



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

APRIL 2024
NEWSLETTER



As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to walk in him. **Colossians 2:6**

I love Spring. Flowers bloom. Birds sing. I can spend more time outside walking. Walking has become a priority for me. Tracking my steps daily gives me a sense of accomplishment when I am active and a sense of urgency if I am falling short of my daily steps. The question that comes to my mind is this. **How do we measure our steps in our spiritual life?**

Our Easter celebration continues into April (no foolin'). I think of the two disciples on their walk to the city of Emmaus. As often happened in biblical times, everyone walked together in a group. This ensured their safety. It offered company for the journey. Fellowship is a sweet byproduct of walking and talking with others on your journey.

We need these same things in our lives. To walk together. The best way to do that is to be in church. No, really! Think about it – if everyone would show up in church EVERY Sunday, then we would have well over 100 in church consistently. It would look like Easter Sunday year-round. If we invited and brought our family and friends with us, what would church look like?

The problem is, we don't always walk with each other. We separate from each other and from the congregation from time to time. We fail to talk during the week about spiritual things. We fall away and fail to track our spiritual steps. We stray into dangerous territory with no one to come along beside us and join us on our journey.

As pastor at Door Village UMC, I am tasked with leading the congregation to walk closely with each other and with the Lord. My goal is to help everyone connect. Not only on Sunday mornings, but during the week. It is not enough to simply be "Sunday Christians" only. One way we could connect with the Lord and each other is by viewing our weekly Wednesday online services. The easy part is that it is... online. You don't have to get in your car. You don't have to come to the church building. Just open your phone or sit at your computer when it is convenient for you. If you don't have access, then connect with someone who does. Get together and watch together. Walk with each other on your faith journey. Both Sundays and Wednesdays. Invite someone to join you as you attend or watch church.

(continued on page 2)



Pastor Letter1-2
Prayer List3
Calendar4
Info & Events ...2-5
Birthdays & Anniversaries6



LIGHT UP THE NIGHT

2024
NewDay Concert

Saturday, April 27
5:30 Social
6:00 Music
Civic Auditorium

Those walking to Emmaus shared everything that was happening in Jerusalem. They walked together and talked together about Jesus. And ... the great thing is ... Jesus joined them there, on the road to where they were going.

May Jesus join you on your journey. May your journey bring you joyfully to church each Sunday (in-person) and each Wednesday (online). Make a commitment to track your spiritual walk with the Lord as well. The opening of the hymn "Trust and Obey" says it best, I think:

***When we walk with the Lord
in the light of His Word,
what a glory He sheds on our way!***

Walk with each other and walk with God. Amen.

Grace and Peace <><

Pastor Sam

Project History and Highlights of Our Trustee Committee

Sitting on the Administrative Board for many years and hearing the reports from the Trustee Committee about the routine maintenance and necessary repairs connected to keeping the church and parsonage functioning properly, it never ceased to amaze me just how extensive the list of projects really is. It was impressive just to hear about the everyday projects that got fixed or replaced, but then when I heard about all the upgrading and major projects in addition to the routine tasks I was more than amazed. Here is a list Trustee Bob Wiltfong shared with me of projects completed in the past few years:



- Parsonage completely rewired in 2010.
- Failing lighting system replaced throughout the entire building with energy efficient light fixtures, including the emergency exit signs and office ceiling lights.
- New furnace and air conditioning in parsonage in 2020.
- Reupholstering of all church pews approximately two years ago.
- Changed locks on all the doors.
- Sound booth completely replaced and upgraded.
- Updated all bathrooms, faucets and door handles throughout the building to meet handicap accessible requirements.
- Painting of the parsonage deck and porch last fall.

All that listed above is in addition to the annual and biannual federal and local government-required tasks to meet the requirements of Homeland Security, IDEM, and County Fire and Health Departments. We pay for inspections and permits and schedule elevator inspections, boiler inspections, water testing, parsonage air quality inspections, fire extinguisher inspections and recharging, fire alarm and exit light system inspections, and check AED defibrillator status and functionality.

Now add assuring all insurance premiums are paid (and seeking the best premiums and service for the money), provisions for trash pickup (a challenge to find the best service/value for the money that Sue has been chasing for months), snow removal, mowing, and scheduling of spring church and grounds cleanup. All of these are arranged for and then need properly completed.

Many projects are yet to be completed such as altar lighting (estimated cost \$4,000), parking lot repaving (estimated cost \$25,000), eventual roof replacement (estimated cost \$25,000+), and the trustees will schedule fund raisers to pay for those upcoming projects.

The above is more than impressive to me, and I would venture a guess it is likely to be quite surprising to many of you. I know it is not all inclusive because I know of several items that are not on the above list. In conclusion, if you happen to be talking to any of the trustees - Committee Chair Susan Kaiser, Bob Wiltfong, Neil Westphal, Paul Martin, John Langford, and Mike Martin - shake their hand, thank them, and tell them you appreciate their work. You'll have to stand behind me, because I'm going to be first in line to thank them. In my humble opinion, our church has a good thing going with this team, and we are blessed.

George Morley, Lay Leader

Prayer Requests

Carol S - healing & strength
Cindy P - knee injury
Jason C - cancer & fungal lung infection
Tom H - various health issues & upcoming surgery
Bill A - healing and recovery from injuries
Janet U - prayers to stay cancer-free & heart health
Jayne W - health, comfort & strength
Kate M - friend of Diane P
Carol - peace & comfort
Don - father-in-law of Jen S - medical tests
Audrey - healing from a fall on 2/3
Marilyn H - comfort and strength
Kathy G - Joyce G's relative starting chemo
Lindsay K - healing & good health
Celeste - stage 3 cancer
Marcia's mom - in hospice
Pat G - health & healing
Bud F - health & improved sight
Joe P - cancer
John P - cancer
Mona - friend of Toni
Marlene K - Rick's mom - improved health
Lloyd - back pain and heart health
Mark - colon cancer
Willie - cancer
Elsie - health & strength
Beverly B - improved health
Katie C - good health and improved strength
Tom & Beverly H - pain relief, improved health
Karen R - health, strength & happiness
Addie - toddler friend from Texas with leukemia
Randy K - cancer
John - co-worker with cancer
Dory M - kidney health & wrist strength
George M - arthritis
Judy D - liver cancer
Roger T - Donna C's cousin in KY - prayers to stay cancer-free
Scott - leukemia
Keith - Anne D's companion with cancer
David - Anne D's son with cancer
Barbara - Anne D's sister with cancer

Tawnya - ongoing COPD
Paul and Renetta - ongoing medical conditions
Brian T - ongoing medical condition
Chris K - ongoing medical condition
Cheryl K - ongoing medical condition
Beth - B & T's daughter - ongoing medical condition
Missions: Those traveling to southeastern Kentucky for the Red Bird Mission trip April 21-26, Youth & leaders who will be traveling to Belize for mission work this summer, and others currently serving in missions locally and throughout the world.

If you know of any updates for our prayer list, please let us know in the church office. Thanks!



NewDay
Foundation
of La Porte, Indiana

NewDay Foundation Concert

Saturday, April 27, 2024
at the Civic Auditorium
1001 Ridge Street, La Porte, Indiana
5:30 pm Social, 6 pm Music Begins

*For concert tickets, please visit
NewDay's event web page:*

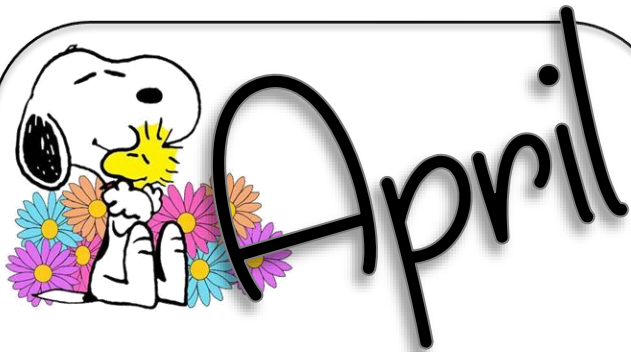
<https://newdaylaporte.org/events/>



2148 N Karwick Rd
Michigan City, IN 46360
Phone: 219-879-4404

**May 6 - Door Village Lions
Fundraiser at Hacienda in Michigan City
from 11 am to 11 pm. Dine at
Hacienda that day and Lions receive
20% of meals ordered with printed
vouchers. Vouchers are available on the
greeter's table. Gift cards can
also be pre-purchased just
in time for Mother's Day!**





Sundays

Worship & Children's Church 10 am
Communion Service First Sunday

Mondays

Mike's Bible Study at Oakwood 10 am

Tuesdays

Pastor Sam's Bible Study 6 pm (NOT on 4/9)

Wednesdays

Joyce G's Bible Study at Library 10 am
Healthy Eating Group 11 am
Choir Practice 6:30-7:30 pm

Monday, April 1

April Fool's Day

Wednesday, April 3

Senior Breakfast 8 am
at Christo's

Thursday, April 4

Communion at Oakwood 9:30 am

Thursday, April 11

Ad Board 7 pm

Saturday, April 13

Men's Breakfast 8 am
in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, April 17

UWF 1 pm

April 21 – April 26

Red Bird Mission Trip

April 23 – May 3

UMC General Conference
in Charlotte, NC

Thursday, April 25

Youth Group to Zao Island 6 pm

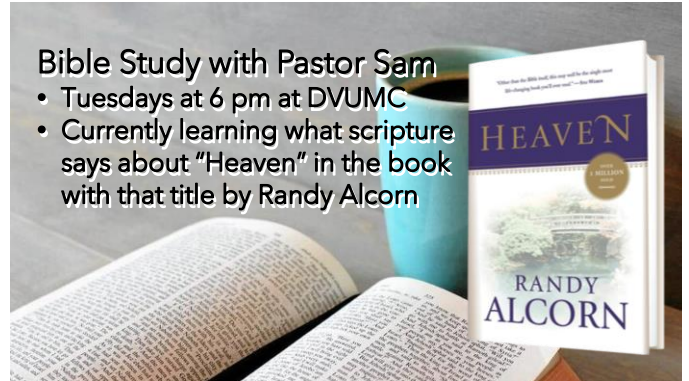
Saturday, April 27

NewDay Foundation Concert 5:30 pm
Civic Auditorium, 1001 Ridge St, LP

OFFICE HOURS Mon thru Thurs
7 am – 12 noon
219.362.3812
doorvillageumc@gmail.com

Bible Study with Pastor Sam

- Tuesdays at 6 pm at DVUMC
- Currently learning what scripture says about "Heaven" in the book with that title by Randy Alcorn

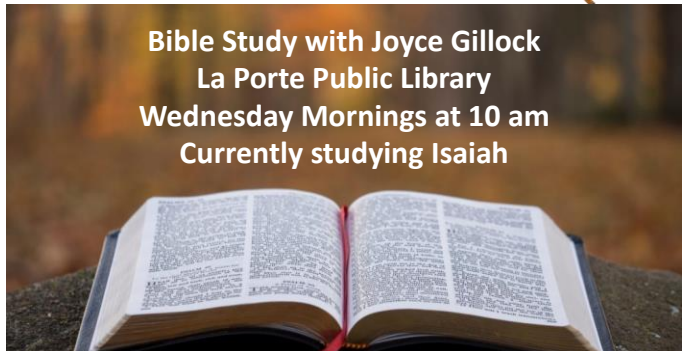


**Bible Study
with Mike Martin
at Oak Woods Manor**
1211 Longwood Dr
(Hwy 39 South) La Porte

Mondays at 10 am
Public Welcome



Bible Study with Joyce Gillock
La Porte Public Library
Wednesday Mornings at 10 am
Currently studying Isaiah



Thursday, April 11
Ad Board Meeting at 7 pm

GRADUATES

If you know of anyone from our church family who will be graduating from high school or college this year, please let us know in the church office or notify Lindsay Koselke so they can be included in our Education Sunday celebration.



Senior Breakfast



April 3, 2024
 1st Wednesday
 of each month
 8 am
 Christo's
 1462 W State Rd 2
 La Porte




MEN'S BREAKFAST & FELLOWSHIP
 will meet on
 April 13 at 8 am
 in Fellowship Hall

United Women in Faith

NEXT MEETING:
 Program: Jan B
 Snack: Judy T
Wed, April 17
 1 pm at the church



United Women in Faith



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
 Come in to learn... Go out to LIVE!
 You're invited to
Adult Sunday School
 in the Parlor 9-9:30
 with Pastor Sam & the Devotion
 Team sharing Scripture & Prayer

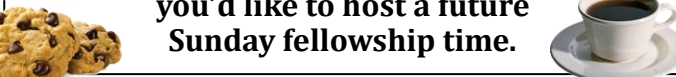
GENERAL CONFERENCE
 General Conference of the United Methodist Church is currently scheduled to be held April 23 through May 3, 2024 in Charlotte, NC. You can visit these websites for updates and additional information:
www.inumc.org or www.umc.org or
<https://www.umc.org/en/content/2020-general-conference-in-2024>

SUNDAY MORNINGS!
AGE 4 THRU 4TH GRADE
Children's Church
 DURING WORSHIP

APRIL CHILDREN'S CHURCH
 April Leader: Mary


April 7 - Jacob's Ladder
 April 14 - Joseph
 April 21 - Ruth
 April 28 - Hannah & Samuel

Fellowship & Refreshments
 Thank you to those who provide refreshments in the parlor after worship. Please sign up on the greeter's table if you'd like to host a future Sunday fellowship time.



College Care Packages

At the end of April, we will be sending college care packages for finals week to our college students. Donations of snack items, fun stuff, and contributions are being accepted April 7 thru Apr 14.



Youth Group Thursday April 25 6 pm



Mini Golf, Games & Fun with Friends

Electronic Giving
 For your convenience, offerings can be made from a mobile device or computer through a secure site by visiting our church website, doorvillagechurch.org, and clicking the electronic offering button:

[My Offering](#)



How to contact Pastor Sam:
 Email: pastor@doorvillage.com
 Mobile: 812-380-1589
 Office: 219-362-3812
 Find him on Facebook!

DOORVILLAGE
 UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 3502 West Joliet Road
 La Porte, IN 46350
 www.doorvillageumc.org
 RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

April Birthdays

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 04/01 Cathy Dye | 04/13 Jim Kaufman | 04/22 Rob Schable |
| 04/01 Jay Sittig | 04/13 Joe Killingbeck | 04/23 Sheryl Elliott |
| 04/01 Olivia Voelker | 04/14 Preston Curtis | 04/23 Donn Kelder |
| 04/02 Norah Gault | 04/14 Carolyn Eyrick | 04/24 Lauren Gakle |
| 04/02 Greg Kelder | 04/14 Brett Luther | 04/24 Connie Lile |
| 04/04 Gary Wirebaugh | 04/15 Amber Fenstermaker | 04/24 Nancy Weaver |
| 04/05 Cindy Polito | 04/15 Jenny Kievert | 04/25 Donna Council |
| 04/08 Ryker Hindsley | 04/16 Amber Arciniega | 04/26 Katie Fagg |
| 04/09 Craig Marcum | 04/17 Lou Voelker | 04/28 Becky Jeffers |
| 04/10 Renee Applegarth | 04/18 Nicole Lawrence | 04/28 Mandy Martin |
| 04/10 Larry Curtis | 04/20 Jeff Hubner | 04/28 Lloyd Vance |
| 04/11 Bradley Kiser | 04/20 Tessa Tracey | 04/29 Kendall Troy |
| 04/12 Ryan Fenstermaker | 04/21 Diane Plotner | 04/30 Liberty White |

April Anniversaries

| |
|--------------------------------|
| 04/03 Matt & Liz Kirk |
| 04/05 Paul & Karen Lindeman |
| 04/07 Jeff & Jane Hubner |
| 04/10 Evan & Laurel Noll |
| 04/12 Dan & Marlette Bernacchi |
| 04/25 Bud & Mary Forbes |
| 04/26 Bill & Carly Troy |
| 04/27 Mitch & Amanda Hubner |
| 04/28 John & Celeste Dysard |
| 04/30 Ryan & Whitney Kelley |

