Notes Rehearsal 7pm- The Chit Chat</p>	<p>3 6:30am- Men's Emmaus 7pm- Community Good Friday Service in the Sanctuary</p> <p>10 6:30am- Men's Emmaus</p> <p>17 6:30am- Men's Emmaus</p> <p>24 6:30am- Men's Emmaus</p>	<p>4 1pm- Easter Egg-stravaganza</p> <p>11</p> <p>18 6pm- Line Dancing Special Event</p> <p>25 9am- Confirmation Trip to Camp</p>

