

Acton in action

Newsletter of Acton UMC

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

SEPTEMBER 2023

Simply Give **4**
Southport Meijer Simply Give program runs through the end of September.

Wear Red **5**
Wear red on September 10th in recognition of AFib Awareness Month.

Bumper Stickers **7**
Check out the upcoming sermon series starting September 10th.

Youth News **13**
See what our youth have been doing and what they have planned for September.

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From the pastor's desk



Bumper Sticker Series

BY PASTOR MATTHEW STULTZ

It's a good thing to learn scripture. When we are kids we learn Bible verses at Vacation Bible School, Kids Klub, Sunday school, youth group, church camp, we are constantly given short verses to memorize.

While that is really good to keep Scripture close, sometimes things in life are more complicated, even painful, to just use a couple words from scripture. We can, without even meaning to, harm others when we are using the Bible to try and help.

This Fall we will walk through some of these phrases that may or may not have been printed on bumper stickers and t-shirts; things that seem cute but may fall short of addressing an issue or a feeling. These phrases may not reflect the heart of God very accurately.

It's a good thing as we get closer to Advent that we consider how we use the Bible, how it is that we reflect God's love to others, and how we allow ourselves the time to wrestle with what the Bible is really trying to teach us.

I hope this will be a fun and meaningful series for us to share!

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

Pastor Matthew



UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

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

OCTOBER EVENTS

- 1stSingles
- 7thLadies Fall Party
- 12thGod's Bounty
- 15thSweet & Savory Bake Sale
- 21stCraft Fair
- 31stTrunk or Treat

NOVEMBER EVENTS

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

TEAM MEETINGS

- Staff Parish..... September 5th
- Strategy Council September 14th
- Trustees September 19th
- Missions September 27th
- UMW Board October 9th

BUMPER STICKER SERMON SERIES

You remember that Bible phrase you saw on the bumper sticker when you were sitting in traffic? Did it reflect the heart of God accurately? Starting September 10th, we will walk through a sermon series that looks at some of these phrases. And we will consider how we use the Bible. Join us!

HONK if you  **JESUS**

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 James*

Checkout page 8 for more details



craft fair

October 21, 2022

from 9am to 3pm

entry \$1

Handmade Crafts • Jewelry • Fine Art • Sweet Treats

FELLOWSHIP DINNER



ALL ARE WELCOME

SEPTEMBER 20TH

6:00PM

The women
are serving Italian

Benefits Craft Fair Café

YOUTH GROUP

IS HEADING BACK TO THE CHURCH

Starting September 10th, the Youth Group will be meeting back at the church on Sunday evenings, 5:30-7:00pm. Come for dinner, games, a lesson, and of course fun and fellowship. All youth 6th-12th grade are welcome. Make sure to bring your friends!



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 evangelism.

Invitational Evangelism

Invitational Evangelism just means inviting others to experience God's love and become disciples of Jesus Christ.

Ask someone to one of our dinners, events, a study group, or Sunday morning worship. Always have a smile for our guests.



Church Bulletin Funnies

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- Theresa Birdwell 2nd
- Roger Redinger 11th
- Adam Clark 13th
- Steve Frosch 15th
- Peg Marshall 18th
- Cheryl Herron 23rd
- Wyatt Crowel 27th
- Gary Fulk 27th



MEIJER SIMPLY GIVE
Thru September 30th
Meijer matches each \$10 card

Be
KIND

PICK UP YOUR
KINDNESS SLIP

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.



As of JULY 31, 2023
Income\$174,186 61%
Expenses\$160,977 56%

WEAR RED
SEPTEMBER 10th



September is AFib Awareness Month. AFib is an irregular heartbeat or a condition in which the heart muscles fail to contract in a strong rhythmic way. Speak to your doctor if your heart races for no apparent reason with symptoms like shortness of breath, lightheadedness, dizziness, or unusual fatigue.

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

If you are not getting emails from the church, make sure to let the office know. We use email to send prayer requests, details about upcoming events, and weekly reminders. Call the office at 317-862-2588 or email us at aumc@actonumc.com.



Acton
SINGLES

OCTOBER 1st

The Singles group will be gathering at church, after Sunday School, on October 1st. More details to come. Please talk with Trudi Wolfe or Susan French if you have questions about this our Singles Group.

Thank you to everyone who donated items to our preschool. The donations are very helpful and a great start to the school year. We have 21 PreK students and 9 in our 3s class.



Follow us on  

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

PRAY FOR YOUR CHURCH FAMILY & FRIENDS



HEALING AND STRENGTH: Family of Mike Hulskotter (Mark's dad), Family of Gary Cunningham (Rae Ann Woodrow's dad), Shawna Harrison, Cheryl Herron, Chris Osbourn (Grubb's daughter), Theresa Birdwell, Kevin Hitt (Randolph's son-in-law), 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



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. Program runs through September 30th.

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

GOD'S BOUNTY HELP

WEDNESDAY, September 13th
6-7:00pm

THURSDAY, September 14th
8:00am & 1-6:30pm

If you can volunteer,
see Mary Jo Ensch

Loose Change and \$1
September – Brightwood Community



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

SEPTEMBER

10 TH	I can do all things with a verse taken out of context.	Philippians 4:1-13
17 TH	God is my copilot.	Matthew 5:1-2; Psalm 69:1-3, 13-16
24 TH	Too blessed to be stressed.	John 16:29-33

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

SEPTEMBER

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

OCTOBER

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

SERVING IN HOSPITALITY

Do you have a smile you could share with others on Sunday morning? We are always in need of additional people to serve on our **Greeter Team**. The greeters get here a bit early and wait at the main doors to shake hands with folks and welcome everyone. You even get your own name tag! Then, after, worship, you stand at the door and wish everyone well as they leave. If you are interested, please call the church office, or speak with Josette Randolph.

There is also room on our **Usher Team** if you would like to serve in a different capacity on Sunday morning. Ushers get the church ready on Sunday morning, greet people and hand out bulletins, collect the offering, and are available to help with questions or emergencies. If you are interested, please call the church office or speak with Dan Repass.

RISK TAKING MISSION AND SERVICE

SERVING OTHERS IN THE NAME OF CHRIST



Mission Giving

AMAZING MISSION FUND GIVING

Thru July 31st

Balance: \$6,414.89
 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
 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 July 31st

Loose Change:
 Brightwood: \$860.48
 Fletcher Place: \$451.01
 Vida Nueva: \$385.97
 UMCOR International: \$100
 UMCOR US: \$195
 UMCOR Sunday: \$1,435.50
 Meijer Simply Give: \$2,275

WAYS TO GIVE

Monthly Food Pantry Collection
 Amazing Mission Fund
 Kroger Gift Card Program

WAYS TO SERVE

God's Bounty – 2nd Thursdays
 Mission Meeting – September 27th

Loose Change

Shepherd Community Center will be added to our loose change offering. They will rotate with Fletcher Place and Brightwood Community Centers starting in October. Shepherd is a faith-based non-profit established in 1985 with the goal to break the cycle of poverty on the near Eastside of Indianapolis.

Fuller Farm

Congratulations to the Fuller Farm for recently receiving their 501c3 not-for-profit designation. They have easily exceeded their goal of providing 1,000 pounds of produce to the Interchurch Food Pantry in Johnson County. They have given 1,847 pounds so far and there is still more to harvest. See Travis will any questions.

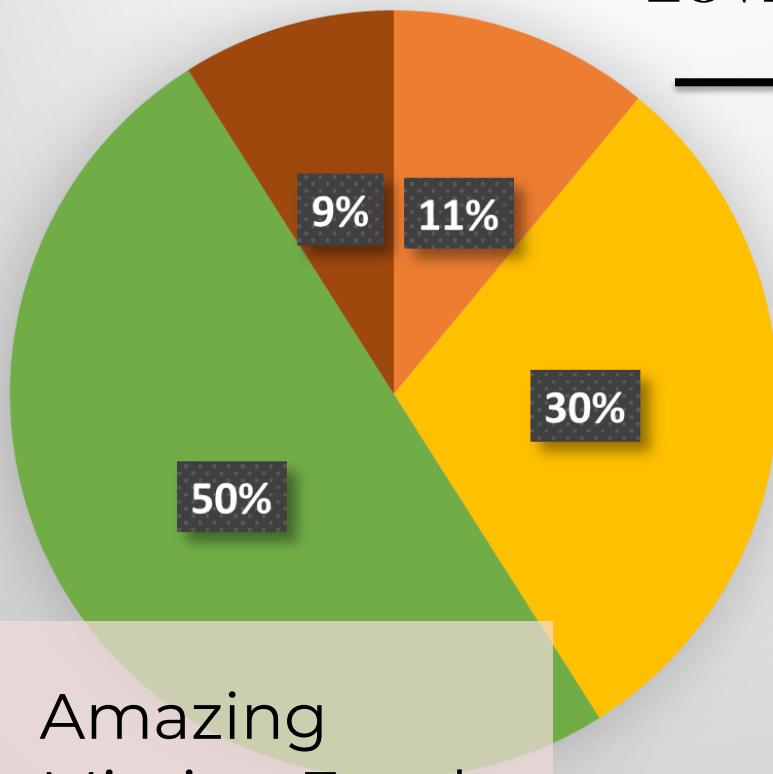
Youth Serve at Robert's Park

On Sunday, August 27th, our youth, with the help of some adult volunteers, provided and served a community meal at Roberts Park UMC. Over 100 meals of sandwiches, applesauce, chips, cookies, and hot soup were served.



LOVE TO TELL THE STORY

SHARING OUR BLESSINGS WITH OTHERS



- HUNGER RELATED
- NATURAL DISASTERS
- HEALTH, EDUCATION, HOUSING, ETC
- CHRISTMAS

Amazing Mission Fund

The money used from the Amazing Mission Fund from June 1, 2022, through May 31, 2023, was split half and half between immediate or survival assistance and long-term sustainability assistance.

These break down into further categories including hunger related, natural disasters, health, education, housing, income creation, and independence are in one group, and lastly assistance for Christmas.

\$30,634.78



Hunger relating giving includes the Crop Walk and Robert's Park UMC Sunday Community Meal.

Natural Disaster giving was done through UMCOR for including administrative on UMCOR Sunday, international and US disasters.

Health & Wellness, Education, Housing, Independences, and Income Creation includes ECHO, Habitat for Humanity, SAWS, Crop Walk, Kairos, Little Free Library, and Lucille Raines Residence.

Christmas giving was for Fletcher Place Blankets and Balls and the Salvation Army Angel Tree.

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

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 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 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 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 Craft Fair is scheduled for October 21st and plans are underway. This is the UMW's main fundraiser and allows us to support our mission projects and mission giving throughout the year. If you would like to help, see Felicia Crowel and we'll find you a place. This is a fun event to shop, even if you can't help!

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 – September 17th
- ~Passing on Kindness to others
- ~Third Sundays
- ~Call Audrey Roberts to help out

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

- ~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 October 26th, 6:30pm
- ~Always a beautiful evening

BIBLE STUDIES

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



FALL PARTY

October 7th

4:00pm

Crowel's

Ladies of all ages and friends are invited for an evening of fun!



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 September
Coins for Brightwood Community
Food for God's Bounty

FELLOWSHIP DINNER
September 20th, 6:00pm

September Lessons

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

September 3..... Bible Games

September 10..... Mephibosheth2 Samuel 9:1-13

September 17..... Love Your EnemiesMatthew 5:43-38

September 24..... Blessed AreMatthew 5:9

BIBLE STORY



Matthew 5:1-12

Who was Jesus teaching?
How many beatitudes are there?

What's your favorite?

Why are we to rejoice and be glad?



The first Sunday each month in the Children's Chapel upstairs right after worship



Youth in action

The Youth at fun ending the summer with a Skillet concert at the State Fair.



SAVE THE DATE

NO YOUTH GROUP

- ~September 3rd
- ~Have Labor Day Weekend!

YOUTH GROUP

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

YOUTH GROUP

- ~September 17th
- ~5:30-7:00pm, AUMC

YOUTH GROUP

- ~September 24th
- ~5:30-7:00pm, AUMC

BACK AT CHURCH SEPTEMBER 10th

We will be meeting back at the church, 5:30-7:00pm for dinner, games, fellowship, and a lesson. Friends are always welcome!



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

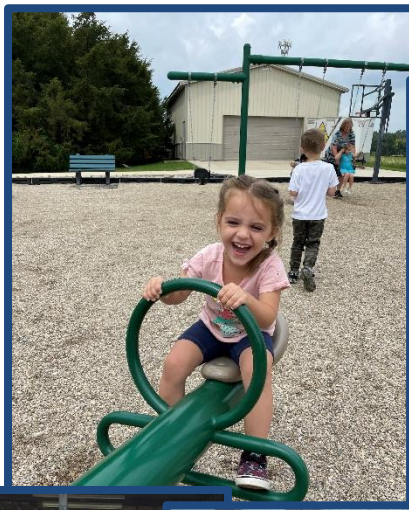
Congrats

Troop 104 had eight new Firecrafters this past August.



Popcorn Time

Make sure to ask your local scout for some popcorn. Over 73% of money raised goes to scouting.



Preschool Fun

The weather has been great for playing on the playground!

Enjoying God's Goodness

BBQ Dinner

August's Fellowship Dinner was BBQ!. Thanks to Pastor Matthew and Heather for all the delicious BBQ.



Youth Serving

Our Youth served over 100 meals at Robert's Park UMC on August 27th.




Lunch Time

Rev. Dr. Aleze Fullbright, Central District Superintendent, used AUMC as her homebase for meetings and was treated to a lunch by Pastor Matthew and Heather. Blake, Staff Parish Chair, and the office staff were able to join.



SEPTEMBER 2023

SUNDAY		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3 9:30 Communion 3:00 Troop 104 PLC	4 7:00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219	5 5:30 GS Troop 1849 6:00 Staff Parish 6:30 Pack 104 Dens	6 10:00 Women Study 6:00 GS Brownies	7 6:00 Prayer Service 6:30 Craft Fair Plan 8:00 AA	8 9:30 Women Study	9 8:00 Men Study	
10 9:30 Worship 5:30 Youth Group	11 7:00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219	12	13 10:00 Women Study 6:00 GS Brownies	14 6:00 Prayer Service 7:00 Strategy Council 8:00 AA GODS BOUNTY 	15 9:30 Women Study	16 8:00 Men Study	
17 9:30 Worship 2:00 Court of Honor 5:30 Youth Group BAKE SALE	18 7:00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219	19 6:00 GS Troop 1849 6:00 Trustees 6:30 Pack 104 Dens	20 10:00 Women Study 6:00 GS Brownies FELLOWSHIP DINNER – 6:00pm	21 6:00 Prayer Service 8:00 AA	22 9:30 Women Study	23 8:00 Men Study	
24 9:30 Worship 1:00 GS Troop 200 5:30 Youth Group	25 7:00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219	26	27 10:00 Women Study 6:00 Missions 6:00 GS Brownies	28 6:00 Prayer Service 8:00 AA	29 9:30 Women Study	30 8:00 Men Study	
1 9:30 Communion 11:30 Singles 3:00 Troop 104 PLC 5:30 Youth	2 6:30 Reading Circle 7:00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219	3 6:00 GS Troop 1849 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	