



First United Methodist Church
127 N 4th St
Vandalia, IL 62471



*First United Methodist Church of Vandalia:
"Planting and nurturing seeds of faith, cultivating devoted
disciples of Christ, and feeding souls for the glory of God"*



On July 17, 1938, Douglas Corrigan of Galveston, Texas made a publicized solo flight from New York City's Bennett airfield flying to Los Angeles. It was to be non-stop and in a 1929 Curtiss Robin airplane that he had rescued and refurbished from a trash heap. Corrigan was brash and boisterous and generated much interest in his flight. Unfortunately, he took off into the clouds and proceeded to misread his compass (he had no other navigational equipment on board, including no radio). He had flown mostly in clouds, and not noticed the ocean and not fields of corn beneath him. He arrived not in Los Angeles, but in Dublin, Ireland twenty eight hours later. Supposedly, he climbed out of his plane and announced to the bemused air traffic authorities in Dublin, "where am I?" He would forever be dubbed "Wrong Way" Corrigan!

July is half way through the year, is not that amazing in itself; and a good occasion to ask ourselves. "Where am I?" "Am I where God wants me to be?" "Am I doing what God is calling me to do?" Or am I still veering off in my own direction? We still have half the year to make our changes. We have half the year left. 180 odd days. 4,300 plus hours. And we have the best navigational device ever invented, "prayer", to get us on track. We cannot use excuse, "where am I?" in negotiating with God over the direction of our lives.

So ask of yourself, "am I spending enough time in God's Word?" What is your habit of reading Scripture, or a daily devotional based on Scripture. Ask yourself, "am I serving enough each week?" A good starting point is an hour in service in some way (can be in prayer for ministries, engaged in local mission work or helping someone out).

Ask yourself, "how am I employing my treasures for God?" And build into the remaining days of the year air traffic controls (such as weekly worship, accountability partners, daily prayer) so that long before your life sails away again, you are in control (or better yet God is in control). As the old bumper stickers proclaimed, "Jesus is NOT my co-pilot. I am His!". And if need be, make the navigational corrections now.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Tom

Church Staff

Pastor: Tom Goodell: vandaliaumcpastor@gmail.com
Administrative Assistant: Casey Kistler: vandaliafumc@outlook.com
Secretary: Sue Miller (Tues. & Fri.)
Director of Music: Louise Weiss: gctheorygal@hotmail.com
Director of Young Children's Ministries: Amanda Milam
Preschool Director: Cindy Laramee
Custodians: Mike & Sharon Hagy
Assistant Custodian: Andy Sidwell

Inside this issue:

Prayer Concerns Shut-ins	2
Operation Christmas Child	3
Worship Notes New members	4
N.O.W. Committee Backpacks	5
Habitat Volunteers U.M.M. News	6
VBS pictures	7

Contact us

M-W-TR: 8a—4p
T-F: 8a-12p
Phone: 618-283-3684
Email: vandaliafumc@outlook.com
Website: www.vandaliafirstumc.org



Nursing Home Residents & Shut-ins:

Brookstone (1607 W. Fillmore)
Diane Adams (Apt.15); Carlos Biellier (Apt. 2);
Margaret Carroll (Apt. 10);
Arlene Hoffman (Apt.4); Iris Rademacher
(Apt. 36), Mary Ann Rhoades (Apt. 41),
Frank Roeder (Apt. 25)

FCH/Long Term Care (650 West Taylor)
Audrey Fink (Rm. 408)
Marian Miller (Rm. 507)

Dolan Memory Care Homes

(Dublin—11330 Dolan Way, St. Louis, MO
63146)
Phyllis Rames

Willowbrook

(1124 Sunset Dr., Vandalia)
Deb Endres
Larry & Sandy Peyton
Norman Rhoades

Shut-Ins:

Mike Beckett, 2625 W. Jefferson St., Vandalia



Patti Bohner (Diane Adams' daughter,
mobility issues)

Dan Brantley Family

Roger Clark (surgery)

Gary Doolen (cancer)

Margie Dowell (Amanda Milam's
grandmother; health concerns)

Mona Durbin (friend of Sue Miller and Jaime
Warren; breast cancer; chemotherapy)

Mason Feltner (Kelly Clark's nephew;
chemotherapy for A.L.L. leukemia)

Carson LaDage (Sharon and Bill's grandson;
brain stem tumor remains stable, as he
remains in a clinical trial at St. Jude)

Mary Miller (treatment for lung cancer)

Martha Ortegren Family

Heather Overlin (Larry Osborne's daughter;
health concerns)

TJ Pryor (Tony & Johanna Eckhardt's
nephew; chemo and radiation for cancerous
tumor on brain)

Norman Rhoades (Parkinson's Disease)

Susann Schumacher (pulmonary fibrosis)

**A devotion submitted by Andy Sidwell taken from the April edition
of The Upper Room:**

Family Time

In Mark chapter 3, Jesus' family members were looking for him when he was among the people, teaching them the word of God. When Jesus heard that his family members were searching for him, he responded by saying that his mother and brothers were seated around him and listening to him. Jesus did not allow his family members to draw him away from his spiritual family because he saw the necessity of giving his time to both of his families. He had dedicated this time to his spiritual family. I love the time I spend around my own family, but I also realize the need to spend time with my church family. When I have the opportunity to spend time with my spiritual family, I do not allow others to distract me. And however busy I may be, I make time for my spiritual family. Through fellowship with them, I receive encouragement and nourishment as we share the word of God. Through Jesus Christ, we are members of God's family and in that family we experience joy.

2
0
2
1



V
B
S

This year's Vacation Bible School was held on Saturday, June 12. The theme was Rocky Railway: Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through. A HUGE thank you to all of our volunteers! Without all of you, VBS would not be possible! Station leaders: Crafts, Brandi Gathe and Tessa Opfer, Games, Amanda Milam and Katie Myers, Bible Story, Jaime Warren and Rebekah Miller, Song and Dance, Blanche Dugan and Sue Miller. Group leaders: Jody Burnam, Susan Casey, Samantha Crothers, Sandy Leidner, Barb McCart, Megan Moulton, Sharon Mueller, Kristin Stombaugh, Kim Warner, and Evan Warren. Jill Tarkington and Kim Warner also took care of Check-in/registration. Thank you to Jill Zimmer for helping make decorations, and Judy Roberts for making cookies for the kiddos to have at lunch.





The Habitat Resale store is in need of volunteers. Duties include working at the store to help with donations received and or work at the register. We usually ask for half or full day volunteer to work once or twice a month, or more if possible. With vacation and family outings, as well as the toll from Covid outbreaks several volunteers have opted out, for summer months, or permanently. If interested in volunteering or would like more information, contact Sandy Leidner at 618-918-1790 or Donna Langley at 618-335-9794 This store provides help for many families and individuals of Fayette County!

United Methodist Men

United Methodist Men are known for providing hundreds of new coats and shoes for children in Fayette County schools every year. That continued even last year, in a restricted way, during the covid virus pandemic. Children in need will receive those items again at Christmas time, 2021.

But U.M.M. is quite active in other ways. The group meets the first Monday night of each month for dinner provided by one or two men (and occasionally a spouse), followed by a devotion, then some business. In June, we were treated to dinner by Jan Johnston who filled in for Jack who was out of town for a meeting. Roger Corrington provided the devotion. Vice President James Hejl led the meeting in place of Tim Springsteen who was ill. Reports were provided by treasurer Jeff Endres and secretary Joe Cearlock.

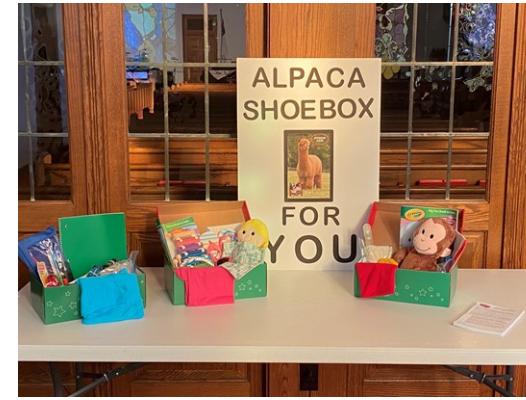
U.M.M. Sunday is October 10th to encourage all men to "Help men grow in Christ so others may know Christ." Another outreach is a cookout for all men on September 13th. The annual Fish Fry will be November 4th and it will again be Drive-thru only, like that held during the pandemic.

U.M.M. has sponsored the local Boy Scout troop for years and during that time many young men have earned the elite rank of Eagle Scout. Soon a plaque will be prominently displayed in the church to name as many as possible who made Eagle Scout rank. Methodist Men donated \$500 to meet a need at the 6.35 Food Pantry of a new freezer. Another member kicked in cash to help with that purchase. Members also dug deep to donate an unknown amount to the Outreach Committee's annual Backpack 2 School event.

There is no meeting in July; a busy time for all. So the next meeting is August 2. Meal by Jeff Endres and Bill LaDage, devotion by LaDage.



The Church office will be closed Monday, July 5th.



SPONSORED BOXES AVAILABLE TILL AUGUST 1ST

Thank you to the congregation for sponsoring 55 shoeboxes! We are off to a great start! 55 children will have the opportunity to hear the Gospel, because you cared enough to sponsor a box! Boxes will be available for another month if you want to purchase 1 or more. Without you, the ministry of Operation Christmas Child would not exist. It takes all of us working together to further His kingdom!

Pre-made boxes will be available on Oct 10th if you prefer to pack your own boxes!

STOCK UP ON BACK TO SCHOOL SALES

Even though school just got out, **BACK TO SCHOOL SALES** will be starting soon! This is a good time to stock up on supplies if you choose to pack your own shoeboxes. In many countries, children are not allowed to attend school without supplies. Please include school supplies in each box that you pack for OCC! (No liquid glue allowed) Thank you for blessing the children and for giving them the opportunity to go to school and also to hear the Gospel!



Our Caring Continues

Operation Christmas Child exists because of the many people who are dedicated to spreading His word to the hurting children around the world through the means of a simple shoebox. It takes everyone working together for this ministry to be a **SUCCESS! YOU ARE APPRECIATED!**

Pastor Tom - A special thank you to Pastor Tom for his Curious George Children's Sermon and for his introduction of Operation Christmas Child to the children. Watch for future Curious George updates as he travels to a little boy or girl.

Deb Durbin has been busy making doll blankets for our sponsored boxes! Thank you Deb for taking the time from your busy schedule to do this. Each little girl receiving one of your blankets will feel special! They are adorable "kid" prints!

Andy Sidwell continues to bless OCC! As I have said many times, Andy has a true servant's heart! Last month, Andy found a \$20.00 bill. Rather than keep it for himself, he bought items for OCC to bless the children. Thank you Andy for blessing the children in the many ways that you do!

Kim Warner has been busy making beautiful items for the shoeboxes. She always uses such bright colors and each item is perfectly made! Kim has blessed many children with purses, coin purses, slippers, dresses, pencil pouches, etc. Thank you Kim for blessing the children and your dedication to this ministry!

Submitted By: Jill Zimmer

July/August Worship Notes

- July 4 Communion Sunday, the story of Enoch is our sermon focus and how he walked with God (Genesis 5).
- July 11 Three friends in a fiery furnace (Daniel 3), how their faith in God did not depend on their circumstances. How can we find such a faith during fiery times?
- July 18 Melchizedek and the audacious gift to God (Genesis 14), why counting the cost is a bad way to start giving to the Almighty!
- July 25 Guest preacher, Dan Nickel (son in law of Margaret Carroll)
- August 1 Communion Sunday, our guest preacher will be Louis Frick



We welcome Mark and Barbara Paine who join us upon transfer of their membership from Centralia First United Methodist Church!



N.O.W. Committee

What is the N.O.W. committee? Earlier this year, we combined 3 committees: Nurture, Outreach, and Witness. The N.O.W. Committee supports several organizations financially including the 6:35 Food Pantry, Backpack 2 School, Nourishing Greatness, Caring & Sharing, FAYCO, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Gideons, SAFE, Set Free Ministries, VCC Bible ministries and WJLY. We also support Tim & Jamie Edwards, Brad & Maria Fester, Operation Outreach, Jeff & Shauna Spence World Partner Missions, IGRC Liberia Partnership, ERT, and 6 Sundays through the World Outreach and Conference Outreach.

The N.O.W. committee sends college students "care packages" at finals time. We also distribute Spring and Christmas Love Baskets. We plan to restart the Appreciation Platters this year and a few other projects we had to cancel this past year.

July 11 will be "Sock It To Me Sunday". Socks will be distributed to students during the Backpack 2 School event. **We are asking for a tissue donations on July 18th**. Thank you in advance for any and all donations!



Backpack 2 School

The 7th annual Backpack 2 School event will be held Wednesday, August 11, from 4:00pm to 6:00pm, at the Family Center. Free haircuts will be offered this year in Wesley Hall.

Many volunteers are needed to help make this great community event a success. Please contact Kim Warner if you are available to help!

thank you!

"Thank you very much for the college care packages. We enjoy all the snacks, gift cards, and items. Thanks again for all of your support." —Richie Well, Kelly Jones

We Need The Following:

Cereal

6:35
PANTRY

"I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty." John 6:35