

CROSSBEAMS

January 2026



Making Contact

If you call the church please make sure to leave a message. If there is a problem with that please let Emma know by emailing michigancitymethodistoffice@gmail.com

If there are any committee announcements, etc that need to be included in the bulletin please submit them to michigancitymethodistoffice@gmail.com. by 10 am Thursday mornings. Committee chairs and team leads are responsible for submitting meetings and times to her (and current locations of those meetings) as well.. The new cut off date for Crossbeams articles is the 20th of the month.

What's Inside

- ♦ Pastor's Notes
- ♦ Finance
- ♦ Galveston Give Back
- ♦ And more!

The official newsletter of First United Methodist Church

121 E. 7th St. Michigan City, IN 46360

Office: 219-872-7200

Contact Pastor Tammy at tammy.mills@inumc.org

A Note from Pastor Tammy



100 super days + 80 not too
“bad” days=an amazing
adventure.



(LOL) I can't believe
I've been in Michigan City
for 6 months. It blows my
mind to think I have been
your pastor for 6 months. I

have to say, I have loved nearly all of them.

Daily I give thanks for this appointment to

Michigan City FUMC. The Deer, the couple of encounters with the local police, the countless times of being a little lost have not dissuaded me from feeling Michigan City is a great place to call home.

So much has happened in these 180 days: messy church, charge conference, meetings, Madrigal, Cookie walk, Eclectic shopping, unpacking lots of boxes, settling back into the church building, putting together many LEGO, our first Advent together, running several half marathons and a marathon (Philly) and so much more. If I had to say what the best thing the last 180 days has been, hands down, it has been getting to know you all. We don't always agree, sometimes we struggle, sometimes we laugh over silly things, sometimes we laugh at ourselves, sometimes we shed tears, sometimes we question why. It seems to me this is the very essence of a thriving community that is seeking to

connect and hold each other in God's love and grace. Summing it all up, my heart overflows with Gratitude for each of you and for God's faithfulness. Can't wait to see what the next 180 days bring to us.

Happy New Year from my family to yours.

PT



Sermon Series



The Work of Christmas Begins:

The next four weeks we will be letting the lectionary readings and the poem “The Work of Christmas” by Howard Thurman guide us in our worship and our learning. The culmination of Advent was the arrival of the baby Jesus, God's love for all, Emmanuel. The question we must ask now is how can we grow in that love and share that love with the world. We must follow Jesus' call to “do the Work of Christmas”. I am excited to explore what it means to do the work of Christmas with you these next four weeks. Each Sunday will have a specific focus and then on Wednesday you will receive an email with resources to support and continue our learning.

Week one January 11, 2026 “mark your start” the baptism of Jesus

Week two January 18, 2026 “do good”

Week Three January 25, 2026 “keep the fire burning”

Week Four February 1, 2026 “The whole world”

Monthly Calendar

JANUARY

2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
					3	4
					5	6
					7	8
					9	10
					11	12
					13	14
					15	16
					17	18
					19	20
					21	22
					23	24
					25	26
					27	28
					29	30
					31	
Worship @9:30am	SPRC Meeting @4:30pm	Monday Musical				

Madrigal

A Night to Celebrate: Madrigal Success!

Our Madrigal performance was a wonderful success, and we couldn't be more grateful to everyone who made it possible. A huge thank-you goes to Bev, whose dedication, countless hours, and incredible leadership brought this performance to life. Her hard work truly shone through every moment of the evening.

Thank you as well to all of the participants who shared their time and talents—your enthusiasm and commitment made the night unforgettable. Thanks to the generosity of our community, we raised about \$500 per group that helped us out last year!

What a fantastic example of teamwork, creativity, and community spirit. We're so proud of what we accomplished together!

Mission Guatemala

Our church community continues to shine, and we are so grateful for each of you. Thank you all so much for donating 80+ pounds of vitamins for the upcoming Mission Guatemala trip! Your generosity will make a meaningful difference and help support the health and well-being of many families.

As the team prepares to serve, please keep the McClatchey family, the Weiler family, and the Griffith family in your prayers while they are in Guatemala. Pray for safe travels, strength, and hearts open to God's work.

Thank you for being such a loving, giving community. It's a blessing to serve alongside you!

Clothes Line

Can you hear those school bells ringing? With the children being back in school, our Clothes Line will be needed once again. This is a clothing ministry that started in 1988 with a Sunday School Class of possibility thinkers. Let me tell you how you can help. First, someone at the school (teacher, counselor, nurse) who sees a child in need fills out a request card and sends it to our church. According to the Right to Privacy Act, the child receiving the clothing is only known by first name, age, and school. When received, the card it is put on the "Clothes Line" display in the Gathering Room. One of you wishing to help, selects a card, shops for new clothes, and returns the clothing to our church office. A volunteer will deliver them to the school office. It is a very simple process and children in our schools know that someone is thinking and caring about them. A big THANK YOU to the United Women in Faith for supplying Scrip cards for us to shop for request cards that are not quickly selected.

Dottie and Joyce

Homebound

Happy New Year 2026!

As we reflect on 2025, we remember the many wonderful church friends who are no longer with us. We also have had some members move to be closer to their families. As in life we look forward to God's Blessings in 2026. Our article for January includes a list of our members who we might not have seen due to life changes.

Many thanks to Kathy Granzow who has maintained our Homebound list for years which features church members who in most cases are unable to attend church services. Frequently, they are in need of prayers, visits, and cards. Marlene Woodfield started the Homebound visits and she would make and send her own cards making sure to remember birthdays, and special occasions. Below is information from Kathy.

I have spoken with Marlene's daughter, Deb, and Marlene has given permission to have her updated information passed on to the congregation. Marlene will be leaving the Michigan City area and relocating to Minnesota to be closer to family and will be leaving December 26th.

Deb wanted me to also pass on that the website listed is featuring Marlene's quilts. Please be sure to let people know about that, too. She's very excited to have this site.

Please remember our friend, Marlene, with many prayers as she takes on this new life in MN. I know that she will appreciate hearing from any and ALL of us.

Thank you.

Kathy

If you have not seen Marlene's beautiful and award- winning quilts you will want to visit her website. Or you can look around our church sanctuary and many of her creations are featured. Many thanks through the years for her time and help with decorating our church. In addition to her calling on our members, she wrote a monthly Crossbeam's article featuring our Homebound members.

www.quiltsbymarlene.com

Homebound Part 2

1st UNITED METHODIST MEMBERS – ASSISTED LIVING or NURSING FACILITY

THE ELMS – 4300 CLEVELAND AVE. – MICHIGAN CITY, IN 46360

Sam Johns – Apt. 109 – BD 6/8

Ann Berg -- Apt. 118 - BD: 1/3

Shirley Mc Gillivray– Apt. 232 – BD: 8/29

Betty Staples – Apt. unknown - BD 5/16 – (219) 879 6816

Austin and Sylvia Wilkins – Apt. unknown

Linda Mills – Memory Unit

TRAIL CREEK PLACE – 1300 E. COOLSPRING AVE. – MICHIGAN CITY, IN 46360

Bob Kahn BD 7/9 – Apt. 141

AT HOME MEMBERS

Joan Osborne – 230 Walker St. – Michigan City, IN – BD 8/1

Joan Brill– Story Point – 3715 Union Chapel Road – Apt 22 – Fort Wayne, IN 46845

Marlene Woodfield – 18405 Rockford Road – Apt. 323 – Plymouth, MN 55446

Phone: 219 342 3068 – www.quiltsbymarlene.com – Effective early January 2026

Margaret Zeek – C/O 1228 Parkside Drive – Batavia, OH 45103 (Daughter's home)

Memorials

In Memory of Jane Bailey
Betty Staples

In Memory of Ted Woodfield

Judy Commers
Sue Cassler
Annie Trout
Betty Staples
Austin & Sylvia Wilkins
Dottie Evett
Karen Durnell
Donna Ottersen

In Loving Memory of Ted Woodfield

Marlene Woodfield



Volunteers Needed

At least once a month, usually on the first Sunday, the church celebrates communion. We need at least two people to help serve bread and juice. Please know all are welcome to help. Please tell either the Pastor Tammy or Kris Prohl to include you and we will. We will also go over the few things that are a part, so you feel comfortable. It's wonderful to be actively included at our Lord's table and bring communion to the church.



The District is hosting a Leadership University on Saturday, January 31st, and Saturday, February 7th. If either of these workshops interests you, or if you are a committee head seeking additional training, we encourage you to join us for one of these free Zoom sessions.

Saturday, January 31, 2026
9 AM - 12 PM (CT)/10 AM - 1 PM (ET)
and/or
Saturday, February 7, 2026
8 AM - 11 AM (CT)/9 AM - 12 PM (ET)

LEADERSHIP UNIVERSITY



Northern Lakes District

Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church

TO REGISTER:



[INUMC.SWOOGO.COM/
LEADERSHIPU2026](http://INUMC.SWOOGO.COM/LEADERSHIPU2026)

WORKSHOPS INCLUDE:

Staff Parish
Endowments and Planned Giving
Fresh Expressions
Growing Young
Trustees and Finance
Church Governance/Single Board
Clergy Early in Ministry
Church Administrative Assistants
Outreach: Food Pantries and Beyond

Valentine's Tea

Saturday February 14th @1pm



Tannehill Soup Kitchen

Sundays, Mondays,

Wednesdays and Thursdays

11:30am-12:15pm



Eclectic Shop

Closed Until February

Please keep an eye in the
bulletin for updates.



BEACHER ARTICLE

WE WERE FEATURED IN THE BEACHER ON DECEMBER 18TH. IF YOU MISSED IT HERE IS THE LINK!

<https://www.thebeacher.com/2025/ewExternalFile/BEACHERDEC18.PDF>



A Gift of Song and Music

First United Methodist Church returned to its roots of good fellowship and community service to ring in the new year. New organizations came off on their own through the church's annual Madrigal Concert Series, Dec. 20, complete with three-act offerings that helped to bring in the new year.

Back on Friday February 6th
@6pm

Messy Church

Back on Friday February 6th



GALVESTON STEAKHOUSE

Ist United Methodist
Church, Michigan City
Galveston's Give Back
January 15th, 2026
4PM until 8PM



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Do not pass out coupons on Property



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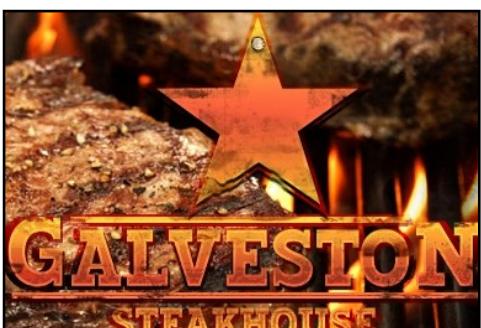
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