

Acton in action

Newsletter of Acton UMC

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

AUGUST 2023

BBQ Time **3**

It's a BBQ meal. Visit with Pastor Matthew at church Tuesday evening before to see what's on the grill!

Mission Collection **5**

Check out the Mission Nook by the coat rack. Glasses, prescription bottles, travel items and more are needed.

Harvesting **8**

Learn more about one of congregation harvesting produce for a Johnson County food pantry.

Robert's Park **13**

The youth will be preparing and serving sack lunches at Robert's Park this month.

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

From the pastor's desk



Smoke Signals

BY PASTOR MATTHEW STULTZ

The priest will then completely burn all of it on the altar as an entirely burned offering, a food gift of soothing smell to the Lord. (Lev. 1:8b-9)

As a BBQ cook, the notion of something “burnt” being pleasing isn’t something I would celebrate. Without going crazy unpacking the ancient Hebrew here, the basic idea is that the smell of roasting meat is pleasing to God. It was pleasing because it was part of the faithful gift of the people to God.

To be honest, there isn’t a great theological idea that we can pair with our upcoming BBQ Fellowship meal from the idea of meat used as part of a religious rite. So, here’s what we can take: God loves the smell of a cookout and as Christians we have always done our best gathering around a table of food.

This next Fellowship Dinner, August 16th at 6:00pm, we will gather for some fired meat, hopefully not burnt. I will cook meat over a charcoal fire, and we will feast. There will be brisket and pulled pork as well as some ribs. Salads, fruit, and dessert would be appreciated to get those plates full!

I will be cooking in the parking lot outside the Fellowship Hall Tuesday evening. Feel free to drop by 7-10:00pm to visit, tour the trailer, or just say hello.

We will be celebrating the legacy of the Garage Sale at this dinner. It is appropriate to say “thank you” to God for providing emergency financial needs through this fund raiser when it first began. As things have changed over the past few years, the level of effort it takes for such a massive undertaking just isn’t feasible. So, we want to acknowledge just how important the Garage Sale has been, share some memories, and celebrate at the dinner table. Please have all pictures emailed to Felicia (crowel862@gmail.com) by August 14th.

I’m looking forward to slowing down and sitting by the pit to cook for you. I hope to see you at the dinner table, Wednesday August 16th, 6:00pm.

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

Pastor Matthew

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

AUGUST EVENTS

- 10thGod's Bounty
- 16thFellowship Dinner
- 20thSweet & Savory Bake Sale

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

- 14thGod's Bounty
- 17thSweet & Savory Bake Sale
- 20thFellowship Dinner

OCTOBER EVENTS

- 7thCampfire for the Ladies
- 12thGod's Bounty
- 15thSweet & Savory Bake Sale
- 21stCraft Fair

TEAM MEETINGS

- Staff Parish August 1st
- Strategy Council August 10th
- Trustees August 15th
- Missions August 23rd
- UMW Board October 9th

See calendar for times and more events.

AUGUST 28th @6:30pm

**Margie Bartnick's
Lessons in Chemistry
By Bonnie Garmus**



STUDY GROUPS

Sunday mornings @10:35 (The Kitchen)
Adult Class – *The Wired Word*

Wednesday mornings @ 10:00 (Church)
Women's – *Clinging to Hope*

Friday mornings @ 9:30 (Church kitchen)
Women's – *Living a Chocolate Life*

Saturday mornings @ 8:00 (Church kitchen)
Men's – *Book of Hebrews*

Checkout page 8 for more details

Pastor Matthew will be in the parking lot cooking on Tuesday evening. Stop by any time between 7-10:00pm to see what's on the grill!

summer BBQ PARTY

you're invited to join us



Bring a dessert or side to share

August 16 ~ 6:00pm Fellowship Hall



GARAGE SALE MEMORIES

At the August Fellowship we will be celebrating past Garage Sales. If you have any pictures or stories you would like to share, please email them to Felicia (crowel862@gmail.com) by August 14th. She will do her best to use them all.



What Church Membership Means

Being a disciple involves the whole self. One of the ways we strive to commit our entire lives to God is through service.

Gifts-based Service

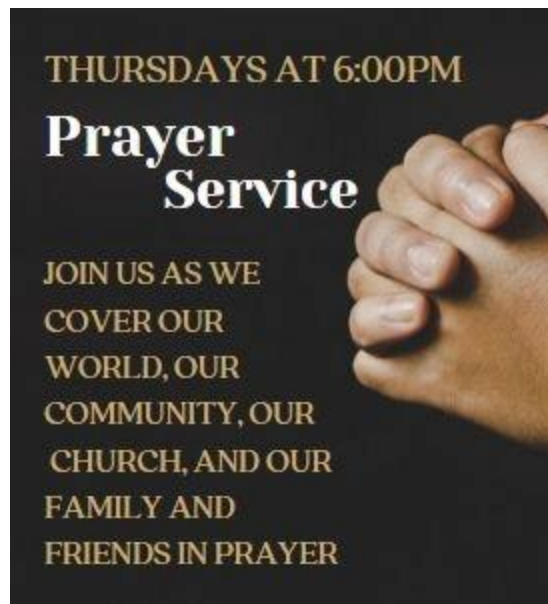
Once we discover our spiritual gifts we can find were to participate in God's work through the ministry of the church.

If you have more questions about spiritual gifts go to www.umcdiscipleship.org/spiritual-gifts-inventory



Church Bulletin Funnies

Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.



THURSDAYS AT 6:00PM

Prayer Service

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



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- Joyce Hamon – 3rd
- Zach Spicer – 5th
- Mary Ann Puckett – 10th
- Donna Groenert – 14th
- Cynthia Reifeis – 18th
- Gavin Clark – 21st
- Maggie Clark – 21st
- Sandy Grub – 26th
- Linda Miller – 28th
- Felicia Crowel 29th
- Gavin Woodrow – 30th



MEIJER SIMPLY GIVE

Thru September 30th

Meijer matches each \$10 card

Double match is August 12th & September 9th

The apple tree is out at church. Grab an apple at church to donate needed items for our preschool.



Donations can be left at the display with the apple tag.

Busy Bags

FOR OUR LITTLE ONES
Grab a bag from the hooks in the back of the sanctuary



WEAR GREEN AUGUST 13th

national
IMMUNIZATION
awareness month 

August is immunization awareness month. Are you up on all of your immunizations? This month is to bring awareness and encourage people to check if they are current on their vaccinations. Immunization isn't just for kids. Adults may need protection from whooping cough, flu, pneumonia, and shingles. Call your doctor today!

If you have any questions please contact our Parish Nurse, Margie Townsend.



BUDGET REPORT

As of June 30, 2023

Income..... \$155,301 54% of budget
Expenses.... \$140,131 49% of budget

MISSION COLLECTIONS

Bins in the coat rack area

Eyeglasses
Prescription Bottles
Travel Size Items
Ink Cartridges



CONGREGATIONAL CARE

PRAY FOR YOUR CHURCH FAMILY & FRIENDS



HEALING AND STRENGTH: Mike Finnigan (Stephenson's son-in-law), Wanda (Terry Fansler's aunt), Shawna Harrison, Cheryl Herron, Chris Osbourn (Grubb's daughter), Theresa Birdwell, Kevin Hitt (Randolph's son-in-law), Linda Hicks, Greg McConaughey, Paula McIntosh

OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS: Amy Johnson, Nick Crane, Olivia Woodrow, Cherilynn Spicer, Ruth Crowel, Will Tope, Madison Hulskotter, Ethan Warner

MILITARY PERSONNEL: Adam Walters, Joseph (Andy) Roberts, 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



Meijer Simply Give

Purchase a \$10 Simply Give card at the

Southport Meijer and Meijer will donate \$20 in groceries to Gods' Bounty Food Pantry.

Double Match days are August 12th and September 9th.

If you can't make it to the Southport Meijer, food donations are always needed.

GOD'S BOUNTY HELP

WEDNESDAY, August 9th
6-7:00pm

THURSDAY, August 10th
8:00am & 1-6:30pm

If you can volunteer,
see Mary Jo Ensch

Loose Change and \$1
August – Fletcher Place



DONATE TO GOD'S BOUNTY

Pick up a bag from the God's Bounty display and bring it back filled with nonperishable food. Someone from our Missions Team will deliver it to God's Bounty.

PASSIONATE WORSHIP

FROM THE PULPIT

AUGUST SERMONS AND SCRIPTURES

August 6..... Poetry & Wisdom.....Proverbs 8:1-11, 22-36
August 13..... Poetry & Wisdom.....Ecclesiastes 1:1-11; 3:1-17
August 20..... Poetry & Wisdom.....Song of Solomon 2:10-13; 8:6-7
August 27..... iBelieveGenesis 1:1-5; Matthew 6:30-34

PRAYER SERVICE

EVERY THURSDAY ~ 6-6:30PM

HOSPITALITY WITH LOCAL KIDS

This summer, our Children's Ministry team put on the Summer Kids Klub for the second time. This event provides a couple of hours of fun each Wednesday in June and July for the kids in our community.

The kids learned about the Fruit of the Spirit through games, crafts, music, and a lesson. One of the highlights for the kids besides lunch, was making a tie-dye t-shirt that they got to wear the last day and take home!

Thank you to all who put together crafts, wrangled kids, played music, lead songs, fed kids, and did anything that helped make Kids Klub a success.

This ministry reached 65 different kids throughout the summer from 38 different families in our community. We had an average of 35 kids each week. Wow, that some good fruit planting!

This year we closed out Kids Klub with our first Summer Spectacular event on the last Friday of July. We had games, food, and fun for all the families. We had 36 kids, and their families show up. Thanks to the wonderful volunteers, everyone had fun!



**RADICAL
HOSPITALITY**
It's changes lives

GREETERS

AUGUST

6th..... Chuck & Cynthia R
13th..... Floyd & Linda S
20th..... Gary & Karen F
27th..... Dan & Becky R

SEPTEMBER

3rd..... Earlene C & Sandy S
10th..... Rich & Betty Lou R
17th..... Barb T & Margie T
24th..... Steve & Mindy F

If you are interested in being part of the greeting team, please call the church office.

RISK TAKING MISSION AND SERVICE

SERVING OTHERS IN THE NAME OF CHRIST



Mission Giving

AMAZING MISSION FUND

Thru June 30th

Balance: \$11,085.60
 UMCOR Sunday: \$1,134.50
 Little Free Library: \$408.54
 Robert's Park Meal: \$304
 UMCOR Indiana Tornado: \$1,000
 Sacred Heart Migrant: \$1,000
 Pack Away Hunger: \$3,325
 Kairos Prison Ministry: \$500

CONGREGATION DIRECT GIVING

Thru June 30th

Loose Change:
 Brightwood: \$560.76
 Fletcher Place: \$451.01
 Vida Nueva: \$385.97

UMCOR International: \$100
 UMCOR US: \$185
 UMCOR Sunday: \$1,134.50

WAYS TO GIVE

Monthly Food Pantry Collection
 Amazing Mission Fund
 Kroger Gift Card Program

WAYS TO SERVE

God's Bounty – 2nd Thursdays
 Mission Meeting – August 23rd

The Mission Expenditure Report for the 2022-23 mission year is available. Anyone interested in a copy, please see a Mission Team member.

Take Away Event

On Saturday, July 29th, God's Bounty held their second Take Away event and ***distributed personal care items and household cleaning products to 83 families from Franklin Township.*** Thanks to all who donated items and helped to sort and distribute them.

Loose Change

After much consideration, the ***Mission Team has decided to remove Vida Nueva from our loose coin collection.*** The Sunday collection will now rotate between Brightwood Community Center and Fletcher Place Community Center.

Harvesting for the Hungry

Travis Fuller is raising tomatoes, green beans, potatoes, zucchini, peppers, squash, and more this summer. He is working toward becoming a not-for-profit farm. ***So far this year Travis has delivered 271 pounds of produce to the Interchurch Food Pantry of Johnson County.*** He is hoping to deliver over 1,000 pounds this year. As he expands, this may become an opportunity to support a wonderful and much needed ministry.



LOVE TO TELL THE STORY

CARING FOR OUR NEIGHBORS



Meijer's Simply Give

Double match days are on August 12th and September 9th. On these days, your \$10 card provides \$30 in groceries for God's Bounty.



Our local food pantry, God's Bounty, serves Franklin Township and is supported by AUMC and several churches in the township.

Southport Meijer has selected God's Bounty to be the recipient of **the Simply Give program now through September 30th**.

Grab a \$10 Simply Give card at the check-out and include it in your purchases. Meijer will provide \$20 in groceries to God's Bounty for every \$10 card purchased.

This is a great way to help the food pantry, but if you can't make it to the Southport Meijer, food donations are always needed.

If you want to learn more about God's Bounty Food Pantry, see Mary Jo Ensich or Gayle Kerns.



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

YOUTH GROUP

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

SUMMER SCHEDULE

Sundays, 5:00-7:00pm, at Cranes

See Andy or Diane Crane

Bring your friends!



THROUGH OUT THE WEEK

WEDNESDAY'S WOMEN OF FAITH

Clinging to Hope

Wednesdays, 10:00am, Church

see Becky Repass

WOMEN'S FRIDAY MORNINGS

Living a Chocolate Life

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

see Connie Walters

MEN'S SATURDAY MORNINGS

Book of Hebrews

Saturdays, 8:00am, Church Kitchen

see Dan Repass

Everyone is 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.



WOMEN OF ACTON

TOGETHER IN MISSION AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH

United Women in Faith?

The United Women in Faith and 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.

President: Felicia Crowl
Vice President: Margie Townsend
Secretary: Mary Ann Puckett
Treasurer: Connie Walters
Nominations: Linda Selke
At Large: Josette Randolph and Gayle Kerns



United
Women
in Faith



We need leaders! It is time to fill a few positions on the United Women of Faith board here at Acton. We are looking to fill positions such as secretary, at-large members, and vice president. Please prayerfully consider serving on this board. We have lots of fun while we serve and only meet four times a year.

MINISTRIES

Prayer Blanket Ministry

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

Acts of Kindness *and beyond*

- ~Sweet & Savory sale – August 20th
- ~Passing on Kindness to others
- ~Third Sundays
- ~Call Audrey Roberts to help out

Reading Circle

- ~August 28th, 6:30pm @Margie Bartnick's
- ~*Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus
- ~See Audrey Roberts for more information

Hosting Fellowship Dinners

- ~September 20th
- ~See Josette Randolph if you can help

Craft Fair

- ~October 21st
- ~Planning Meeting September 7th, 6:30pm
- ~Main mission fundraiser

Advent Tea

- ~December 1st
- ~Planning Meeting August 17th, 6:30pm
- ~Always a beautiful evening

BIBLE STUDIES

- ~Wednesday mornings at 10:00am
- ~Friday mornings at 9:30am



READING CIRCLE

August 28th
6:30pm

Lessons in Chemistry
By Bonnie Garmus

Margie Bartnick's
home



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 August

Coins for Fletcher Place
Food for God's Bounty

FELLOWSHIP DINNER

August 16th, 6:00pm

August Lessons

Happy are people who make peace because they will be called God's children. Matthew 5:9

August 6Bible Games

August 13The Tax Collector & PhariseeLuke 18:9-14

August 20Abraham and LotGenesis 13

August 27David and Abigail1 Samuel 25:1-42

BIBLE STORY

THE TAX COLLECTOR AND THE PHARISEE



Who went to the temple?

What were they doing in the temple?

What does humble mean?

Who was humble in the way they prayed?





Youth in action

SAVE THE DATE

YOUTH GROUP
~August 6th
~5:00-7:00pm, Crane's

YOUTH GROUP
~August 13th
~5-7:00pm, Crane's

YOUTH GROUP
~August 20th
~5:00-7:00pm, Crane's

ROBERT'S PARK
~August 27th
~Prep meal, 8:30am, AUMC
~Serve, 11:30-1, Robert's Park

NO YOUTH GROUP
~August 27th
~Robert's Park

NO YOUTH GROUP
~September 3rd
~Have Labor Day Weekend!

YOUTH GROUP
~September 10th
~5:30-7:00pm, AUMC

BACK AT THE CHURCH!



The youth had a fun evening of games after helping at the Summer Spectacular.

ROBERT'S PARK MEAL AUGUST 27th



Meal prep is at 8:30am Sunday at church.
Serving meal 11:30-1:00 at Robert's Park
PARENT HELP IS NEEDED.

Please see Andy or Diane Crane if you have questions about the Youth Group. All youth ages 5th-12th grade are welcome!

Ministries for our Community

SUMMER SPECTACULAR

Everyone had a fun evening celebrating the end of summer.



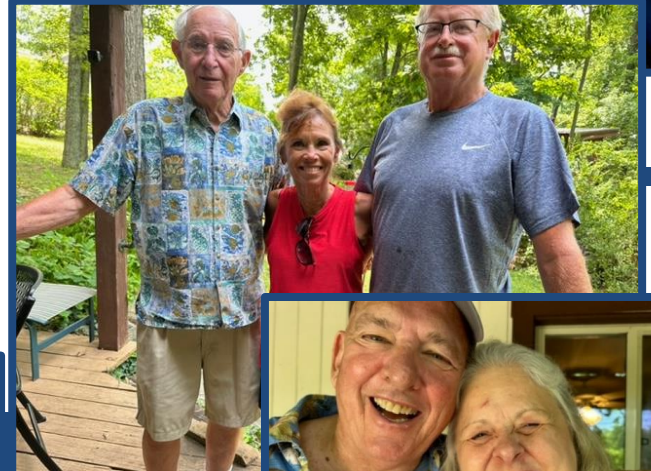
THE KIDS ARE BACK

Preschool is back in session.
Welcome to the class of 2038.

Enjoying God's Goodness

LUNCH AT THE LAKE

Thanks Bruce and Suzie!



WORKDAY

Always a lot to do on church workday!




SURPRISE

The ladies surprised Anne Meyer with a visit.



AUGUST 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30 9:30 Worship 5:00 Youth Group	31 6:00 PS Open House 7:00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219	1 6:00 Staff Parish	2 10:00 Women Study 6:00 GS Brownies	3 6:00 Prayer Service 8:00 AA	4 9:30 Women Study	5 8:00 Men Study
6 9:30 Communion 3:00 Troop 104 PLC 5:00 Youth Group	7 7:00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219	8 6:00 GS Troop 1849 6:30 Pack 104 Dens	9 10:00 Women Study 6:00 GS Brownies	10 6:00 Prayer Service 7:00 Strategy Council 8:00 AA GODS BOUNTY 	11 9:30 Women Study	12 8:00 Men Study
13 9:30 Worship 5:00 Youth Group BAKE SALE	14 6:30 Reading Circle 7:00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219	15 6:00 Trustees PASTOR MATHHEW IS BBQING 7-10PM	16 10:00 Women Study 6:00 GS Brownies FELLOWSHIP DINNER – 6:00pm	17 6:00 Prayer Service 6:30 Advent Tea Plan 8:00 AA	18 9:30 Women Study	19 8:00 Men Study
20 9:30 Worship 5:00 Youth Group	21 7:00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219	22 6:00 GS Troop 1849 6:30 Pack 104 Dens	23 10:00 Women Study 6:00 Missions 6:00 GS Brownies	24 6:00 Prayer Service 8:00 AA	25 9:30 Women Study	26 8:00 Men Study
27 9:30 Worship 1:00 GS Troop 200 YOUTH GROUP AT ROBERTS PARK	28 7:00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219	29	30 10:00 Women Study 6:00 GS Brownies	31 6:00 Prayer Service 8:00 AA	1 9:30 Women Study	2 8:00 Men Study