

March 2025

Acton in action

Newsletter of Acton UMC

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



Music
B I N G O

Sunday ~ March 2
5:30pm

\$5 per household or car load
bring an appetizer or snack to share

MARCH EVENTS

- 2nd Music Bingo
- 5th Ash Wednesday
- 9th Wear **ORANGE**
- 13th ... God's Bounty
- 16th ... Bake Sale
- 19th ... Fellowship Dinner
- 30th ... UMCOR Sunday

APRIL EVENTS

- 6th.... Health Focus Sunday
- 10th ... God's Bounty
- 16th ... Fellowship Dinner
- 20th ... Easter
- 27th ... Child Protection Train

TEAM MEETINGS

- Staff Parish March 4th
- Strategy Council March 20th
- Trustees..... March 18th
- Missions..... March 26th
- UW of Faith April 24th

See calendar on-line for times and more events.

5650 Senour Road
Indianapolis, IN 46239
317-862-2588



Fellowship Dinner **March 19th @6:00pm**

The young men of Troop 104 are hosting the March dinner. **Dinner is at 6:00pm.** All are welcome.



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

Scan to volunteer. See Charlie Walters with questions.



March Mission Focus **Shepherd Community Center**

We will be collecting Styrofoam plates & bowls, plastic utensils, and trash bags this month for the center to use.



Lent Series, Good Enough **Sunday, March 9th**

We invite to experience a Lent of affirming a faith in which we are blessed, regardless, and where we can lean into embracing our "good enough" lives.



March Health Focus **National Kidney Month**

Wear **orange** on March 9th for national kidney awareness. Get to know your kidneys by going to kidney.org/national-kidney-month to learn more.

From the pastor's desk



"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."

—John 14:27

The world is making many promises today. We are being told that swift changes to our national leadership structure is necessary and needed while some claim other nefarious motivations are at play. It is exhausting. It is scary. And most of all, it has become nearly impossible to find truthful and accurate reports on what is happening.

While it is true that government should be held accountable and audited for efficiency and trimmed of waste, there are many agencies that provide essential services for those who would otherwise be left to suffer. I think of the veterans that have served this country with honor, only to find themselves homeless and in need of help. While security and common good are necessary, de-humanizing those who need help is not the way of Jesus.

If you find that this administration at the federal or state level is misrepresenting your values as a Christian and as an American, you have a moral obligation to make your voice heard. To sit aside and say nothing is not the way our system is supposed to work.

Most of all, I want to remind you that no news service is unbiased, especially online. They shape their headlines to get you to click, which translates to numbers and higher rates for advertising. This causes our emotions to be stirred before our minds can ask, "Is this true?"

No matter what is going on, Christ is with us. And while we see things in our community and nation that are concerning, we have very little influence on their trajectory. What we can do is live our faith in our limited circles of influence and make sure our witness to Jesus Christ is based on his teachings, not interpretations that just don't match up with Christ. We do not have to live in fear with troubled hearts. Let's pray for our leaders and be busy in our community meeting as many needs as we can. Let us celebrate the humanity of each and every person and work to be ambassadors of peace.

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

Pastor 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 January 31st

Balance: \$6,645.45

Kairos Prison Ministry: \$600

UMCOR – CA Fires: \$3,000

CONGREGATION DIRECT GIVING

Thru January 31st

Loose Change:

Brightwood Community: \$193.15

UMCOR US: \$10

WAYS TO GIVE & SERVE

Monthly Food Pantry Collection

Amazing Mission Fund

Kroger Gift Card Program

God's Bounty – 2nd Thursdays

NEXT MISSION MEETING

March 26th, 6:00pm



UMCOR Sunday

On **March 30th**, Methodist churches do a collection that goes directly to the administrative costs of the **United Methodist Committee On Relief**. This organization provides help during disasters in the US and nationally. Learn more at umcmmission.org. You can give on March 30th or online at www.actonumc.com.

Kroger

Do you have a **Kroger card**? Do you have it linked to a charity? If not, **you can link it to Acton UMC** (#IP880). Look under Community Rewards on your Kroger account. This doesn't cost you anything! Our missions will receive money with every purchase and use it for God's Bounty. The office can help if you have any problems.

Shepherd Community Center


Shepherd Community Center is a faith-based, nonprofit organization established in 1985 with a simple but staggering goal – **to break the cycle of poverty on the near Eastside of Indianapolis** through a holistic approach that meets the physical, emotional, spiritual and academic needs of neighbors from cradle to career – and beyond.

In 1985, Westside Church commissioned Dean Cowles and 12 congregation members to begin compassionate ministry in the old Central Church at 6125 East Washington Street, offering food and clothing. The name changed to Shepherd Community Center in 1988, and Shepherd moved to 4107 East Washington Street in 2006.

This March Acton will be collecting Styrofoam plates and bowls, plastic utensils, and trash bags for the center to use. Bring in what you can during March and leave your donation at the display. Missions will take our collection to Shepherd the first week of April.

There are many ways to **serve at Shepherd** including serving a meal, stocking the food pantry, reading to a child, or doing a service project. You can sign up to volunteer and learn more at shepherdcommunity.org.





THE
reading
CIRCLE

March 10th
6:30PM
Audrey Roberts'
The Girl in the Lifeboat
Eileen Enright

Lenten Series ~ Good Enough


March 9.....Ordinary Lives Can Be Holy.....Luke 4:1-13
 March 16 ...So Much is Out of Our Control.....Luke 13:31-35
 March 23 ...Lots of Things Can be MedicineLuke 13:1-9
 March 30 ...We Believe We are the Problem.....Luke 15:1-3; 11-32

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION OPEN

3 year old class
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9-11:50

4 year old PreK class
Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 9-1:00

317-862-2588
www.actonumc.com

As of January 31, 2025


Income	\$36,593	13% of budget
Expenses.....	\$33,154	12% of budget

MARCH LOOSE CHANGE

Shepherd Community Center

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Margie Townsend	1 st
Barb Koertge	3 rd
Becky Repass	5 th
Susan French	14 th
Renee Knight	14 th
Lynne Newlon	15 th
Linda Maguire	19 th
Mollie Clark	21 st
Andy Crane	22 nd
Franklin Crane	26 th
Tricia McMahan	26 th
Harrison Crane	29 th

RADICAL HOSPITALITY

it's changes lives

MARCH GREETERS

2nd Dick & Josette R.
 9th Eric & Lynne N.
 16th Mark & Aimee H.
 23rd Floyd & Linda S.
 30th Gary & Karen F.

Mark Your Calendar

- Music Bingo - March 2
- Egg Hunt - April 19
- Child Protection Training - April 27
- 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 ORANGE

MARCH 9th

NATIONAL KIDNEY MONTH



MARCH 5
7:00PM
OR
6:30-8:30AM

Ash Wednesday



SWEET & SAVORY

AofK

MARCH 16TH



HEALING AND STRENGTH: Family of Joan Jennings (Mariann Meyer’s mom), Debi Harrison, Tim Jordan, Josette Randolph, Pastor Stultz, Mac McGuire, Kathy Phillips, 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.

CHILI COOK-OFF

A total of \$550 was raised at this year’s cook-off for our Preschool Ministry. Thanks to the Warners for heading this event.

PRAYER BLANKET

This ministry provides blankets to our friends and family that need comfort. Talk with Mary Ann Puckett to learn more on how you can help.

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.



YOUTH GROUP

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

MUSIC BINGO

~March 2nd
~5:30pm, AUMC

YOUTH GROUP

~March 9th
~5:30-7:00pm, AUMC

NO YOUTH GROUP

~March 16th & 23rd
~Enjoy Spring Break!

YOUTH GROUP

~March 30th
~5:30-7:00pm, AUMC



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.

March Lessons

- March 2ndBible Games after worship
- March 9thGo 2 by 2Diane Crane
- March 17thWomen Follow JesusSheila Sexton
- March 23rdJesus Washes FeetThe Crowles
- March 30thJesus Celebrates PassoverConnie Walters

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

9:45-10:30am

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

Mondays, 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



Preschool Fun



Youth Ice Skating



Chili Cookoff Winners

Acton in action 2025

Fellowship Dinners

3rd Wednesdays at 6:00pm

Bake Sales

3rd Sundays, Odd Months

MISSION FOCUSED

Monthly Mission Focus

- March - Shepherd Community
- 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

- Music Bingo - March 2
- Egg Hunt - April 19
- Kid's Klub- June & July
- Summer Spectacular - July 25
- Car Show - October 11
- Craft Fair - October 18
- Trick or Treat - October 31
- Advent Tea - December 7

MARK YOUR CALENDAR