

# April 2025

## Acton in action

Newsletter of Acton UMC

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



### APRIL EVENTS

- 13<sup>th</sup> ... Wear **BLUE**
- 10<sup>th</sup> ... God's Bounty
- 13<sup>th</sup> ... Robert's Park Meal
- 16<sup>th</sup> ... Fellowship Dinner
- 17<sup>th</sup> ... Holy Thursday Service
- 18<sup>th</sup> ... Good Friday Service
- 19<sup>th</sup> ... Egg Hunt
- 20<sup>th</sup> ... Easter
- 27<sup>th</sup> ... Child Protection Train

### MAY EVENTS

- 4<sup>th</sup> ..... Pack Away Hunger
- 11<sup>th</sup> ... Health Focus Sunday
- 15<sup>th</sup> ... God's Bounty
- 18<sup>th</sup> ... Bake Sale
- 21<sup>st</sup>.... Fellowship Dinner
- 22<sup>nd</sup>... Blood Drive
- 30<sup>th</sup> ... UMCOR Sunday

### TEAM MEETINGS

- Staff Parish ..... April 1<sup>st</sup>
- Strategy Council .... April 10<sup>th</sup>
- Trustees..... April 15<sup>th</sup>
- Missions..... April 23<sup>rd</sup>
- UW of Faith ..... April 24<sup>th</sup>

See calendar on-line for times.

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



### Fellowship Dinner

April 16<sup>th</sup> @6:00pm

Missions will be hosting the April dinner for Amazing Missions. Soups and salad bar are on the menu. All are welcome.

### God's Bounty

April 9<sup>th</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> 6-7:00pm  
April 10<sup>th</sup> 10am, 1-6:30

Scan to volunteer. See Charlie Walters with questions.



### April Mission Focus

God's Bounty Food pantry

As part of the Scouting for Food drive in April, we will be doing a food drive for God's Bounty. Bring in donations all month.

### Holy Week

Week of April 14<sup>th</sup>

Join us for Maundy Thursday at 7:00pm, Good Friday at 7:00pm, and our Easter Services at 9:30am.

### April Health Focus

Autism Awareness Month

Wear **blue** on April 13<sup>th</sup> for Autism Awareness Month. Learn more at [autismspeaks.org](http://autismspeaks.org).

# From the pastor's desk



“The poor you will always have with you”  
Matthew 26:11, Mark 14:7, John 12:8

“One great reason why the rich in general have so little sympathy for the poor is because they so seldom visit them. Hence it is that one part of the world does not know what the other suffers. Many of them do not know, because they do not care to know: they keep out of the way of knowing it – and then plead their voluntary ignorance as an excuse for their hardness of heart.”

—John Wesley, Sermon 98 *On Visiting the Sick*

A great challenge we face today is that so many of us are allowing rumors to shape our world. We hear from people speaking on screens that seek to shape our opinion and world-view on different groups of people. Some we believe, others confirm what we already thought, and others we wonder if they are true but don't think much more about it.

While John Wesley's world didn't have the 24-hour news cycle (not existing to report news but to sell advertisement) he did realize that the rich in his day told each other who the poor really were. The rich educated one another about the lazy poor or the criminal poor. They confirmed the fears each held until they were accepted as true. While it may have been true of a few, it was by no means a fact for the entire population of poor in England. Wesley also knew that for the few that committed crimes that made the rich afraid, it was the circumstance of poverty that fueled the desperation.

Instead of chastising the rich, Wesley simply says to go and see for yourself. He is saying that you may identify as rich and make your decisions based on that, but if you identify as a Christian you have another, more important set of priorities.

Serving the poor is a definite command of Jesus. Even the scripture used above appears in three different Gospels, making sure that we understand it is a priority for God.

On the surface this scripture makes us think that it is inevitable for poverty to happen, just a fact of life. We can't do anything about it. The truth is that poverty is such a massive issue because it is an issue of health, education, happiness, life; it will take **everyone** united to alleviate it.

No matter your political affiliation, your faith affiliation unites you with others from different perspectives to serve the poor. We can set everything else aside because we know what Jesus is calling us to do.

May we all step out to meet new people to truly learn, face to face, what life is like for them. Get away from the screens and back into the world.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew Stultz".

You can reach Pastor Matthew on email at [matthewstultz@me.com](mailto:matthewstultz@me.com). He is in the church office Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, or you can call to schedule an appointment.

# RISK TAKING MISSION AND SERVICE

SERVING OTHERS IN THE NAME OF CHRIST



## Mission Giving

### AMAZING MISSION FUND GIVING

Thru February 28<sup>th</sup>

Balance: \$7,916.20

Kairos Prison Ministry: \$600

UMCOR – CA Fires: \$3,000

Robert's Park Meal - \$170

ECHO - \$25

### CONGREGATION DIRECT GIVING

Thru February 28<sup>th</sup>

Loose Change:

Brightwood Community: \$193.15

Fletcher Place Meals - \$163.63

ECHO: \$5,975

UMCOR US: \$120

### WAYS TO GIVE & SERVE

Monthly Food Pantry Collection

Amazing Mission Fund

Kroger Gift Card Program

God's Bounty – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays

### NEXT MISSION MEETING

April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 6:00pm

### LOOSE CHANGE

This year, our loose change collection will rotate between four local centers that target the daily feeding of people who need a place to find food.

*Shepherds Community Center  
Robert's Park Soups On Ministry  
Compassion Center*

## Red Cross Shelter

Our Mission Team and our Trustees have been working together with the Red Cross to designate our facility as a Red Cross emergency location for our area. This is a great way to serve our community. If there is a need, we will communicate through Agapenet emails on any schedule changes for Fellowship Hall.

## Help God's Bounty

Some ways to help the pantry:

- Bring in food staples to church. Missions will deliver them,
- Use their Amazon wish list (<https://a.co/4qxbvkl>) and have items delivered to the pantry.
- Give a monetary donation through the church to help pay utility bills and other expenses.

## God's Bounty Food Drive


God's Bounty is a not-for-profit food pantry that provides food to families in need in Franklin Township. 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. The doors opened on February 3, 2011.

The pantry services about 100 families each week. Churches supporting the pantry take a week each month to supply volunteers that sort, pack, and hand out food. Our week is the third Thursday. If you are interested in a tour or learning about volunteering, please see Charlie Walters.

***During the month of April, we will be collecting food for God's Bounty food pantry. Just grab a red or green food pantry bag from the display and bring it back. Any donations brought in by April 27<sup>th</sup> will be given to our scout troops for Scouting for Food.***

Our scout troops 104 and 219 are participating in ***Scouting for Food in April*** and will also be collecting for God's Bounty in local neighborhoods. If you find a bag hanging off your door from one of our troops asking for a donation, please help them out.





**THE reading CIRCLE**

May 5<sup>th</sup>  
6:30PM  
Margie Bartnick's  
*Secret Life of Sunflowers*  
Marta Moinar

### April Worship

April 6<sup>th</sup> ..... We are Fragile ..... John 12:1-8  
 April 13<sup>th</sup> ..... You are a Group Project ..... Luke 19:28-40  
 April 20<sup>th</sup> ..... A Good Enough Faith ..... John 20:1-18  
 April 27<sup>th</sup> ..... Emmaus Road ..... Luke 24:13-35




*Holy Week*  
**SCHEDULE**

Holy Thursday Service  
**APRIL 17 ~ 7:00PM**

Good Friday Service  
**APRIL 18 ~ 7:00PM**

Easter Worship  
**APRIL 20 ~ 9:30AM**



As of February 28, 2025

Income ..... \$64,066 ..... 29% of budget  
 Expenses ..... \$53,015 ..... 19% of budget

**APRIL LOOSE CHANGE**  
Robert's Park Soups On

**APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

Earlene Cougill - 1<sup>st</sup>  
 Molly Smith - 7<sup>th</sup>  
 Connor McMahan - 9<sup>th</sup>  
 Nancy Rosemeyer - 16<sup>th</sup>  
 Terry Fansler - 24<sup>th</sup>  
 Gordan Fansler - 27<sup>th</sup>  
 Eric Newlon - 30<sup>th</sup>




**RADICAL HOSPITALITY**  
it's changes lives

**APRIL GREETERS**

6<sup>th</sup> ..... Earlene C. & Sandy S.  
 13<sup>th</sup> ..... Rich & Betty Lou R.  
 20<sup>th</sup> ..... Barb T. & Margie T.  
 27<sup>th</sup> ..... Steve & Mindy F.

**Pack Away Hunger**  
Sunday, May 4th  
All ages invited  
Signs out in April



Nourishing the body and bringing hope!



**wear blue**  
April 13th  
for Autism Awareness

*Spring Food Drive*

CANNED ITEMS	DRY GOODS	KIDS PACKS
Canned tuna or chicken	Oatmeal	Fruit juice boxes
Canned fruit	Whole grain cereal	Shelf-stable milk (8oz)
Canned vegetables	Spaghetti	Fruit snacks
Pasta sauce	Elbow pasta	Granola bars
Canned baked beans	Creamy peanut butter	Single serve mac-n-cheese
Canned chili	Boxed potatoes	Fruit cups
Sloppy Joe sauce	Hamburger Helper	Applesauce cups
Canned pasta		Pudding cups

**BRING IN ITEMS THROUGH OUT APRIL**



**SWEET & SAVORY**

AofK

**MAY 18TH**



**HEALING AND STRENGTH:** Rich Reasoner, Suzie McKay, Kevin McMahan, Kathy Phillips, Mary Wright, David Phillips, Stan Ensch, Cheryl Herron, Chris Osbourn (Grubb’s daughter), Linda Hicks, Greg McConaughey, Paula McIntosh

**OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS:** Nick Crane, Olivia Woodrow, Cherilynn Spicer, Madison Hulskotter, Ethan Warner, Kaylynn Clark, Henry Crane, Molly Smith, Brianna Stultz

**MILITARY PERSONNEL:** A. Walters, N. Crane, T. Beasley, L. Lamkin, B. Kerns, G. Kerns, M. Kerns



United Women in 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 any questions, please speak with our President, Margie Townsend.



**YOUTH GROUP**

All youth, 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade, are invited to be part of the fun. Friends are always welcome.

**YOUTH GROUP**

~April 6<sup>th</sup>  
~5:30-7:00pm, AUMC

**YOUTH GROUP**

~April 13<sup>th</sup>  
~5:30-7:00pm, AUMC

**EGG HUNT - HIDE EGGS!**

~April 19<sup>th</sup>

**NO YOUTH GROUP**

~April 20<sup>th</sup>

**YOUTH GROUP**

~April 27<sup>th</sup>  
~5:30-7:00pm, AUMC

**BOARD MEETING**

The Women of Faith board will be meeting on Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. All are invited to come and share your ideas.

**ACTS OF KINDNESS**

This ministry holds our bake sales and keeps an eye out for opportunities to pass on kindness to others. See Josette to get involved.

**READING CIRCLE**

The ladies will be discussing *The Secret Life of Sunflowers*, by Marta Moinar on May 5<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm, at Margie Bartnick’s home.



**CHILDREN’S SUNDAY WORSHIP & FUN**

Our Kid’s Own Worship includes kids PreK through 5<sup>th</sup> grade upstairs in the Children’s Chapel on Sundays, after the children’s message. The kids have their own worship followed by snacks, games, crafts, and more.

*April Lessons*

- April 6<sup>th</sup>.....Bible Games after worship
- April 13<sup>th</sup>.....Jesus Enters Jerusalem .....Diane Crane
- April 20<sup>th</sup>.....Jesus Lives .....Sheila Sexton
- April 27<sup>th</sup>.....The Road to Emmas .....The Crowels

# INTENTIONAL FAITH DEVELOPMENT

LEARN AND GROW IN YOUR FAITH – ALL ARE WELCOME

## Sunday School SCHEDULE

### 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-5<sup>th</sup>)

1<sup>st</sup> Sundays, 10:35-11:15am

Children's Chapel upstairs

### KID'S OWN WORSHIP (PreK-5<sup>th</sup>)

After children's message

9:45-10:30am

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 the church

See Andy or Diane Crane for info

Bring your friends!



## THROUGH OUT THE WEEK

### WOMEN'S MONDAY EVENINGS

#### *The Lion's Army*

Tuesdays, 6:00pm, Phyllis Taylor's

see Gayle Kerns

### WOMEN'S TUESDAY EVENINGS

#### *Good Enough*

Tuesdays, 7:00pm, Diane Crane's

see Diane Crane or Felicia Crowel

### WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY MORNINGS

#### *Living the Psalms*

Wednesdays, 10:00am, Church

see Becky Repass

### WOMEN'S FRIDAY MORNINGS

#### *Living with Confidence in a Chaotic World*

Fridays, 9:30-11:00am, Church Kitchen

see Connie Walters

### MEN'S SATURDAY MORNINGS

#### *Christian Beliefs*

Saturdays, 8:00am, Church Kitchen

see Dan Repass



Memories from  
last year's  
Egg Hunt!



# Acton in action 2025

## Fellowship Dinners

3rd Wednesdays at 6:00pm

## Bake Sales

3rd Sundays, Odd Months

### MISSION FOCUSED

#### Monthly Mission Focus

- April - God's Bounty
- May - Amazing Missions
- June - Echo
- July - Lucille Raines
- August - Metro Ministries
- September Robert's Park
- October - God's Bounty
- November - Fletcher Place

#### Serving Our Community

- God's Bounty Food Drives
- Kroger Card Program
- Robert's Park Meals
- Blood Drives
- Cookies for Acton
- Cancer Care Bags
- Loose Change Collection
- Fletcher Place Christmas

- Egg Hunt - April 19
- Pack Away Hunger - May 4
- Kid's Klub- June & July
- Lunch at the Lake - July 12
- Summer Spectacular - July 25
- Car Show - October 11
- Craft Fair - October 18
- Trick or Treat - October 31
- Advent Tea - December 7

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR