

February 2025

Acton in action

Newsletter of Acton UMC

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



vote with your \$\$\$

Chili

COOK OFF

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 23
AFTER WORSHIP - FELLOWSHIP HALL

all monies collected go to
our Preschool Ministry

See Sam or Blake Warner
to enter your chili

\$1 for a spoon

FEBRUARY EVENTS

- 9th... Wear **RED**
- 9th... Troop 219 Bake Sale
- 13th .. God's Bounty
- 19th .. Fellowship Dinner
- 23rd .. Chili Cook-off

MARCH EVENTS

- 13th .. God's Bounty
- 5th... Ash Wednesday
- 9th Wear **BLUE**
- 16th .. Bake Sale
- 19th .. Fellowship Dinner
- 23rd .. Child Protection Training

TEAM MEETINGS

- Staff Parish Feb 4th
- Strategy Council Feb 13th
- Trustees..... Feb 18th
- Missions..... Feb 26th
- UW of Faith Jan 13th

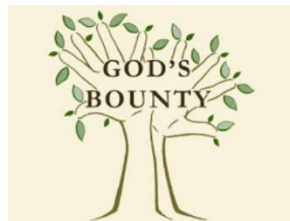
See calendar on-line for times
and more events.

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



Fellowship Dinner February 19th @6:00pm

The ladies of Troop 219 are serving a variety of soups at the February dinner. **Dinner is at 6:00pm.** All are welcome.



God's Bounty February 12th 8th 6-7:00pm February 13th 10am, 1-6:30

Scan to volunteer. See Charlie Walters with questions.



February Mission Focus Fletcher Place Community Center

Fletcher Place exists to break the cycle of poverty through hope, compassion, and renewal. Learn more at fletcherplacecc.org.



Youth Group Sundays, 5:30-7:00pm

Youth and their friends, 6th grade through High School are invited for dinner, fellowship, a lesson, games, and fun. See Andy or Diane Crane for more details.



February Health Focus Heart Failure Awareness

Wear **red** on February 9th for heart failure awareness. Hearts are connected to every other of our body and can lead to other health conditions.

From the pastor's desk



And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love. —1 Corinthians 13:13

February marks the annual reminder of Italian candlelit dinners, pink, red, and white frilly greeting cards, and chocolate. These symbols and many others serve to remind us of love. Valentine's Day has been marked as a "greeting card holiday" by some and an enjoyable reminder of those we love by others. It is also an opportunity for us all to think more deeply on love.

We are living in troublesome times and the divisions in our networks and relationships have never been worse. While everything is far too complicated to address here, it is safe to say that many do not feel loved. Those who have come to this country for safety and a better life and had no avenue to legally find citizenship, and those who advocate for them, do not feel much love. While also those who are afraid for themselves and their family, only wanting security and safety, do not always feel loved. It is a process that in loving others we hear them, we take a moment to really understand where they are coming from.

We won't solve the world's problems on our own with love. We don't have the reach. But we can begin some healing in our own relationships and community. We can stop listening to so much talk news. I often lament that my parishioners spend hours during the week listening to their favorite news programs and forming opinions from the talking heads, yet I only get them for roughly 8 minutes a week on Sunday morning.

I don't honestly know the solution to all of our problems today, but I know that we need each other. I do know that Jesus Christ uses the communities and circles that we build to care for us. That's why he didn't suggest, he commanded what we should do. In John 13 Jesus says, *A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.*

Do not loose heart and resist cutting connections with those who might not think as you do on every social issue. Find common ground in our Christian faith as we love one another, as we listen to one another. We may find Jesus shows us a path we never knew existed, a new way forward, because we chose first to love one another.

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

You can reach Pastor Matthew on email at 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 December 31st

Balance: \$8,518.95

RIP Medical Debt: \$1,500

Soups On RPUMC: \$1,523

Kairos Prison Ministry: \$1,000

Peace with Justice: \$500

Impact Ministries: \$500

Pack Away Hunger Event: \$3,565

Indy Ten Point Coalition: \$500

UMCOR Sunday Match: \$1,540

Meijer Simply Give: \$3,500

Habitat for Humanity: \$2,500

Crop Walk: \$1,000

Hurricane Relief: \$3,000

Fletcher Place: \$1,096

Echo: \$25

CONGREGATION DIRECT GIVING

Thru December 31st

Loose Change:

Shepherds Community: \$681.53

Fletcher Place: \$705.05

Brightwood Community: \$920.24

God's Bounty: \$1,400

Crop Walk: \$429

UMCOR US: \$2,910

UMCOR International: \$150

UMCOR Sunday: \$1,540.56

RIP Medical Debt: \$5,975

WAYS TO GIVE & SERVE

Monthly Food Pantry Collection

Amazing Mission Fund

Kroger Gift Card Program

God's Bounty – 2nd Thursdays

Collections

Thanks to all that were able to donate to our Advent collection for ECHO. *With Missions rounding out the total, we will be sending ECHO \$6,000.*

Our January collection for the Compassion Center totaled **139 pairs of socks** and **124 pairs of underwear**. Thanks to all who were able to contribute.

Missions in 2024

A total of just over **\$32,000** was given by Acton UMC to various mission programs in 2024. The Acton United Women of Faith also sent **\$8,650** to different missions in 2024. For details on mission giving in 2024, see the list on the left.

Fletcher Place Community Center

Fletcher Place is a community center located at 1637 Prospect Street and serves the Fletcher Place neighborhood. They have been open for 150 years making a difference in the lives of their neighbor. The center was started in 1872 as a small outreach in the South side of downtown Indianapolis. The center was initially located within the Fletcher Place Methodist Episcopal Church. They served the poor German, Italian, and Irish immigrants that had recently relocated to the south side.

Fletcher Place provides programs to ease the burden of low to moderate income individuals who struggle with life's basic needs. You can volunteer to help at any of these programs. Learn more at fletcherplacecc.org.

- Serving hot meals.
- Sorting clothing donations for the thrift store.
- Working at the food pantry & thrift store, or renewal boutique.
- Helping at the early learning center.
- The annual Christmas Program.
- Landscaping and gardening.
- Golden age luncheons.



March 10th

6:30PM

Audrey Roberts'

The Girl in the Lifeboat

Eileen Enright

A Study of Luke

February 2nd Healing on the Sabbath Luke 6:1-16

February 9th Raising the Widow's Son Luke 7:1-17

February 16th More than a Prophet Luke 7:18-35

February 23rd Forgiven at Jesus' Feet Luke 7:6-50

March 2nd Transfiguration Luke 9:28-45

Scout Sunday February 9th



As of December 31, 2024

Income \$290,319 104% of budget

Expenses \$270,209 97% of budget

FEBRUARY LOOSE CHANGE

Fletcher Place Community
Center

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Mary Jo Ensch - 2nd

Barb Thompson - 6th

Kameron Cress - 10th

Luke Tope - 18th

Margie Bartnick - 19th

Henry Crane - 19th

Jerry Grau - 27th



RADICAL
HOSPITALITY
— it's changes lives —



FEBRUARY GREETERS

2nd Floyd & Linda S.

9th Our Scouts

16th Earlene C & Sandy S.

23rd Rich & Betty Lou R.



Mark Your Calendar

Scout Sunday - February 9

Chili Cookoff - February 23

Egg Hunt - April 19

Blood Drive - May 22

Kids Klub - June & July

Summer Spectacular - July 25

Blood Drive - October 2

Car Show - October 11

Craft Fair - October 18

Trick or Treat - October 31

Advent Tea - December 7

WEAR RED FEBRUARY 9th
HEART FAILURE AWARENESS



Valentine
BAKE SALE

TROOP 219
FEBRUARY 9TH



HEALING AND STRENGTH: Family of Vic Kerlin, Family of Marilyn Woodrow (Mark’s mom), Mac McGuire, Kathy Phillips, Joanne Jennings, Mary Wright, David Phillips, Stan Enschede, Cheryl Herron, Chris Osbourn (Grubb’s daughter), Linda Hicks, Greg McConaughy, 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: Adam Walters, Lucas Lamkin, Nick Crane, Travis Beasley



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, 6th-12th grade, are invited to be part of our Youth Group. Friends are always welcome.

YOUTH GROUP

~February 2nd
~5:30-7:00pm, AUMC

NO YOUTH GROUP

~February 9th

YOUTH GROUP

~February 16th
~5:30-7:00pm, AUMC

YOUTH GROUP

~February 23rd
~5:30-7:00pm, AUMC

CANCER CARE BAGS

In January, the women assembled care bags and made cards for cancer patients. 125 bags were assembled!

2025 DATES

Spring Fling
May 3rd or 4th
Fall Bonfire
October 11th
Craft Fair
October 18th
Advent Tea
December 7th

READING CIRCLE

The ladies will be discussing *The Girl in the Lifeboat*, by Eileen Enright on March 10th, 6:30pm, at Audrey Robert’s home.



CHILDREN’S SUNDAY WORSHIP & FUN

Our Kid’s Own Worship includes kids PreK through 5th 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.

February Lessons

God saw everything he had made: it was supremely good. (Genesis 1:31)

- Feb 2nd Bible Games after worship
- Feb 9th Jesus Heals.....Diane Crane
- Feb 17th Jesus Calls the Fishermen.....Sheila Sexton
- Feb 23rd Jesus Calls Levi.....The Crowels

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.

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 Angels of Christmas

Mondays, 6:00pm, Phyllis Taylor's

see Gayle Kerns

WOMEN'S TUESDAY EVENINGS

The Book of Matthew

Tuesdays, 7:00pm, Diane Crane's

see Diane Crane or Felicia Crowel

WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY MORNINGS

The Angels of Christmas

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

Growing Older & Wiser

Saturdays, 8:00am, Church Kitchen

see Dan Repass



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.



Acton helped with the Christmas meal at Robert's Park UMC.



Men's Saturday morning Bible study group served the January meal at Robert's Park UMC.



Thanks to Mary Ann Puckett for all the Pete the Penguins for our Preschool and for Ed Puckett for making them a new bookshelf.



The women assembled 125 care bags for cancer patients at their January Women's Breakfast.



We are blessed with such an amazing music ministry. These are just some of the people who are part of this ministry that makes worship so special.

