

October 2026

Acton *in action*

Newsletter of Acton UMC

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



craft fair
October 24
from 9am to 3pm
Acton UMC
5650 Senour Road, Indianapolis

BOOTH RENTALS
ARE AVAILABLE

CONTACT THE
CHURCH OFFICE

OCTOBER

- 2nd Kids Night Out
- 4th Women's Fall Party
- 8th God's Bounty
- 10th Troop 219 Car Show
- 11th Wear **PINK** for Breast Cancer
- 15th Blood Drive
- 21st Fellowship Dinner
- 24th Craft Fair
- 25th Fall Youth Event
- 31st Trick-or-Trick

NOVEMBER

- 8th Wear WHITE for Lung Cancer
- 12th God's Bounty
- 15th Bake Sale
- 18th Fellowship Dinner
- 22nd Hanging of the Greens
- 29th First Sunday in Advent

DECEMBER

- 6th Advent Tea
- 10th God's Bounty
- 13th Health Awareness Sunday
- 16th Christmas Pitch-In
- 24th Christmas Eve Worship

TEAM MEETINGS

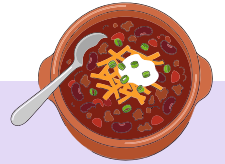
- Property Mngmt. October 20th
- AUMC Board. October 22nd
- Mission October 28th
- UW of Faith. October 12th

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

FELLOWSHIP DINNER

October 21st, 6:00pm

The Missions Team will be hosting the October dinner for the Crop Walk. Chili is on the menu. Bring your walking shoes, we may have a group walk. All are invited to this free-will offering meal.



MISSION FOCUS

Crop Walk

This year's Crop Walk is on October 4th. If you would like to walk, please see Bill Howell to sign up. Donations can be made online, Sunday mornings, or at the October Fellowship Dinner.



GOD'S BOUNTY

October 7th 6-7:00pm
October 8th 10am, 1-6:30pm

Scan or click the QR code to volunteer during our week at God's Bounty. See Charlie Walters or Sheila Sexton for info.



HEALTH FOCUS

Breast Cancer Awareness



Did you know there are over 4 million breast cancer survivors in the US? Wear **PINK** on October 11th and learn more.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?" — Isaiah 43:19

Holding on to the Old, Embracing the New

Pastor Tina Patterson

When I was called into ministry years ago, I had no idea where God would lead me. All I knew was that God had called me to preach. At the time, I was still working in corporate America, and I had no idea how my professional life and this new calling would come together. I prayed, studied Scripture, meditated, and practiced spiritual disciplines as I sought to cultivate and deepen my relationship with God. Yet, when it came to my future, I received no clear revelation about where God was taking me.

Looking back, I believe part of the reason may have been that I simply was not yet in a spiritual place where I could hear what God was saying. I wanted answers, but perhaps God was first preparing me to trust Him without having all the answers.

One thing I did know was that seminary was part of the journey.

That realization was somewhat ironic. After completing my bachelor's degree, I had confidently declared that I would never go back to school. I had even bypassed opportunities to pursue an MBA or attend law school. But when God called me into ministry, I began to understand that a call to preach was also a call to prepare. So, seminary became the next step.

I entered seminary to pursue my Master of Divinity degree, but I also entered with my own ideas about how I hoped God would work everything out. I had a picture in my mind of what ministry would look like, where I would serve, and perhaps even how the journey would unfold.

But God had something different in mind. Isn't that often how God works?

We make plans based on what we can see, while God works from a perspective far greater than ours. We sometimes hold tightly to what is familiar because it feels safe and predictable, even when God is inviting us into something new.

There comes a time when we have to ask ourselves: **What am I holding on to that God is asking me to release?**

Sometimes the "old" is not necessarily something bad. It may be a previous season, a familiar role, an expectation, a dream, or even a picture of what we thought our future would look like. But just because something was right for one season does not mean it is where God is calling us in the next.

God continually calls us forward.

The challenge is that embracing the new often requires releasing the old.

We cannot fully step into what God has prepared for us while constantly trying to hold on to what God is asking us to leave behind. Faith requires trust—not only in God's ability to lead us, but also in His wisdom to know where we need to go next.

My journey into ministry has taught me that God's plan does not always unfold according to our timetable or in the way we imagine. Sometimes God gives us the next step without showing us the entire path.

And perhaps that is the point.

God may not reveal everything because He wants us to walk by faith.

As I reflect on my journey, I am reminded that the God who called me years ago is still the God who leads me today. What began with simply knowing that I was called to preach has become a continuing journey of preparation, transformation, obedience, and trust.

I am learning—and perhaps we all are—that **holding on to the old can keep us from fully embracing the new thing God is doing.**

So, what might God be asking you to release?

What familiar thing, expectation, fear, or former season are you still holding on to?

And what new thing might God be inviting you to embrace?

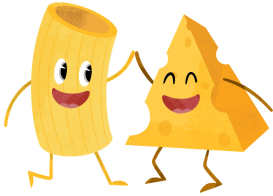
The future may not look the way we imagined it would. But we can trust the One who already knows the way.

Sometimes, letting go is not the end of the journey. It is the beginning of something new.

SMILING FACES OF ACTON

MAC-N-CHEESE

Thanks to everyone who donated to the kid's collection for God's Bounty. The kids are learning about Joseph and the famine.



SINGLES

The Singles group went to Rustic Gardens in August and recently hiked down in Brown County. See Susan French or Trudi Wolfe if you would like to join the group on the next adventure.



YOUTH HAVING FUN

The Youth had a fun time playing games at the Fellowship Dinner.



Pictures of what our congregation is doing throughout the month are always appreciated. Please send pictures to Felicia (crowel862@gmail.com) and she will try to use them.

GOOD TO KNOW

PRAYER LIST

HEALING AND STRENGTH

Cole Dewell (Fansler's grandson), Steve Taylor (Fansler's brother), Bryson Martin (Kids Klub attendee)

CONTINUAL PRAYERS

Alison Martin (Hixsons' daughter), Denise Gaunt, Karen Fulk, MaryIn Kerlin, Josette Randolph, The Reasoners, Chris Rosemeyer, Jeanne Carman, Bill Ayres, Richard Stephenson, Linda Miller, The Shonfelds, Barb Koertge, Stan Ensich, Kevin McMahan, Kathy Phillips, David Phillips, Cheryl Herron

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 Tina, you may also call the church office.



BLOOD DRIVE

Sign up to donate blood at our Fall Blood Drive on October 15th. This is a community event and all welcome to sign up.



CAR SHOW

Troop 219 is hosting their Car Show at Acton UMC on October 10th. If you want to register, pick up a flyer at church.



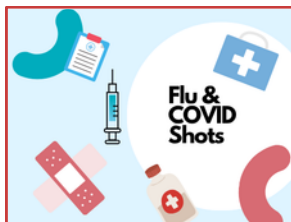
CRAFT FAIR HELP NEEDED

If you can help get ready for the Craft Fair or work on October 24th, please see Felicia Crowel. Work is in 2 hour shifts, so you will have time to shop.



200th ANNIVERSARY VIDEO

For our 200th celebration, we will play videos of members ringing the bell. If you haven't done it yet, see Larry Suits. In October, stop by Fellowship Hall and record a video of a memory of Acton.



FLU CLINIC

Our Flu Clinic will be on October 18th after worship. Bring your insurance card. Please see our Parish Nurse, Margie Townsend if you have any questions.



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.

LADIES OF ALL AGES ARE INVITED

Fall Party

PUMPKIN CARVING

FUN

CAMPFIRE

FELLOWSHIP

DINNER

AND MORE!

OCTOBER 4 @ 4:00PM

CROWEL FARM
8025 SOUTH MITTHOEFFER ROAD
PLEASE RSVP TO 317-431-4339

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1st Kay Lynne Clark
14th Connie Walters
15th Alex Spicer
16th Diane Crane
20th Dave Spicer
21st Tim Jordan
26th Dawn McCarty
31st Denise Gaunt
31st Nick Hulskotter

Trick or Treat

October 31
6-7:30pm

INSIDE

Candy - Hot Dogs - Free

ACTON UMC

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

WEAR PINK ON
OCTOBER 11



OCTOBER LOOSE CHANGE FLETCHER PLACE COMMUNITY CENTER

GREETERS

September 27th
Tom & Gayle K.

October 4th
Ed & Mary Ann P.

October 11th
Eric & Lynne N.

October 18th
Jennifer & Madeline H.

October 25th
Floyd & Linda S.

BUDGET

as of August 31st

Income
\$225,142

Expenses
\$177,132



This Halloween, Acton will hold their Trick-or-Treat event. The event provides a safe and fun way for the kids in our community to trick-or-treat on Halloween evening. Many families have mentioned over the years how much they appreciate this event. We will be looking for volunteers to host a "table" or help with food and hospitality the first part of October. Please consider how you might help.

AMAZING MISSIONS

DO YOU SHOP AT KROGER?

If you shop at Kroger make sure to link your Kroger Plus Card to Acton UMC. Acton is part of the Kroger Community Rewards program so every time you use your card, Acton receives funds for God's Bounty. Directions are available at church if you need help.

BLOOD DONATIONS NEEDED

Our Fall Blood Drive is on October 15th. If you have ever considered donating, please sign. This is a community event so pass on the word to family and friends. Sign up through our website or scan the QR code.



GIRLS CLOTHES

In November we will be collecting girls clothes for the Fletcher Place Christmas. Look for more information toward the end of October.

MISSION DINNER

Join us on October 21st for the Fellowship Dinner. The dinner will be hosted by Missions. This is a free-will offering meal and will benefit The Crop Walk. Chili is on the menu and all are invited.



FLOOD SUPPORT



Missions voted to use Amazing Mission Funds to help out with the Indiana floods. Missions sent \$2,000 to UMCOR and \$1,000 to the Red Cross.

MISSION GIVING THRU AUGUST 31ST

Amazing Missions

Balance: \$22,436.59

God's Bounty: \$270.32
Kairos Prison Ministry: \$750
UMCOR US: \$5,000
UMCOR International: \$3,000
Roberts Park Meals: \$457.87
Pack Away Hunger: \$4,000
Exodus Refugee: \$4,000
Cool Summer Bags: \$402.06
Local Church Fire: \$500
Metro Ministries Grant: \$2,000

Congregation Giving

Compassion Center: \$642.80
UMCOR US: \$2,390
UMCOR Sunday: \$820
Crop Walk: \$378
Shepherds: \$100.62
God's Bounty (Advent): \$6,729.68
God's Bounty: \$4,042.07

Ways to Give & Serve

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

Next Mission Meeting

September 23rd, 6:00pm



**CLICK Or SCAN TO GIVE
ONLINE TO MISSIONS**

OCTOBER MISSION FOCUS

Central Indiana CROP HUNGER WALK



THE CROP WALK

Have you heard of The Crop Walk? The Greater Indianapolis Crop Walk is an organized walk that supports local organizations such as Gleaners Food Bank, the St. Vincent DePaul Society, and Second Helpings.

Grab a friend or two for this annual walk to get one step closer to ENDING HUNGER. If you would like to participate in the Crop Walk this year, speak with Bill Howell or go to their website to sign up at <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/chw/event/indianapolisin>.

Do I have to walk?



The official walk is on October 4th. If you are not able to join the walk, you can still make a donation. You can give online through our website, come to the Fellowship Dinner, or put your donations in the Sunday plate. Please mark donations for The Crop Walk.

It's time for chili



Missions is hosting the October Fellowship Dinner on October 15th at 6:00pm. Funds from the free-will offering meal will be for The Crop Walk. Bring your walking shoes and we may have a short honorary walk!

LEARN AND GROW IN YOUR FAITH

SUNDAYS

ADULT CURRENT EVENTS

The Wired Word

Sundays, 10:35-11:15am

Kitchen

Sandy Grubb & Charlie Walters

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 Tina 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

Half Truths

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

See Diane Crane or Felicia Crowel

WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY MORNING

The Mystery of God's Will

Wednesdays, 10:00am, at church

See Becky Repass

WOMEN'S FRIDAY MORNING

Seeing Gray in a World of Black and White

Fridays, 9:30am, at church

See Connie Walters

MEN'S SATURDAY MORNING

Spiritual Warfare

Saturdays, 8:00am, at church

See Dan Repass

YOUTH GROUP

Our youth, 6th-12th grade, meet on Sunday evenings, 5:30-7:00 at the church. They have dinner, a lesson, games, and fellowship. See Andy or Diane Crane with questions.

NOT MEETING
OCTOBER 11TH

FALL YOUTH EVENT

OCTOBER 25TH

@DIANE'S FAMILY FARM
NAPOLEON, IN

MEET AT CHURCH @4:00PM
TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED
RETURN BY 9:00PM

PUMPKIN CARVING
BON FIRE
HOT DOGS & MARSHMALLOWS
HAYRIDE