

CROSSBEAMS

April and May 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

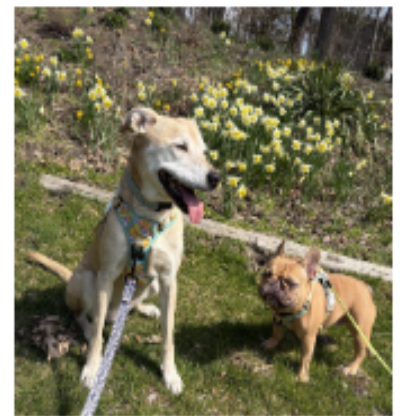
Contact Pastor Tammy at tammy.mills@inumc.org

A Note from Pastor Tammy



This Sunday we started a worship series about learning from the stories around the resurrection of Jesus. Week one we focused on seeing Jesus. In our day to day lives and in our world where can we see Jesus. It was such a good reminder to me that Jesus shows up to His followers in the midst of their chaos, grief and doubts. When he shows up right in the “messy” of life he doesn’t condemn or chastise, he simply yet profoundly, offers peace to them and shows his wounds (gets real). The chaos, grief and doubts don’t disappear; they are all still present yet the followers receive peace and resurrection power as they then navigate through the days after the resurrection.

It was a great reminder to me that Jesus can be seen in my life and your lives no matter what we are experiencing. Spring in Michigan City is a great reminder of this. I have seen Jesus in the beautiful flowers blooming all over town. (check out the BLVD.) There are flowers blooming where just a month ago you would have never guessed anything colorful or green would ever grow. Everything was brown and lifeless, yet there, unbeknownst to me, life was germinating. Now whenever I see the flowers, I stop a bit and remember Jesus is here. He is here in the way a flower reminds me of resurrection. He is here in many ways if only we will open our eyes to see.



Stop and Smell the Flowers this month ;-)
PT

Are you...



Curious about membership in Michigan City First United Methodist Church?

Wondering about the history and policies of the United Methodist Church?

Ready to consider a deeper commitment in the faith community at MCFUMC?



May 17 immediately following worship, those who want to explore membership will meet for a light lunch and an introduction to membership in the UMC. Please let Pastor Tammy know if you are interested. tammy.mills@inumc.org (if this date doesn't work for you please let PT know as well. There is an alternative date in the works if needed.)

Monthly Calendar

April

Bloom where you are planted

2026



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Bells 5:30pm Choir 6:15pm	2 Maundy Thursday Bible Study 10:30am Ruth Circle 6pm	3 Good Friday	4
5 Worship 9:30am Easter	6 Soup Kitchen Board 1pm Messy Team Meeting 5pm	7 Trustee 5pm	8 Bells 5:30pm Choir 6:15pm	9 Bible Study 10:30am	10	11
12 Worship 9:30am Monday Musical Awards	13	14	15 Bells 5:30pm Choir 6:15pm	16 Bible Study 10:30am	17	18
19 Worship 9:30am	20	21	22 Bells 5:30pm Choir 6:15pm	23 Epworth Forest Workday	24	25
26 Worship 9:30am Monday Musical Scholarships	27 SPRC 4:30pm	28	29 Bells 5:30pm Choir 6:15pm	30 Bible Study 10:30am		

Monthly Calendar

May 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Messy Church 6pm	2
3 Worship 9:30am	4 Soup Kitchhen Board 1pm	5 Trustee 5pm	6 Bells 5:30pm Choir 6:15pm	7 Bible Study 10:30am Ruth Circle 6pm	8	9
10 Worship 9:30am Mother's Day	11	12 Finance 4:15pm	13 Bells 5:30pm Choir 6:15pm	14 Bible Study 10:30am	15	16 Betty Staple's Service 10:30am
17 Worship 9:30am New Member Day	18	19	20 Bells 5:30pm Choir 6:15pm	21 Bible Study 10:30am	22	23
24 Worship 9:30am Pentecost	25 SPRC 4:30pm	26	27 Bells 5:30pm Choir 6:15pm	28 Bible Study 10:30am	29	30
31 Worship 9:30am						

Green Team News

And not only Happy Earth Day, but Happy Earth Month! It's a great time to think and be green as we navigate our way through rough waters . . . (can you tell I'm sending this from a boat??) We're hoping you're on board to do things that will help our planet - it is the only one we have.

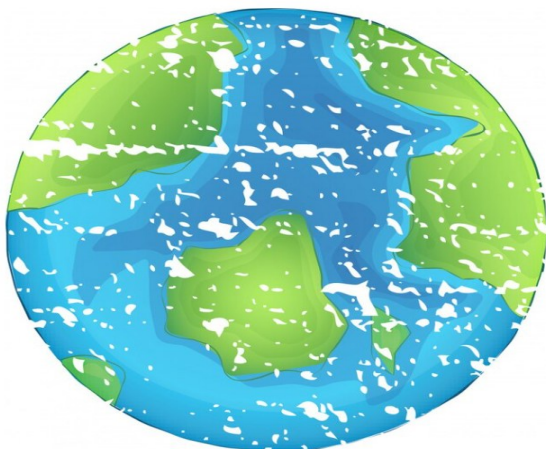
Here's a great website to learn how you can: Scarce.org. It's a wonderful resource, filled with great ideas and news with a positive outlook. Every little bit makes a huge difference.

Our church green team will continue to focus on reducing, re-newing, reusing, recycling, and especially rethinking how we do things to make a difference for our church, our community and our world. (We also will continue UNPACKING the myriad boxes that still await . . .)

We hope you'll join us!

Thanks,

Bev & the Greenies



**EARTH
DAY**
APRIL 22

Green Team News

ONE MORE GREEN TEAM UPDATE

There's just lots going on!

This is really exciting - and we couldn't wait 'til the next Crossbeams to let you know all about it.

Peggy and I took a field trip this week to the Head Start facility on Tryon Road at the invitation of the school social worker (met her in the Eclectic Shop, of all places!). We spent an hour touring this beautiful facility and meeting staff and teachers, and we were blown away by this hidden treasure right here in Michigan City.

As you know, Head Start provides early education to pre-school and kindergarten age children. They were at one time housed in our church (hence all the little chairs!) and now have a home in the former Niemann school. They currently have 143 kiddos - all of whom sure looked like they were loving being there.

We hope to partner with them as best we can through Green Team volunteer hours and donations from the Eclectic Shop. There's also an opportunity for us to sponsor and provide one of their family night dinners next fall (much like Messy Church :) that not only feeds people, but builds community as well.

This unexpected connection has already provided an answer to prayer: a home for some of our books!

As you may remember, when St. Paul Lutheran was closing their educational building, our team took all their text books, library books and supplies that were destined for the land-fill; over 50 boxes went to SCARCE where they were either re-homed, re-used or recycled, and the rest came to our building to be given out at the Tannehill Soup Kitchen. Fast forward - we still have 30+ boxes that we'd like to get out to kids.

Head Start will take those that are age-appropriate for their children's library, and will also take some of the others to make them available for parents to take to older children at home. YAY!

(btw, volunteers needed to sort them one more time - this will be it, we promise!!)

How's that for good news? Books, Kids, Parents, Community, First UMC. Nice combination.



Green Team

Calling all Greenies and wanna-be-Greenies!

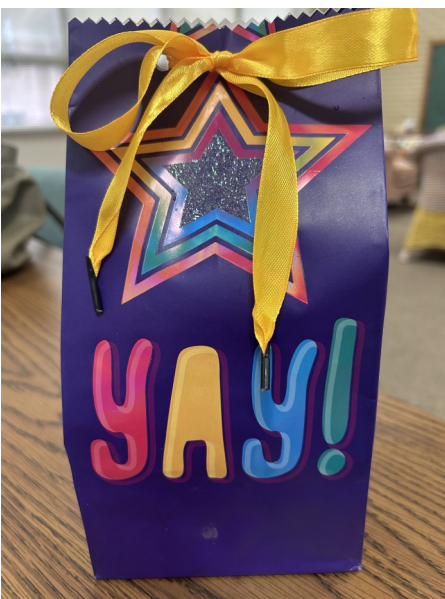
Please plan to join us at the church on Earth Day, Wednesday, April 22nd to gather and get to planning our next Green Team endeavors. We'll meet from 9:00 am 'til we think we've accomplished enough for the day - (there's never a shortage of fun stuff to do! :)

We'll also take a bit of time to celebrate what's been accomplished, & to wish our Thrine a --- VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY --- the perfect day for her . . .

If you've wondered if this team might be a good fit for you, come find out more about how you can join us in helping our church. Contact me for info, 312-699-7834.

Yay, Green!

Bev



Eclectic Shop

PI DAY!!!

Our first March 14th Pi Day was not only delicious, but it was fun and successful too.

Thanks so much to all who helped - whether you came only for the pie and coffee, came to shop, or came to give us moral support - you are all very much appreciated.

AND, the day gave us an extra \$296.50 to add to the church coffers!!h 14th - PI DAY ! From, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm.



Homebound

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

Austin and Sylvia Wilkins – Apt. unknown

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

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

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

Memorials

In Memory of Margaret Zeek

Judy Commers

Beverly Mooneyhan

John & Sharon Scott

Loyal & Floramae Cutforth

Barbara Henry

Clay & Karen Scott

Susan Cassler

In Memory of Betty Staples

Judy Commers



Scholarships

2026 SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Applications for the 2026 First United Methodist Church Scholarships are now being accepted. These awards will be presented on May 31.

Ten scholarships are available to members of First UMC who are entering or returning to an accredited college or trade school, regardless of age. Of these ten awards, six are also open to community members.

All scholarships are included on a single application form. Please review the eligibility criteria carefully and apply only for the scholarships for which you qualify. The application deadline is Thursday, May 14.

Application forms may be picked up in the narthex on Sunday mornings. They are also available online at the Unity Foundation of LaPorte County website (uflc.net/scholarships) or by contacting Sue Cassler at susan.cassler@comcast.net.

--The Higher Education Committee:

Sue Cassler, Chair
Debbie Bartholomew
Judy Commers
Dottie Evett
Bev Griffith
Linda Peo



CALLING ALL GRADUATES

On Scholarship Sunday, First UMC would like to honor congregation members who are graduating from high school or college this year. If you are a 2026 graduate, or know of one, please notify the church office at 872-7200. Thank you!

April 5, 2026

Dear Friends at 1st UMC,

Please don't forget to mark your calendar on the 3rd Thursday of the month in 2026 for an evening with friends and neighbors at Galvestons. Recently we have missed seeing many familiar faces. Why not join us on April 16th and May 21st as the weather is finally turning a little warmer.

The goal for 2025 is \$2,700. Please invite a few of your friends or neighbors to your table or pass out coupons to others who would enjoy a night out. Last year in the 1st quarter we earned \$700 for the church. We will need a great turnout to achieve that level this year.

Thank you for your ongoing support and we look forward to seeing you April 16th and May 21st.

God bless!

For our January give back \$180.00
For our February give back \$120.00
For our March give back \$240.00 Thank you!

2026 Year to date: \$540.00

Below are the coupons for APRIL AND MAY 2026



Monthly Givings

January 2026

Giving: \$14,007.07 Expenses: \$25,496.81
(3x payroll)

February 2026

Giving: \$19,512.41 Expenses: \$20,005.51

Thank you your generosity! Your giving helps change lives.



Do you
have two
open hours
on Monday
mornings?

Do you enjoy organizing and doing routine worship followup?

Do you enjoy doing regular office tasks?

Contact pastor Tammy if you are interested in being a Monday morning office volunteer.

tammy.Mills@inumc.org

**Epworth
Forest
Work
Day**

**Thursday
April 23rd
@8am**



We are grateful for the caring tradition of our church family coming together to provide a meal following a funeral, offering comfort and support during a difficult time. With Betty Staples' service scheduled for May 16, we have an opportunity to once again share that love in action.

If you feel called to help, whether by serving or preparing a dish, Please reach out to Annie Trout at 219-872-4817 or Yvonne Bancroft at 219-872-4289 for more information. We would truly appreciate your support.



**NEW COMMUNITY
OUTREACH
OPPORTUNITY
LITTLE LIBRARY
EMERGENCY
FOOD PANTRY**



Messy Church

Friday May 1st @6pm

Join us for Messy Church as we explore how God's love is our shelter, a place of comfort, safety, and care for all.

This intergenerational gathering is designed for all ages and stages, with hands-on activities, fellowship, and a simple meal.

Come enjoy:

- Sandwiches for a relaxed, shared meal
- We will be making adorable chicks out of pretzels
- Creative, interactive experiences centered on God's love



Messy Church is a welcoming space for everyone—invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join us for this meaningful and joy-filled time together.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Our new website

is live!



mcindianaume.org



Tannahill Soup Kitchen

Sundays, Mondays,

Wednesdays and Thursdays

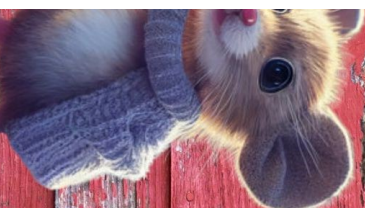
11:30am-12:15pm



Eclectic Shop

Fridays

9am-1pm



Welcome!
We are glad you are
here

