

# May 2025

## Acton in action

Newsletter of Acton UMC

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



### summer KIDS klub

Wednesdays in June & July  
10-12:30pm  
games, lessons, crafts, lunch & more  
preschool thru 5th grade



REGISTER



CAMP  
FIRELIGHT

### MAY EVENTS

- 4<sup>th</sup> ..... Pack Away Hunger
- 8<sup>th</sup> ..... God's Bounty
- 11<sup>th</sup> ... Wear **RED**
- 18<sup>th</sup> ... Bake Sale
- 21<sup>st</sup> .... Fellowship Dinner
- 22<sup>nd</sup> ... Blood Drive

### JUNE EVENTS

- 4<sup>th</sup> ..... Kids Klub Kick-off
- 11<sup>th</sup> ... Health Focus Sunday
- 12<sup>th</sup> ... God's Bounty
- 18<sup>th</sup> ... Fellowship Dinner

### TEAM MEETINGS

- Staff Parish ..... May 6<sup>th</sup>
- Strategy Council .... May 8<sup>th</sup>
- Trustees ..... May 13<sup>th</sup>
- Missions ..... May 22<sup>nd</sup>
- UW of Faith ..... July 31<sup>st</sup>

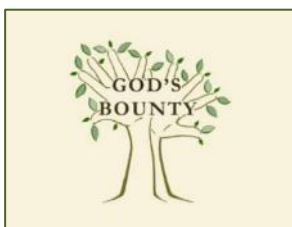
*See calendar on-line for times.*

5650 Senour Road  
Indianapolis, IN 46239  
317-862-2588  
[www.actonumc.com](http://www.actonumc.com)



### Fellowship Dinner May 21<sup>st</sup> @6:00pm

The women will be hosting the May dinner for God's Bounty. The women are serving fried chicken. All are welcome.



### God's Bounty May 7<sup>th</sup> 6-7:00pm May 8<sup>th</sup> 10am, 1-6:30

Scan to volunteer. See Charlie Walters with questions.



### May Mission Focus Amazing Missions Fund

Turn your pledge in for our Amazing Mission Fund any time in May. Pledge cards are available at church or email Kay Lynne Zietlow.



### Blood Drive May 22<sup>nd</sup>

Sign up to donate blood at our Spring drive. This is a community event so spread the word.



### My Health Focus Blood Pressure Education Month

Wear **red** on May 11<sup>th</sup> for Blood Pressure Education Month. Get your blood pressure checked after church that day.

# From the pastor's desk



*Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.*  
(1 Thessalonians 5:11)

How are you doing? Every year just after Easter, all that I pour into the different responsibilities and many worship services and fellowship events, I find myself rather empty. Satisfied and happy, but empty.

This year I had an interesting thing happen. Every 5 years the Conference invites those celebrating milestones in their Ordination to gather for a series of retreats to renew their strength; to deal with feeling empty. I can't believe it has been 20 years for me (27 since entering pastoral ministry). It seems like just yesterday that I was turning in my paperwork and praying it would be accepted and go well (The first time it did not but that is a story for another time.)

So this past week after Easter, I drove down to Madison to the state park and enjoyed a couple days with fellow clergy in prayer, communion and just relaxing. We were challenged to take care of ourselves so we could take care of our congregations. It's amazing how being focused on serving constantly, caring and loving, can make you blind to how ineffective you are becoming. That's not bad, but that is how you become burned out. By getting away, stepping aside for a bit, I was able to see I was not taking care of myself as much as I should. I just work whenever there are things to do and do not seem to have a set day off. If someone calls or messages, I pick up. Now that wouldn't be all bad if I also took my vacation time regularly and completely severed myself from work. But with all the excuses one can muster, I don't do that well either.

Are you with me? Are you feeling empty but lack the guidance to find your footing again? Are you the caregiver for others that need you so much that you don't dare take time for yourself? While I am far from being an expert on this, even Jesus took a moment to step away, to pray, even take a nap. You need to take care of yourself because if you do not, those who depend on you will not only have a lesser version of you, they may not have you at all.

Self-care that should include light exercise, eating things that have good nutrition and drinking plenty of water; managing emotional stress—talking to a mental health professional if things feel overwhelming, these are all part of your relationship with Jesus. Christ calls us to a more abundant life, and if we are to enjoy it, we need to be healthy enough to keep going.

None of us are perfect. But do you want to hear something really beautiful? God gave us, the broken and imperfect, one another in community where we can love each other, encourage each other, and get each other to a better place.

Let's encourage one another to take better care of ourselves!



Pastor 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.



### May Worship

May 4<sup>th</sup> ..... Stephen's Witness ..... Acts 6:1-7  
 May 11<sup>th</sup> ..... Ethiopian Eunuch Baptized.... Acts 8:26-39  
 May 18<sup>th</sup> ..... Council at Jerusalem..... Acts 15:1-18  
 May 25<sup>th</sup> ..... Living by Faith ..... Galatians 1:1-37; 2:11-21

## NEW Church Directory

☐ PICTURE TAKING IN MAY & JUNE  
☐ CALL THE OFFICE TO SCHEDULE

As of March 31, 2025

Income .....	\$84,857 .....	30% of budget
Expenses.....	\$72,592 .....	26% of budget

## MAY LOOSE CHANGE

The Compassion Center

### MAY BIRTHDAYS

Trudi Wolfe – 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 Cherilynn Spicer – 6<sup>th</sup>  
 Matt Smith – 12<sup>th</sup>  
 Terri Smith – 13<sup>th</sup>  
 Linda Stephenson – 15<sup>th</sup>  
 Ruth Crowel – 31<sup>st</sup>

### RADICAL HOSPITALITY

It's changes lives

#### MAY GREETERS

4<sup>th</sup> ..... Cheryl H. & Joyce H.  
 11<sup>th</sup> .... Dan & Becky R.  
 18<sup>th</sup> .... Dick & Josette R.  
 25<sup>th</sup> .... Eric & Lynne N.

The OTHER Serenity Prayer

God, grant me the serenity to  
 stop beating myself up for not  
 doing things perfectly, the  
 courage to forgive myself  
 because I'm working on doing  
 better, and the wisdom to know  
 that you already love me just  
 the way I am. -unknown

Wear **Red** on May 11<sup>th</sup>

BLOOD PRESSURE EDUCATION MONTH

get your blood pressure checked after  
church in the office

CAMP  
FIRELIGHT

WEDNESDAYS IN JUNE & JULY

10-12:30pm

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED

Purchasing & Preparing Crafts  
 Setup & Cleanup on Wednesdays  
 Spending time with the kids learning about Jesus  
 Praying for all the volunteers & children

SEE SHEILA SEXTON





# RISK TAKING MISSION AND SERVICE

SERVING OTHERS IN THE NAME OF CHRIST



## Mission Giving

### AMAZING MISSION FUND GIVING

Thru March 31<sup>st</sup>

Balance: \$9,137.70

Kairos Prison Ministry: \$600

UMCOR – CA Fires: \$3,000

Robert's Park Meal - \$170

ECHO - \$25

### CONGREGATION DIRECT GIVING

Thru March 31<sup>st</sup>

Loose Change:

Brightwood Community: \$193.15

Fletcher Place Meals - \$163.63

Shepherd Community - \$180.53

ECHO: \$5,975

UMCOR US: \$30

UMCOR Sunday: \$545

### 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

May 22<sup>nd</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  
Fletcher Place*

## Blood Drive

Our Spring Blood Drive will be held on Thursday May 22<sup>nd</sup>. You can sign up on-line by scanning the QR code below or see Susan French. This is a community event so please ask your friends, family, and neighbors to sign up.



## Simply Give

Meijer's Simply Give program for God's Bounty is underway through the end of June. You can purchase a \$10 Simply Give card at the Southport Meijer and God's Bounty will get \$20 in groceries. Double match day is June 14<sup>th</sup>. You can still bring in food donations in May and June.



## Robert's Park Soups On Ministry

Robert's Park United Methodist Church established their food ministry in 1999, called Soup's On. Since its beginning, Soup's On has prepared and served nearly 150,000 meals to their neighbors in need. Meals are served on Sunday afternoons to about 150 guests each week. The guests are invited to eat and spend time together enjoying a safe and comfortable dining environment.

Acton has worked with the Soups On ministry over the last several years to provide, prepare, and serve a few meals each year. A group went in April to serve and their hospitality and help was greatly appreciated.

Robert's Park's Soups On ministry has also been added to our loose change and \$1 collection on Sunday mornings. This collection targets the daily feeding of people who need a place to find food.



# I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY

## WHEN WE GATHER TOGETHER, WE ARE STRONG

### Amazing things are happening!

The Amazing Mission Fund has been used to support the missions of Acton.

- Africa University
- American Red Cross
- Barnes UMC
- Brightwood food pantry
- Burkina Wells
- Community Assistance
- Compassion Center meals
- Crop Walk
- Doctors without Borders
- ECHO
- East 10<sup>th</sup> Street UMC meals
- Fletcher Place food pantry
- Fletcher Place Christmas
- Franklin Township Fast Track
- Friends on a UMission
- God's Bounty
- Habitat for Humanity
- Impact Outdoor Ministries
- Kairos Prison Ministry
- Little Free Library
- Lucille Raines Residence
- Metro Ministries
- Mission Trips
- Operation Christmas Child
- Pack Away Hunger
- Partners in Health
- Peace with Justice
- Promise Packs
- RIP Medical Debt
- Robert's Park Soups On Ministry
- Sacred Heart Migration
- Salvation Army
- Save the Children
- SAWS
- UMCOR Kits
- UMCOR Disaster Relief
- UMCOR Sunday

## Acton has been Amazing in Missions since 2012

In 2012, AUMC's Mission Team establish the Amazing Mission Fund (AMF). This fund is a pledged backed fund used to support the various mission ministries at Acton.



## A total of \$208,744 has been given out through the Amazing Mission Fund over the last 13 years

The **AMAZING MISSION FUND** is funded by the congregation and their ongoing commitment. This pledge is separate and in addition to our regular giving to the church budget. The intent is not to detract from our regular gifts and tithes on which the very bases of our church finances depend, but to strengthen our level of commitment.

*God wants us to experience God's love  
then use that value to inspire ourselves to  
love our neighbor as well as ourselves.*

## May is AMF Pledge Month

The yellow pledge cards are available at church and can be put in the offering plate. You can also email your pledge to Kay Lynne Zietlow at klz23@icloud.com. If you would like to know more about the Amazing Mission Fund, see a mission team member in red on Sundays this month.

\$208,744 given to missions



**HEALING AND STRENGTH:** Jerry Grau, Suzie McKay, Kevin McMahan, 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:** 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.

#### SPRING FLING

The women are having a spring luncheon at Kopper Kettle on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11:30pm. We will be ordering off the menu. Please let Margie Townsend know if you are interested in coming so she can make the reservation.

#### 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.



#### 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

~May 4<sup>th</sup>  
~5:30-7:00pm, AUMC

#### NO YOUTH GROUP

~May 11<sup>th</sup>

#### YOUTH GROUP

~May 18<sup>th</sup>  
~5:30-7:00pm, AUMC

#### NO YOUTH GROUP

~May 25<sup>th</sup>



#### 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.

### May Lessons

May 4<sup>th</sup> .....Bible Games after worship  
May 11<sup>th</sup> .....Thomas Believes .....Diane Crane  
May 18<sup>th</sup> .....The Great Commission.....Sheila Sexton  
May 25<sup>th</sup> .....Believers Share.....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

##### *The Book of Matthew*

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 Character*

Saturdays, 8:00am, Church Kitchen

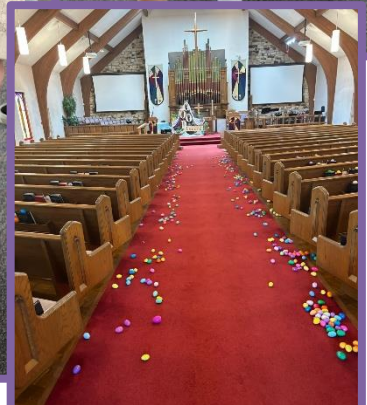
see Dan Repass







Barb delivering our March collection to Shepherd Community



Egg Hunt



Kids singing with the choir on Palm Sunday