

Acton in action

Newsletter of Acton UMC

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

OCTOBER 2023

Fall Family Fun 4

It's time for a campfire and hayride at Southeastway Park on October 15th, at 5:00pm. RSVP to the church office.

Need a Shot? 5

Get your flu or pneumonia shot on October 8th after worship. Remember your insurance card.

Crop Walk 8

Join us at the Wednesday Fellowship Dinner this month as we focus on The Crop Walk.

Craft Fair 11

Come do some early Christmas shopping and enjoy breakfast or lunch. Spread the word!

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

From the pastor's desk



Christ is Everything BY PASTOR MATTHEW STULTZ

Therefore, do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food or drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or Sabbaths. These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the body belongs to Christ. (Col. 2:16-17)

We are now in the month of October. Our series “Bumper Sticker Theology” is off and running, Fall Break is around the corner, and so is Halloween.

Halloween is a great time of the Fall season. While some want to paint it as a holiday of the devil, which it isn't (when looking to the ancient Irish Celts, we find it was a way to cope with the death of loved ones and the mystery of death as well as harvest celebrations and getting ready for winter) we prefer to embrace the season and polish it up as a family-friendly event.

We have had a great time each Fall for Trunk-or-Treat, providing a safe place for parents and kids to come and enjoy some candy and fellowship. We utilize the event that is already happening in our community and coming alongside to offer not an alternative, but an extra. We are offering a community of care and a purpose higher than ourselves. We are offering a place where people can be reminded of their value and worth, sharing the love of Jesus.

That's what Paul is trying to convey in Colossians: **Christ is Everything**. Whether we are opening the doors to a Pinewood Derby, a Christmas Eve or Easter service, or a Halloween party, Jesus is at the center of what we do. We don't care where Halloween may have originally come from (After all, December 25th isn't the birthday of Jesus but a pagan celebration of the birthday of the god Saturn), but it is how we claim it. If you still think Halloween is the “devil's holiday” think of it this way: We just stole, it from him and gave it to Jesus.

Most of all, Paul reminds us that as Christians, for our own community as well as how we project our beliefs into the community: put away anger, malice, and foul talk and to show kindness, meekness, patience, forgiveness, and love in imitation of Christ (Colossians 3:8, 12).

I am really looking forward to a great Trunk-or-Treat event for us all to gather and enjoy the time as well to greet and meet new families in our community.

In Christ,

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

Pastor Matthew



UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

OCTOBER EVENTS

- 1stSingles
- 7thLadies Fall Party
- 8thFlu Clinic
- 12thGod's Bounty
- 15thSweet & Savory Bake Sale
- 15thFall Family Fun Event
- 21stCraft Fair
- 31stTrunk or Treat

NOVEMBER EVENTS

- 2ndBlood Drive
- 9thGod's Bounty
- 15thFellowship Dinner
- 19thSweet & Savory Bake Sale

DECEMBER EVENTS

- 5thAdvent Tea
- 14thGod's Bounty
- 17thSweet & Savory Bake Sale
- 20thFellowship Dinner
- 24thRobert's Park Meal

TEAM MEETINGS

- Staff Parish..... October 3rd
- Strategy Council.... November 9th
- Trustees October 17th
- Missions October 25th
- UMW Board October 9th

See calendar for times and more events.



STUDY GROUPS

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

Wednesday mornings @ 10:00 (Church)
Women's – *The Believers Authority*

Friday mornings @ 9:30 (Church kitchen)
Women's – *Living the Psalms*

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

Checkout page 8 for more details

Trunk or Treat

October 31 ~ 6-7:30pm

Candy - Hot Dogs - Free

Call the Office to Volunteer

JOIN THE LADIES OF ACTON for an evening of fun and fellowship. The Fall Party will be on October 7th, 4:00pm at the Crowel Farm. Ladies of all ages are invited. There will be pumpkin carving, a campfire, food, and more! Just bring a lawn chair. Please RSVP to the office or Felicia at 317-431-4339.



Church Bulletin Funnies

Please place your donations in the envelop along with the deceased person you want remembered.

FALL

FAMILY FUN

RSVP TO THE OFFICE

SOUTHEASTWAY PARK SHELTER #5

OCTOBER 15 ~ 5:00PM

BRING A SIDE OR DESSERT & A LAWN CHAIR
HOT DOGS & SMORES
CAMPFIRE & HAYRIDE

SPONSERED BY AUMC YOUTH
SEE DIANE CRANE WITH QUESTIONS



FOOD NEEDED

We will be focusing on collecting food for God's Bounty food pantry through out October. Leave any donations in the Missions Nook by the coat rack.



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- Kaylynn Clark 1st
- Jill Hagan 4th
- Becca Hohlt 15th
- Alex Spicer 15th
- Diane Crane 16th
- Jeanne Carman 20th
- Dave Spicer 20th
- Tim Jordan 21st
- Mac Maguire 26th
- Dawn McCarty 26th

**FALL BLOOD DRIVE
NOVEMBER 2nd**

Scan the QR code or see Susan French to donate. Donating is easy and can help save a life.



Do you like to sing? Join our Advent Choir this season. It's a nice way to enjoy the season and a short time commitment. Practices start in November. Talk to Debi Harrison if you are interested.

**WEAR ORANGE
OCTOBER 8th**

October is Bully Prevention Month. This national event is meant to inspire more people to get involved in spreading awareness about bullying and educating others on what their role could be in preventing it. Bullying can be verbal, physical, or social and is largely a problem in schools. It's hard for kids to find an escape from bullying with the advent of technology and cyberbullying.



Learn the warning signs that a child you know might be being bullied or may be bullying others. You can find out more at <https://thriveworks.com>.

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



If you are not doing anything on Halloween night, come join us for Trunk-or-Treat. Sign-up to host a trunk and enjoy an evening of fun. This is a popular community event and the more trunks the more fun! Call the office or see Felicia to sign-up.



As of AUGUST 31, 2023
 Income \$196,25768%
 Expenses..... \$182,20264%



Please pray for Larry Gilliam and the other volunteers and participants in the upcoming Kairos Weekend at the Plainfield Facility, October 12th-15th.



Join us for this year's Crop Walk event at the October Fellowship Dinner on Wednesday, October 18th at 6:00pm. Missions is hosting to bring more focus to the Crop Walk. Chili is on the menu. Bring your walking shoes, as a few of us may take a turn around the church to help end hunger one step at a time.



CONGREGATIONAL CARE

PRAY FOR YOUR CHURCH FAMILY & FRIENDS



HEALING AND STRENGTH: Shawna Harrison, Cheryl Herron, Chris Osbourn (Grubb's daughter), Theresa Birdwell, Linda Hicks, Greg McConaughy, Paula McIntosh, Mike Finnigan (Stephenson's son-in-law)

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

SHEPHERD'S COMMUNITY

October will be the first month for our newest loose change and dollar collection member, Shepherd's Community Center. They offer a variety of programs for children, teens, adults, and families. They focus on food security, education, advocacy, and mentoring. They are at 4107 East Washington Street on the eastside. Programs such as Summer Excel and YLiFe provide adventure and learning opportunities for nearly 200 neighborhood students, grades 1-12.

GOD'S BOUNTY HELP

WEDNESDAY, October 11th
6-7:00pm

THURSDAY, October 12th
8:00am & 1-6:30pm

If you can volunteer,
see Mary Jo Ensch

Loose Change and \$1
September – Shepherd's Community

DONATE TO GOD'S BOUNTY



This month, we will be focusing on upping our food collection for God's Bounty. Grab a bag from the mission nook and fill it full of grocery staples. High need items include peanut butter and jelly, macaroni and cheese, and chunky soups. If you would like to learn more about the food pantry, see Mary Jo Ensch or Gayle Kerns.

PASSIONATE WORSHIP

FROM THE PULPIT

OCTOBER

1 ST	Don't put a question mark where God put a period.	Job 42:1-5
8 TH	Let go. Let God!	Isaiah 43:1-3, 5-7, 18-19
15 TH	Jesus loves you but I'm his favorite.	Acts 10:34-35, 44-48
22 ND	Everything happens for a reason.	Ecclesiastes 3:1-15
29 TH	When God closes a door, God often opens a window.	Acts 16:4-15

NOVEMBER

5 TH	God helps those that help themselves.	Mark 10:35-45
12 TH	God needs another angel.	Revelation 21:1-6
19 TH	All part of God's plan.	Jeremiah 29:1-7
26 TH	Normal isn't coming back. Jesus is.	Mark 13:24-33

PRAYER SERVICE EVERY THURSDAY ~ 6-6:30PM

RADICAL
HOSPITALITY
it's changes lives



GREETERS

OCTOBER

1st Cheryl H & Joyce H
8th Victoria P & Phyllis T
15th Eric & Lynne N
22nd Mark & Aimee H
29th Rich & Betty Lou R

NOVEMBER

5th Chuck & Cynthia R.
12th Floyd & Linda S.
19th Gary & Karen F.
26th Dan & Becky R.

HOSPITALITY IS A WORK IN OUR HEARTS

In the article, *The What and Why of Biblical Hospitality*, Logan Murphy states, "We know we are to be hospitable to strangers, but consider what Peter says in 1 Peter 4:9: "Show hospitality to one another without grumbling." Peter writes that we are to show hospitality to one another. Hospitality is not only for people we have recently met but also **for people we regularly see!**

You are called to show love to the new kid at school, your Muslim neighbor, your atheist cousin, an illegal immigrant, a political refugee, or someone with a criminal history. But you are also called to love and receive the widow that sits beside you on the pew at church, or the young couple with children that live far from their families.

Serve these people. Feed them, clothe them, and invite them into your home. But most importantly, invite them into your hearts by loving them with the love of Christ Jesus. Biblical hospitality is not merely a work of our hands but involves a work in our hearts."

Follow us on



RISK TAKING MISSION AND SERVICE

SERVING OTHERS IN THE NAME OF CHRIST



Mission Giving

AMAZING MISSION FUND GIVING

Thru August 31st

Balance: \$5,871.95
 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
 Habitat for Humanity: \$1,500
 Meijer Simply Give: \$3,725
 God's Bounty Take Away: \$203.21
 Marion County Fires: \$1,000
 Partners in Health: \$1,000
 Echo: \$1,000

CONGREGATION DIRECT GIVING

Thru August 31st

Loose Change:
 Brightwood: \$860.48
 Fletcher Place: \$763.57
 Vida Nueva: \$385.97
 UMCOR International: \$100
 UMCOR US: \$205
 UMCOR Sunday: \$1,435.50
 Meijer Simply Give: \$4,275

WAYS TO GIVE

Monthly Food Pantry Collection
 Amazing Mission Fund
 Kroger Gift Card Program

WAYS TO SERVE

God's Bounty – 2nd Thursdays
 Mission Meeting – October 25th

www.actonumc.com

Fall Blood Drive

This Fall's Blood drive will be on November 2nd. Sign-up on-line to donate or talk with Susan French. This is a community drive, so please ask your neighbors, family, and friends to consider signing up.



Robert's Park UMC

Acton helps provide a sack lunch to those in need at Robert's Park UMC several times a year. We will be preparing and serving the lunch on December 24th. If anyone is interested in helping to prepare or to hand out the sack lunches, please see Bruce McKay.

CROP WALK

The Greater Indianapolis Crop Walk for the Hungry helps eliminate hunger around the world and around the corner. The walk is sponsored by Church World Services and supports local organizations such as Gleaners Food Bank, the Church Federation of Indianapolis, the St. Vincent DePaul Society, the Indian Christian Leadership Conference, and Second Helpings.

Acton UMC will be doing our walk at the Fellowship Dinner on October 18th. Come and learn more about The Crop Walk. This is a free will offering meal and monies collected will go to Crop Walk.



If you are not able to join us at the Fellowship Dinner, you can still donate to the cause. Simply put your donation in the Sunday offering plate and mark it for The Crop Walk. You may also give on-line at www.actonumc.com or text CROPWALK to 44321. If you have any questions, Bill Howell is our contact and can be reached at 317-407-0534 or at abhowell6102@sbcglobal.net.

LOVE TO TELL THE STORY

SHARING OUR BLESSINGS WITH OTHERS

The Annual Christmas Shopping Program at Fletcher Place Community Center allows struggling families to shop for Christmas presents for their children at no cost.

It isn't too soon to look forward to the Season of Giving when you look into the faces of those who are not so fortunate as we. That is what the volunteer staff of Fletcher Place Community Center are preparing for beginning in October.

AUMC has been an important cog in the wheels that make the Christmas Shopping Program happen for those who need help on the Indianapolis South Side.

In years past, our congregation has donated food, clothes, sports balls, and blankets to supply Christmas for the clients at Fletcher Place.

This year the coordinators have asked Acton to do something special! They would like for us to provide shirts, blouses, and tops for 75 little girls for Christmas. Other UMC's will be providing other specific items for children.

In order to deliver our gifts to Fletcher Place to prepare for their Christmas Outreach, we will need to have the purchases turned in by Sunday, November 26th. Set up for the Shopping Event begins the week of November 27th.



YOU CAN HELP!

Pick up a tag starting Sunday, October 29th at church. The tag will have a size needed for a little girl.

Volunteers are always needed to get everything ready for the big day. AUMC has had several folks help at Fletcher Place during set-up week. If you would like to help, please contact Barb Wiley at 317-407-4726. It's fun and it will bless many!

Over 400 families participated in the Christmas Shopping Program last year.

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.*

BACK TO REGULAR SCHEDULE

Sundays, 5:30-7:00pm, at Church
See Andy or Diane Crane
Bring your friends!



THROUGH OUT THE WEEK

WEDNESDAY'S WOMEN OF FAITH

The Believers Authority

Wednesdays, 10:00am, Church
see Becky Repass

WOMEN'S FRIDAY MORNINGS

Living the Psalms

Fridays, 9:30-11:00am, Church Kitchen
see Connie Walters

MEN'S SATURDAY MORNINGS

Book of James

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 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 Crowel
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



The annual ladies **Advent Tea** will be on December 3rd. This is a beautiful evening of entertainment, festive tables and fellowship. If you are interested in hosting a table, please see Felicia Crowel or Margie Townsend. Tickets will go on sale November 5th.

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 – October 15th
- ~Passing on Kindness to others
- ~Third Sundays
- ~Call Audrey Roberts to help

Reading Circle

- ~October 2nd, 6:30 at Cheryl Herron's home
- ~*Judge Not Says the Deacon* by Anne Meyer
- ~See Audrey Roberts for more information

Hosting Fellowship Dinners

- ~November 15th
- ~See Connie Walters if you can help

Craft Fair

- ~October 21st
- ~Main mission fundraiser
- ~See Felicia Crowel to help

Advent Tea

- ~December 1st
- ~Tickets on sale November 5th

BIBLE STUDIES

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

CRAFT FAIR

OCTOBER 21st 9-3:00pm

Enjoy breakfast and
lunch while you do
some Christmas
shopping.

Call Felicia to
volunteer!

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 OCTOBER

Coins for Shepherd's Community
Food for God's Bounty
Walk for The Crop Walk

FELLOWSHIP DINNER

October 18th, 6:00pm

October Lessons

Lord, you have done so many things! You made them all so wisely! The earth is full of your creations! Psalm 104:24

- October 1 Bible Games
- October 8 CreationGenesis 1:1-25
- October 15 In God's Image.....Genesis 1:25-2:4
- October 22 NoahGenesis 6:5-8:22; 9:8-17
- October 29 A Time for Everything.....Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

BIBLE STORY



Genesis 6:5-8:22; 9:8-17

Who found favor with God?

What did God tell Noah to do?

How old was Noah?

How long did the rain fall?

How many days did they wait on the ark?

What is the sign of the everlasting covenant?



Bible Games are the first Sunday each month in the Children's Chapel upstairs after worship.



Youth in action



It's always a good time to play capture the flag!

SAVE THE DATE

YOUTH GROUP

~October 1st
~5:30-7:00p, AUMC

NO YOUTH GROUP

~October 8th
~Enjoy your break!

FALL FAMILY FUN

~October 15th
~5:00pm, Southeastway Park

YOUTH GROUP

~October 22nd
~5:30-7:00pm, AUMC

YOUTH GROUP

~October 29th
~5:30-7:00pm, AUMC



If you aren't trick-or-treating this year, come and help at our annual Trunk-or-Treat. Decorate a "trunk" and come greet our neighbors and hand out candy. Make sure to sign-up!

FALL FAMILY FUN SOUTHEASTWAY

OCTOBER 15TH
5:00PM

HOT DOGS ~ SMORES ~ HAYRIDE
SIGN-UP~INVITE A FRIEND
BRING A LAWNCHAIR



BRING A
FRIEND
TO YOUTH
GROUP

Please see Andy or Diane Crane if you have questions about the Youth Group. All youth ages 6th-12th grade are welcome!

Ministries for our Community

Aviation Enthusiast

Troop 104 Scout Jackson was a special guest on channel 8's local newscast All Indiana to share his enthusiasm and perspective as a young aviation enthusiast looking forward to the upcoming Blue Angel's air show.



Whittle Away

The Bears of Pack 104 went to Indy Forge to earn their whittling chips.



Fishing & More

The ladies of Troop 219 earned their fishing merit badge and learned to fish, as well as prepare and cook their catch.



Preschool Fun

Enjoying God's Goodness

Fellowship Dinner



Delicious food always brings the crowd.





Sunday Fun

Our kids enjoying the new Kids Korner.

Pictures are always appreciated! Send them to crowel862@gmail.com

Follow us on  

OCTOBER 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 9:30 Communion 11:15 Singles 3:00 Troop 104 PLC 5:30 Youth	2 6:30 Reading Circle 7 :00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219	3 5:30 GS Troop 1849 6:00 Staff Parish 6:30 Pack 104 Dens	4 10:00 Women Study 6:00 GS Brownies	5 6:00 Prayer Service 8:00 AA	6 9:30 Women Study	7 8:00 Men Study LADIES FALL PARTY 4:00pm
8 9:30 Worship	9 7:00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219	10	11 10:00 Women Study 6:00 GS Brownies	12 6:00 Prayer Service 8:00 AA GODS BOUNTY 	13 9:30 Women Study	14 8:00 Men Study
15 9:30 Worship 5:30 Youth Group BAKE SALE FALL FAMILY FUN 5:00pm	16 7:00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219	17 5:30 GS Troop 1849 6:00 Trustees 6:30 Pack 104 Dens	18 10:00 Women Study 6:00 GS Brownies CROP WALK FELLOWSHIP DINNER – 6:00pm	19 6:00 Prayer Service 8:00 AA CRAFT FAIR SETUP	20 9:30 Women Study CRAFT FAIR SETUP	21 8:00 Men Study CRAFT FAIR
22 9:30 Worship 1:00 GS Troop 200 5:30 Youth Group	23 7:00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219	24	25 10:00 Women Study 5:45 Sagebrook HOA 6:00 Missions 6:00 GS Brownies	26 6:00 Prayer Service 8:00 AA	27 9:30 Women Study	28 8:00 Men Study
29 9:30 Worship 5:30 Youth Group	30 7:00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219	31 5:30 GS Troop 1849 6:30 Pack 104 Dens 	1 10:00 Women Study 6:00 GS Brownies	2 6:00 Prayer Service 8:00 AA BLOOD DRIVE	3 9:30 Women Study	4 8:00 Men Study