

March 2026

Acton *in action*

Newsletter of Acton UMC

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

MARCH

- 8th Wear **BLUE**
- 8th Singles Breakfast
- 12th God's Bounty
- 15th UMCOR Sunday
- 15th Bake Sale
- 18th Fellowship Dinner
- 22nd Robert's Park Meal
- 23rd Reading Circle

APRIL

- 2nd Maundy Thursday
- 3rd Good Friday
- 4th Egg Hunt
- 5th Easter Sunday
- 9th God's Bounty
- 12th Health Focus Sunday
- 15th Fellowship Dinner
- 18th Music Bingo

TEAM MEETINGS

- Staff Parish. March 3rd
- Trustees March 17th
- Mission March 25th
- UW of Faith. April 6th

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



EASTER
• EGG HUNT •

TAKE EGGS HOME TO FILL

CANDY DONATIONS ARE NEEDED

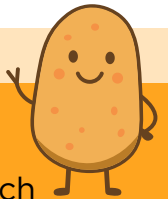
April 4th - 12:00pm

See Dan Repass if you can help

FELLOWSHIP DINNER

March 18th, 6:00pm

The women of Acton are hosting the March fellowship dinner on March 18th, at 6:00pm. They are having a baked potato bar. Money collected for this free-will offering meal is for God's Bounty.



MISSION FOCUS

UMCOR Sunday

March 15th, United Methodist churches will support the United Methodist Committee on Relief through a special collection. All money is used for administrative costs to keep donations during the year 100% for the designated cause.



GOD'S BOUNTY

March 11th 6-7:00pm
March 12th 10am, 1-6:30pm

Scan to volunteer during our week at God's Bounty food pantry. See Charlie Walters with any questions or for a tour.



HEALTH FOCUS

Hearing Awareness

More than 1 in 7 people in the US have hearing loss. Learn more about hearing loss and testing and wear **BLUE OR TURQUOISE** on Sunday, March 8th.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Whatever task you must do, work as if your soul depends on it, as for the Lord and not for humans, since you know that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward; you serve the Lord Christ.

Colossians 3:23-24

Effective Ministry

Pastor Matthew Stultz

Last month I shared that our Strategy Council is discerning and studying a streamlined leadership governance structure for better transparency in communication, mission, and efficiency. It has taken many hours of reading and nearly a meeting a week to get a good grasp on what this shift is, what it would mean for us, and if it would be beneficial.

At this point we can determine that the change would be beneficial so we will now bring in our Congregational Council for continued discernment and discussion, checking on potential issues and adjustments.

Pending consensus and approval with the Congregational Council, we will put together information to share with the church at large for questions and final adjustments.

This process has been communicated and approved by our District Superintendent (to investigate), we have studied other United Methodist Churches where similar changes have proven beneficial over many years, and we will continue to communicate to you at each step.

I want to end this short letter to simply say the leadership of this church truly has a heart for Jesus Christ. Any and all shifts, adaptations, or changes, are solely for the sake of efficiency (not change for the sake of change) and will be communicated to you with as much transparency and openness as possible.

Please keep praying as this is a tremendous amount of work and we continue to seek the Spirit's guidance at each turn.

As we prepare to celebrate the 200th year of Acton (United) Methodist's ministry and we look back at generations of excellence in leadership, we also look to the future to prepare for all that God will call us forward to serve.

Pastor Matthew

SMILING FACES OF ACTON

STUDY GROUPS

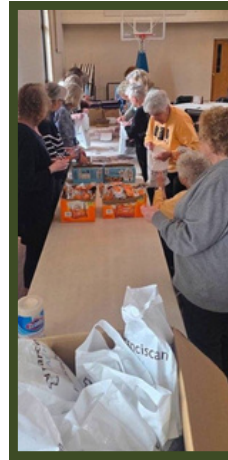
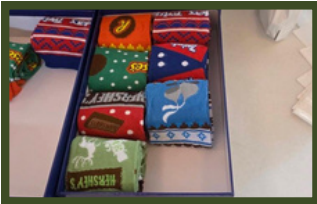
Join in with one of our many small groups.



SOUP-ER FUN



Thanks to all who made a crock-pot of soup for our Soup-er Bowl soup cook-off. The winning soups included potato, cheeseburger, and chicken and wild rice. All the soups were delicious and \$500 was raised for our preschool.



MISSION WORK

The women had a good time assembling 100 cancer care bags for Community Hospital and enjoying some fellowship.



YOUTH AND OUR KIDS

Whether it is Scout Sunday, the children's message, youth group, or Children's Church, our youth and kids always have fun!



GOOD TO KNOW

PRAYER LIST

HEALING AND STRENGTH

Becky Repass, Sally Grau, Carla (Randolph's daughter), Lynn Cunningham (Rae Ann Woodrow's mom), Karen Fulk, Reneee Knight, Beverly Aldous (Barb Wiley's sister), Kevin McMahan, Kathy Phillips, Mary Wright, David Phillips, Stan Enschede, Cheryl Herron, Chris Osborn (Grubb's daughter)

OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Cherilynn Spicer, Madison Hulskotter, Ethan Warner, Kaylynn Clark, Henry Crane, Molly Smith, Brianna Stultz, Nick Hulskotter, Luke Jordan, Maycie Wilson

OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL

N. Crane, B. Kerns, M. Kerns, L. Lamkin, A. Walters

If you would like to be added to our prayer list or to the prayer agapenet emails, please call the church office. If you have a confidential prayer request for Pastor Matthew, you may also call the church office.

Sermon Schedule

March 1st - *Jesus Washes Feet* - John 13:1-17

March 8th - *Peter's Denial* - John 18:12-27

March 15th - *Jesus and Pilate* - John 18:28-40

March 22nd - *Jesus Condemned* - John 19:16b-22

March 29th - *Palm Sunday*



HOLY WEEK

Easter is April 5th. We will hold our traditional Maundy Thursday service on April 2nd and our Tenebrae Good Friday service on April 3rd.



200th ANNIVERSARY

Next year, Acton UMC will be 200 years old! We have lots of activities planned in 2027. If you would like to help, see Larry Suits. Watch for announcements in the coming months as we get ready.



BECOME FEARLESS

Starting April 12th, we will spend four weeks learning how to be FEARLESS as we overcome our fear with faith. Topics include fear, hate, failure, and death.



United
Women
in Faith

At Acton, there are opportunities for all women including helping with dinners, a reading circle, our blanket ministry, Acts of Kindness team, fellowship events, mission projects, our Craft Fair, and our annual Advent Tea. Please think about how you may enjoy becoming a part of the Acton United Women of Faith. If you have any questions, please speak with our President, Barb Thompson.



READING CIRCLE



March 23rd
6:30pm

@Margie Bartnick's

When Dandelions Sing
by James J. Hill III

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

1st Margie Townsend
 3rd Barb Koertge
 5th Becky Repass
 14th Susan French
 14th Renee Knight
 16th Stephanie Ashton
 19th Linda Maguire
 21st Molly Clark
 22nd Andy Crane
 25th Herb Gaunt
 26th Franklin Crane
 26th Tricia McMahan
 29th Harrison Crane



Acton SINGLES



March 8th ~ 11:30am
Breakfast at Denny's on US 31
Please RSVP to Trudi W. or Susan F.

Adult Choir

SINGING PALM SUNDAY

PRACTICE STARTS

MARCH 4th

@7:00pm

SEE DEBI FOR INFO

MARCH LOOSE CHANGE THE COMPASSION CENTER



**HEARING
AWARENESS**

**WEAR BLUE
MARCH 8TH**

GREETERS

March 1st

Dick & Josette R.

March 8th

Eric & Lynne N.

March 15th

Mark & Aimee H.

March 22nd

Floyd & Linda S.

March 29th

Gary & Karen F.

ONLINE

There are many online resources available to enhance your devotional and bible study time.

Here are two we have free access to.

- amplifymedia.com
(use code CDNFPY)
- sharechurch.com



ROBERTS PARK MEAL SERVED

Our men's Saturday morning bible study served about 100 meals on February 22nd at Roberts Park. The next chance to serve a meal is March 22nd. If you are interested in helping, please reach out to Barb Wiley.



AMAZING MISSIONS

LAST CALL FOR SIMPLY GIVE

This is the last month to purchase a Meijer Simply Give card at the Southport Meijer. Through March 28th, all cards will go to support God's Bounty food pantry. God's Bounty is the local food pantry in Franklin Township.

For every \$10 card purchased, the pantry will get \$20 in groceries. Double match days are March 7th and March 21st. On these days, \$10 cards will provide \$30 worth of groceries to the pantry.



Cards are available at church or near the check out lanes at Meijer.

COINS & \$1 SO FAR

This quarter our loose change and dollar bills collected on Sunday mornings will go to the Compassion Center here in Indianapolis. The Compassion Center is located in the Garfield Park neighborhood and provides a hot meal to those in need. We have supported the center for many years including preparing and serving meals, sock and underwear collections, and financial support.

So far this quarter we have collected \$201.27. We collected a total of \$410.29 in 2025. You can give on Sunday mornings with loose coin and \$1 bills in the offering plate or by scanning the QR code and giving online to loose coin.

FOOD DRIVE IS COMING

Get ready for April as we work with our Scouts to collect food for God's Bounty as part of Scouting for Food. Can we collect more than the 1535 pounds of food we did in October?

MISSION GIVING THRU JANUARY 31ST

Amazing Mission Fund

Balance: \$11,367.85

God's Bounty: \$270.32

Congregation Giving

Loose Change:

Compassion Center: \$201.27

UMCOR US: \$15

UMCOR Sunday: \$100

Ways to Give & Serve

Monthly Loose Change Offering
Food Pantry Collection
Amazing Mission Fund
Kroger Gift Card Program
God's Bounty - 2nd Thursdays

Loose Change Offering Give on Sundays or on-line

God's Bounty Food Pantry
Roberts Park Soup's On Ministry
Compassion Center
Fletcher Place Meals Program

Next Mission Meeting

March 25th, 6:00pm



GIVE ONLINE TO MISSIONS

MARCH MISSION FOCUS



What is UMCOR Sunday?

UMCOR Sunday is March 15th

One Sunday a year, the United Methodist Churches have a special collection that goes to support the administrative costs of UMCOR so that 100% of donations during the year, support disaster recovery. Mark your donations for UMCOR Sunday or give online designated for UMCOR.

United Methodist Committee on Relief

When a community is impacted by a natural or civil disaster, the United Methodist Church is there to alleviate suffering and offer critical support through UMCOR, the United Methodist Committee on Relief.

UMCOR helps in the United States and across the world with flooding, hurricanes, typhoons, wildfires, and tornado disasters. They also provide support for civil disasters such as the Gaza Crisis and the Ukraine War. In 2024 UMCOR responded to 89 natural disasters and awarded over \$32.96 MM in disaster response grants.

HISTORY

UMCOR's Beginning

Founded in 1940, the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is the global humanitarian relief organization of The United Methodist Church. Learn more at umcor.org.



How to get involved

You can be part of an early response team, help build relief supply kits, or serve with a mission team. Learn more at umcmmission.org/get-involved/volunteer.

LEARN AND GROW IN YOUR FAITH

SUNDAYS

ADULT CURRENT EVENTS

The Wired Word

Sundays, 10:35-11:15am

Kitchen

Sandy Grubb & Charlie Walters

YOUTH

A STUDY OF NARNIA

The Magician's Nephew

Sundays, 10:35-11:15am

Youth Room off Kitchen

Denise Gaunt

KID'S OWN WORSHIP (4yr-5th)

After Children's Message

Sundays, 9:45-10:30am

Children's Chapel upstairs

Sheila Sexton

The Education Team is available to help resource adult and children ministries with curriculum and materials for study. If your group is interested in suggestions or recommendations, please see Pastor Matthew or Samantha Warner. All materials promoted through AUMC communications will line up with the Social Principles of The United Methodist Church.

STUDY GROUPS

A variety of groups meet during the week to study God's word and grow in faith together. All are welcome! Reach out to the leader listed or the office.

WOMEN'S TUESDAY EVENING

The Last Supper - Conversations that Lead to the Cross

Tuesdays, 7:00pm, at Diane Crane's home

See Diane Crane or Felicia Crowel

WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY MORNING

The Sacred Art of Listening

Wednesdays, 10:00am, at church

See Becky Repass

LEARNING WITH PASTOR MATTHEW

More in depth on the Sunday message

Thursdays, 6:30pm, in the sanctuary

See Pastor Matthew

WOMEN'S FRIDAY MORNING

Luke - Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts and Outlaws

Fridays, 9:30am, at church

See Connie Walters

MEN'S SATURDAY MORNING

Friendship - Growing Side by Side

Saturdays, 8:00am, at church

See Dan Repass

YOUTH GROUP

Our youth, 6th-12th grade, meet on Sunday evenings, 5:30-7:00 for dinner, a lesson, games, and more. It is a fun evening of fellowship. See Andy or Diane Crane with questions.

Cooks Needed
SUNDAY EVENINGS
FOR THE YOUTH
PLEASE SEE DIANE CRANE

