Acton in action Newsletter of Acton UMC

LOVE – LEARN – SHARE – SERVE with eternal purpose through faith in Jesus

APRIL 2024

Music Bingo

3

Join us for an evening of bingo, music style! It's \$5 a carload or family. Bring an appetizer to share.

Re-Shaped

7

We start a new sermon series in April. We are made for change. Come learn how to embrace it.

April Food Drive

9

We are working with our scouts for their Scouting for Food drive. All food collected goes to God's Bounty.

Blankets

11

Learn about our Prayer Blanket ministry. If you know someone in need of one, please contact the office.

5650 Senour Road Indianapolis, IN 46239 317-862-2588 www.actonumc.com

From the pastor's desk



Love and Lent BY PASTOR MATTHEW STULTZ

3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, 4 not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. (Philippians 2:3-4)

On the other side of Easter, we begin to look to the deeper Spring, or as we say in Indiana, actual stable Spring, and Summer. We look to the roar of the engines at the speedway and more time in the sunshine.

As a church we have seasons, and we have events we pour our resources into. As I write this, we have a great egg hunt planned and a solar eclipse coming, hopefully we will have something fun in the parking lot. Soon we will begin the preparation for Kids Klub and how to prayerfully help kids go back to school.

With all these things going on it's still not enough to keep us busy. We always need to find ways to engage our community, like volunteering at God's Bounty Food Pantry or many other opportunities. When things are going well and we are celebrating Easter and fellowship, it becomes easy to lose our focus. Why are we here? We are here to serve Jesus and love one another.

We are also a family and will not always see eye to eye. This was the theme to many of the Apostle Paul's writings, where church folks were struggling to stay focused on the most important thing. Perhaps most famously to the church in Phillipi. We can get so comfortable with the way that things are it can be difficult to embrace changes. Paul reminds the early church, and us today, that we have to be on guard to continue treating each other with dignity and respect, and most of all: love.

So as the biggest thing has been taken care of, Christ has destroyed death, we only need to focus on loving one another. We will disagree. We will be frustrated. But we can choose love and, in the end, love wins. Let's all be on the winning team together!

With much love,

Pastor Matthew

Pastor Matthew is available via email at matthewstultz@me.com or you can call the office at 317-862-2588 to schedule an appointment.

APRIL AT A GLANCE



APRIL 20th 5:00-7:00pm \$5 a family or carload

Bring an appetizer or snack to share. Bring your favorite drink. Water will be provided.

APRIL EVENTS

11th.....God's Bounty 17th.....Fellowship Dinner 13th.....Youth Cosmic Bowling 20th.....Music Bingo

MAY EVENTS

9th......God's Bounty 19th.....Bake Sale 15th.....Fellowship Dinner 23rd.....Blood Drive

JUNE EVENTS

13th.....God's Bounty 19th.....Fellowship Dinner

TEAM MEETINGS

Staff Parish	. April 2 nd
Strategy Council	. April 11 th
Trustees	. April 16 th
Missions	. April 24 th
UMW Board	. April 15 th





April 10th 6-7:00pm

April 11th 8:00am & 1-6:30pm

Sign-up to volunteer or call the office.







FELLOWSHIP DINNER

- April 17th @6:00pm
- Pulled pork
- Hosted by Missions

Good-will offering for Amazing Missions



If you are not getting emails from the church, make sure to

let the office know. We use email to send prayer requests, details about upcoming events, and weekly reminders. Let the office know at 317-862-2588 or at email aumc@actonumc.com.





Church Bulletin Funnies

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'



APRIL 22nd Renee Knight's

The Woman By Kristen Hannah

The Wired WORD

An Adult Curriculum

This group meets in the kitchen after Sunday worship and looks at today's news and links the latest headlines and current events to appropriate scripture and helps navigate our daily walk in Christian faith.

See Charlie Walters or Sandy Grubb for more information or stop by on Sundays.



April 20 - Music Bingo May 5 - Pack Away Hunger May 23 - Blood Drive June & July - Kids Klub July 13 - Lunch at the Lake July 26 - Summer Spectacular October 19 - Craft Fair October 31 - Trick-or-Treat December 8 - Advent Tea

Fellowship Dinners - Third Wednesday Every Month



THURSDAYS AT 6:00PM

Prayer Service

JOIN US AS WE COVER OUR WORLD, OUR COMMUNITY, OUR CHURCH, AND OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS IN PRAYER



\$

As of February 29, 2024 Income \$654,544.........23% of budget Expenses \$48,270.........17% of budget

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Earlene Cougill 1st Terry Fansler 24th Gordon Fansler 27th Eric Newlon 30th



The Bible. Know it in your head. Stow it in your heart. Show it in your life. Sow it in the world.

J. Vernon McGee



PICK UP YOUR KINDNESS SLIP

WEAR PURPLE - APRIL 14th

April is Testicular Cancer Awareness Month. Testicular Cancer is the leading cancer in men ages 15-44 but can strike at any age and has a very fast onset. When detected early, Testicular Cancer is 95% curable. Early detection is key. There are no screening tests for testicular cancer, but you can learn more about monthly self-exams at purdue.edu or testicularcancerawarenssfoundation.org.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

PRAY FOR EACH OTHER



HEALING AND STRENGTH: Herb Gaunt, Jan Prendergast, Curt Fulk (Gary & Karen's son), Mary Wright, David Phillips, Carol Cain, Stan Ensch, Shawna Harrison, Cheryl Herron, Chris Osbourn (Grubb's daughter), Linda Hicks, Greg McConaughey, Paula McIntosh, Mike Finnigan (Stephenson's son-in-law)

OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS: Nick Crane, Olivia Woodrow, Cherilynn Spicer, Madison Hulskotter, Ethan Warner

MILITARY PERSONNEL: Adam Walters, Lucas Lamkin, Nick Crane, Travis Beasley

If you have a prayer request, please call the office, or fill out a prayer request card during Sunday worship so that the pastor may pray for you and your loved ones. A request for prayer can also be sent out to other members on email and added to the prayer list online and in the Sunday bulletin. We know that details of prayer requests can be private so information and updates will only be shared if requested.

EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY

SHARE THE BLESSINGS YOU HAVE RECEIVED

SCOUTING FOR FOOD

Each year, our Scout Troops 104 and 219 walk the local neighborhoods hanging bags for the Scouting for Food drive. All food collected will be going to God's Bounty. If you get a bag hung on your door, please make sure to fill it up and leave it out for them to pick up. You are also welcome to bring a bag to church and leave at the God's Bounty display.

GOD'S BOUNTY HELP

WEDNESDAY, April 10th 6-7:00pm

THURSDAY, March 11th 8:00am & 1-6:30pm

If you can volunteer, please sign-up on-line. You can contact the office for help.



April Loose Change and \$1 Shepherd Community Center



DONATE TO GOD'S BOUNTY

Grab a bag and fill it up! Missions will take your donations to God's Bounty food pantry. Bags are available in the Missions Nook.

PASSIONATE WORSHIP

FROM THE PULPIT

7 th We Were Made for This	Jeremiah 18:1-6
14 th Inside Out	Mark 1:1-15
21 st Everything Changes	John 12:20-26
28 th Be En-Couraged	Matthew 14:22-31a

APRIL WORSHIP SERIES

Are you ready to be stretched and re-shaped? We were created for a purpose, formed into something spectacular—not just created, but recreated again and again. If we look closely at what the Creator set in motion, we find that change is the most constant part of life and necessary for animating our spirits as we find renewed purpose throughout life. Jesus advocated for changes that would keep us moving toward greater goodness. Join us as we understand that change is what we are made for and learn how to embrace change.



Right Where You Are

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Romans 12:9-13

It seems that most of what is considered hospitality now is, in fact, entertaining and not hospitality at all. And the difference between entertaining and hospitality is this: entertaining is all about *their* house and *their* home and *'look at me'*, while hospitality is about obedience to God and serving and loving on our neighbors.

In Romans 12, Paul lists the marks of a true Christian. Things like, 'love must be sincere. Hate what is evil'. And in verse 13 he says 'Seek to show hospitality.' In other words, showing hospitality is one of the outward displays of a Christian life. It has nothing to do with making the perfect centerpiece or baking pies! God can will use you, right where you are, to love on those around you!

Taken from: *10 Hospitality Bible Verses Plus a Helpful Hospitality Checklist for You!* By Shannon Acheson, joyfullifemagazine.com.

GREETERS

it's changes lives

APRIL

RADICA

HOSPITALI

7th...... Victoria P & Phyllis T. 14th..... Eric & Lynne N. 21st..... Mark & Aimee H. 28th..... Rich & Betty Lou R.

MAY

5th..... Chuck & Cynthia R. 12th..... Floyd & Linda S. 19th..... Gary & Karen F. 26th..... Dan & Becky R.

RISK TAKING MISSION AND SERVICE

SERVING OTHERS IN THE NAME OF CHRIST



Mission Giving

AMAZING MISSION FUND GIVING

Thru February 29th Balance: \$11,549.65 RIP Medical Debt: \$1,500 Robert's Park Meal: \$252.30

CONGREGATION DIRECT GIVING

Thru February 29th Loose Change: Shepherds Community: \$182.43 Fletcher Place: \$157.69 UMCOR US: \$100

WAYS TO GIVE & SERVE

Monthly Food Pantry Collection Amazing Mission Fund Kroger Gift Card Program God's Bounty – 2nd Thursdays Mission Meeting – April 24th

Pack Away Hunger

MAY 5th 2-4:00pm Help us pack 10,000 meals Sign-ups out

in April

Loose Change

Loose change and \$1 from the collection plate on Sundays this month will go to Shepherd Community Center. Shepherd works on the near eastside to build assets into people's lives so they can break the bonds of generational poverty. Go to shepherdcommunity.org to learn more.

Food Drive

We are working with our Scout troops to collect food for God's Bounty as part of their annual Scouting for Food drive. If you would like to donate and don't' receive a bag on your door, please bring a bag of groceries in and leave it at the display. Last year they collected over 2 tons of food.

Kairos

Kairos Prison Ministry is an international non-profit organization dedicated to providing ministry programs. The organization is lay-led and interdenominational. Men and women volunteers share the transforming love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ to impact the hearts and lives of incarcerated men, women, and youth, as well as their families, to become loving and productive citizens of their communities.

One of our own, Larry Gilliam, is involved in the Kairos Inside Prison Ministry Program. This program's mission is to develop a Christian community inside prisons. It involves a 3½ day weekend including, a series of talks, discussions, and chapel mediations. Larry regularly participates in these weekends at Pendleton Correctional Facility. Our Mission Team supports Larry each year financially. If you would like to

learn more, you can go to kairosprisonministry.org. To learn how to volunteer or to find out what you can do, get in touch with Larry Gilliam.



Can we count on you?

- Please *pray* for the work of God's Bounty and for the families they help.
- Pick up a few items when you go to the grocery. Leave them at the God's Bounty display in the Narthex and Missions will take them to the pantry. Red Food Pantry bags are available to help you remember.
- Encourage a group you are involved in to have a food drive for the pantry.
- Volunteer at the pantry. There are many jobs including stocking shelves, filling orders, serving as an advocate, and buying groceries.
- Monetary donations are greatly appreciated to help pay for utilities and to purchase items that are in short supply.
- Sign up to participate in the Kroger Rewards Program. It doesn't cost you anything and if you connect your Kroger Plus card to Acton UMC (#1011) online, the money raised goes to God's Bounty.

AUMC has a long history of being people with a heart for those who are in need. From storm devastation to feeding the hungry, or providing school supplies for kids, serving Him by serving those in need is not new to us.

Providing Food with Compassion and Respect

If you live in Franklin Township, you have most likely heard of God's Bounty. God's Bounty is a not-for-profit food pantry that provides food to families in need in Franklin Township and the surrounding area.



Grab a bag from the mission nook and bring it back filled with groceries.

The Franklin Township Ministerial Association saw a need in their community and in the fall of 2010, the area churches came together and began work. The parsonage of New Bethel Baptist Church was the site chosen for the food pantry. A wall was taken down, shelves were built and stocked, furniture was donated, freezers and refrigerators were brought in and by February 3, 2011, the doors of God's Bounty were open.

This April, Acton is partnering with our Scout troops 219 and 104 in their Scouting for Food drive. If you get a bag hung on your door at home, please donate. You can also bring food in and leave it at the display, and it will be given to the scout troops.

INTENTIONAL FAITH DEVELOPMENT

LEARN AND GROW IN YOUR FAITH - ALL ARE WELCOME



ADULT CURRENT EVENTS

The Wired Word Sundays, 10:35-11:15am Kitchen Sandy G. & Charlie W.

YOUTH

Sundays, 10:35-11:15am Youth Room Denise Gaunt

BIBLE GAMES (PreK-5th) 1st Sundays, 10:35-11:15am Children's Chapel upstairs

KID'S OWN WORSHIP (PreK-5th)

After children's message 9:45-11:15am Children's Chapel upstairs

All are welcome to drop in a class at any time. If you don't see anything that interests you, reach out to the church office or Pastor Matthew.

YOUTH GROUP

Join us for dinner, games, fun, fellowship, and faith building lessons.

SUNDAYS 5:30-7:00pm, at Church See Andy or Diane Crane for info Bring your friends!



THROUGH OUT THE WEEK

WOMEN'S MONDAY EVENINGS Just Like Jesus Mondays, 6:00pm, Phyllis Taylor's see Gayle Kerns

WOMEN'S TUESDAY EVENINGS Book of James Tuesdays, 7:00pm, Diane Crane's see Diane Crane or Felicia Crowel

WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY MORNINGS Women Who Followed Jesus Wednesdays, 10:00am, Church see Becky Repass

WOMEN'S FRIDAY MORNINGS Living the Psalms Fridays, 9:30-11:00am, Church Kitchen see Connie Walters

MEN'S SATURDAY MORNINGS Book of Revelations Saturdays, 8:00am, Church Kitchen see Dan Repass



WOMEN OF ACTON

TOGETHER IN MISSION AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH

United Women in Faith?

The United Women in Faith is the largest denominational faith organization for women in the world. We are focused on mission and providing opportunities for women to grow spiritually.

If you attend a United Methodist church, you are a member of the United Women of Faith.

At Acton there are opportunities for all women including helping with dinners, a reading circle, our blanket ministry and Acts of Kindness teams, fellowship events, our Craft Fair, and the annual Advent Tea.

Please, think how you may enjoy becoming a part of the Acton United Women of Faith.

If you have questions, please talk to one of the board members.

2024 Officers

President: Margie Townsend Vice President: Barb Thompson Secretary: Renee Knight **Treasurer: Connie Walters** Nominations: Becky Repass At Large: Lynn Newlon and Diana Baker

United Women in Faith



The Prayer Blanket Ministry was started at Acton in 2006 by Joann Potts. Several women at the church work together to make the blankets and each one is covered in prayer. We have given out 541 blankets since 2006. If you have someone in need of a prayer blanket, please see Mary Ann Puckett or contact the office.

MINISTRIES

Prayer Blanket Ministry

- ~Make guilts for those needing comfort
- ~See Mary Ann Puckett to help
- ~Call the office for a blanket

Acts of Kindness

- ~Sweet & Savory sale May 19th ~Six times throughout the year
- ~Call Barb Thompson to help

Reading Circle

- ~April 22nd, 6:30 at Renee Knight's
- ~The Woman, by Kristen Hannah
- ~See Audrey Roberts for more information

Hosting Fellowship Dinners

- ~May 15th
- ~See Margie T. if you can help

Craft Fair

- ~October 19th
- ~Our main mission fundraiser

Advent Tea

- ~December 8th, 4:00pm
- ~See Margie T. to help in the planning

BIBLE STUDIES

- ~Monday evenings at 6:00pm
- ~Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm
- ~Wednesday mornings at 10:00am
- ~Friday mornings at 9:30am

reading CIRCLE April 22nd 6:30pm

The Women By Kristen Hannah

All are invited to join us for discussions on our most recent book.

See Audrey Roberts for details.

Page 12 KIDS KORNER

WELCOME TO KIDS KORNER, a page just for kids and their families. Learn about what the children are studying on Sunday and see what fun events are upcoming for the kids and families. There's also a Bible story to help you dig into God's word. Enjoy!

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY WORSHIP & FUN

Our Kid's Own Worship includes kids PreK through 5th grade. They come upstairs to the Children's Chapel for fun and learning after the children's message. The kids have their own worship followed by snacks, games, crafts, science experiments and mission projects.

The first Sunday, kids stay in worship with their families so they can share the Lord's Supper with us – make sure to come to the Children's Chapel upstairs after worship for Bible Games. All ages welcome!

If your kids need to leave after worship, make sure to pick them up from the Children's Chapel at the top of the stairs.



UPCOMING EVENTS

MISSIONS IN APRIL Coins for Shepherd Community Food for God's Bounty

FELLOWSHIP DINNER April 17th, 6:00pm

MUSIC BINGO April 20th, 5-7:00pm

BIBLE STORY



Acts 9:1-19

Why was Saul going to Damascus?

How did he lose his sight?

Who received a vision from the Lord?

What happened when Ananias laid his hands on Saul?



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outh in action

SAVE THE DATE

Youth Group ~April 7th ~5:30-7:00pm, AUMC

COSMIC BOWLING ~April 13th

Youth GROUP ~April 14th ~5:30-7:00pm, AUMC

FELLOWSHIP DINNER ~April 17th, 6:00pm ~6:00pm, AUMC

MUSIC BINGO ~April 20th ~5:00pm, AUMC

Youth GROUP ~April 21st ~5:30-7:00pm, AUMC

YOUTH GROUP ~April 28th ~5:30-7:00pm, AUMC





YOUTH GROUP

Youth 6th-12th grade Sunday evenings, 5:30-7:00pm Dinner is provided as well as a lesson, games, and fun fellowship. Friends are always welcome. If you have questions, please speak with Andy or Diane Crane, our youth leaders.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:30am Youth Room *The Case of Christ* See Denise Gaunt with any questions.

DINNERS

If you can bring and serve dinner for the youth on a Sunday evening, please see Diane.

Sharing Smiles

Welcome!

A big welcome to some of our new scouts coming over into Troop 104.



Spring Camping

The ladies had a fun weekend during March camping at Camp Kikthawenund.



Is that a snake? The pack had a really fun pack meeting in March. That is a really big snake!





Preschool Another great tea party with our friends!

www.actonumc.com

Enjoying God's Goodness











Smiles Having fun in children's church and learning about Jesus. INDY'S TEENY BUSEUM Hardw

Singles

A fun outing for our Singles group at Jockamos pizza and the Teeny Museum.

Pictures are always appreciated! Send them to crowel862@gmail.com

	age	10			1	,
	SATURDAY	6 8:00 Men Study	13 8:00 Men Study YOUTH COSMIC BOWLING	20 8:00 Men Study MUSIC BINGO 5-7:00pm	27 8:00 Men Study	4 8:00 Men Study
	FRIDAY	5 9:30 Women Study	12 9:30 Women Study	19 9:30 Women Study	26 9:30 Women Study	3 9:30 Women Study 5:00 Private Party
	THURSDAY	4 6:00 Prayer Service 7:00 AA	11 6:00 Prayer Service 6:30 Strategy Council 7:00 AA GODS BOUNTY	18 6:00 Prayer Service 7:00 AA	25 6:00 Prayer Service 7:00 AA	2 6:00 Prayer Service 7:00 AA
APRIL 2024	WEDNESDAY	3 10:00 Women Study 6:00 GS Brownies	10 10:00 Women Study 6:00 GS Brownies	17 10:00 Women Study 6:00 GS Brownies FELLOWSHIP DINNER 6:00pm	24 10:00 Women Study 6:00 Missions 6:00 GS Brownies	1 10:00 Women Study 6:00 GS Brownies
	TUESDAY	2 5:30 GS Troop 1849 6:00 Staff Parish 6:30 Pack 104 Dens 7:00 Womens Study	9 6:30 Pack 104 Dens 7:00 Womens Study	16 5:30 GS Troop 1849 6:00 Trustees 6:30 Pack 104 Dens 7:00 Womens Study	23 7:00 Womens Study	30 5:30 GS Troop 1849 6:30 Pack 104 Dens 7:00 Womens Study
	MONDAY	1 6:00 Women Study 7:00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219	8 6:00 Women Study 7:00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219	15 6:00 Women Study 7:00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219	22 6:00 Women Study 7:00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219	29 6:00 Women Study 7:00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219
	SUNDAY	31 9:30 Worship EASTER	7 9:30 Communion 3:00 Troop 104 PLC 5:30 Youth Group	14 9:30 Worship 5:30 Youth Group	21 9:30 Worship 5:30 Youth Group	28 9:30 Worship 1:00 Eagle Court 1:00 GS Troop 200 5:30 Youth Group