

CROSSBEAMS

August 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!

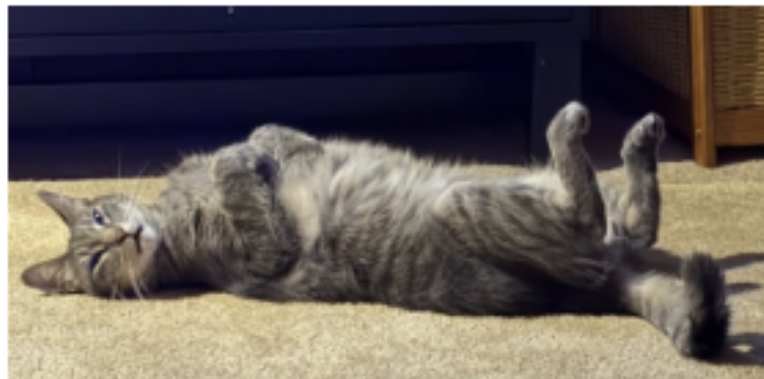
The official newsletter of First United Methodist Church

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Contact Pastor Tammy at tammy.mills@inumc.org

A Note from Pastor Tammy



I wish I could be as “chill” as my Covid Kitty, Seamus. (yes named after the Gryffindor classmate of HP). He can lay around for hours completely unaware or undisturbed by all that is happening around him. Some days I long for his extraordinary power to just

“chill”.

Alas, I don't have Seamus's super power to “Chill”. I tend to get caught up in all that is going on around me and before long I often find myself spinning around in many directions and never really being present in any. I don't believe I am called to live in this way. It feels unsustainable and not very Christ-like :-)

As life speeds up in August, back to school, vacations over, work picks up etc... I am looking to the life of Jesus to find ways to engage with all that is going on around me and at the same time be fully present for myself and my community. If you are having some of the same feelings, I invite you to reread the stories of Jesus where he takes time for himself even in the midst of the great need around him. He seems to be teaching us to “fill our cup” as part of being a disciple of Jesus. We can't pour from an empty cup. What things fill you up? A walk in nature (not my choice but I honor it for others)? Going Dancing? Playing games with friends? Twenty minutes with a good book? Beginning mornings in prayer? Jesus teaches us to intentionally make time to fill our cups so that we might go into the world, fully present, and ready to do the work that is before us.

Just me practicing what I preach. Getting out for a run and discovering my favorite flowers.



Cup filling up 😊 *PT*

Monthly Calendar

AUGUST 2026						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
Worship @9:30am 2	Soup Kitchen Board Meeting @1pm SPRC @4:30pm 3	Trustee @5pm 4	5	6	Messy Church Back to School Bash @6pm 7	8
Blessing of the Backpacks during Worship 9	10	Finance 4:15pm 11	12	13	Marlene Woodfield's Service West Lafayette 14	15
Worship @9:30am 16	17	18	19	Bible Study @10:30am Galveston's Giveback 20	21	22
Worship @9:30am 23	24	25	26	Bible Study @10:30am 27	28	29
Worship @9:30am 30	SPRC @4:30pm 31					

Green Team News

We're getting there! Our faithful team has continued to meet over the summer, still unpacking our box collection (we could win awards for the sheer number of them!) and finding new ways to use old stuff. We have a good plan for the hundreds of books (most from St. Paul's school lending library book rescue) to get to the kids that will enjoy reading them. Some will go to Head Start, others to the Little Lending Libraries - MANY THANKS to everyone for their much-needed help with this project!

We meet every week on Tuesdays from 9:00 am 'til noonish, and always find something to keep us busy. This past week it was the sorting of the hangars - for some unknown reason, the church had six big boxes of assorted sizes, shapes, colors, and conditions. They're now happily helping at the Goodwill store. Be there or be square . . .

Lots more to do - come join the fun!



Music News

While our Chancel Choir has been on break this summer, we've been blessed with special music shared by our church musicians and friends who have touched our hearts and souls with their amazing talents. Thanks so much, everyone - it's all been wonderful.

Many of our choir members (Pam & Sue - next year for sure!) spent a week in early July at Epworth Forest Music and Worship Retreat at Manchester University. In a wonderful week of work and REST (the theme this year) and then even more work, we learned new pieces that we'll bring to First UMC this fall. Titles include "Angels Visit When We Sing", "Your Love", "The Music of Stillness", "The Music of Living", "May He Hold Us", "More Than Conquerors", and an amazing new arrangement of "In the Garden". We think you'll love them.

+++ CHOIR REHEARSALS RESUME ON WEDNESDAYS AT 6:15 PM +++

BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 9TH

(Memorial Bells meets Wednesdays at 5:30, just before us, so come early and play!)

If you're interested in learning more about music opportunities here at First United Methodist, contact me at beverlyegriffith@gmail.com. It's going to be a great year!

Bev



Eclectic Shop News

If you haven't yet discovered this true treasure in our building, you're missing a delightful opportunity to find just that perfect little thing you've been looking for! The Eclectic Shop is open 9:00 am 'til 1:00 pm most Fridays, and has been a steady contributor to the church coffers since it opened last fall.

We're grateful for your donations as you clean your closets and continue to de-clutter. Your "trash" is truly someone else's treasure, and every penny that comes in (we even have a collection jar for you to donate those!) goes to support the missions of First UMC. If you find something you'd like to re-home, please consider donating here. Peg's got a form to fill out, just to make sure that it's something we can use. Thanks!

A typical Friday morning at the Shop usually included a visitor or two who come for a cup of coffee and conversation. Everyone has a story, and in listening, we feel that we're building community. Through this ministry, we've connected with the local Head Start program with books, and helped supply them with gardening supplies for their raised bed gardens. If folks are looking for something specific, we often find what they need. The next time you need a little gift for a little price, stop by!

Hope to see you soon -

:)

P.S. We have a new way to pay - on line from the church's website!



Tannehill Soup Kitchen

Tannehill Community Soup Kitchen



January-June 2026 Newsletter

With the support of dedicated volunteers and generous donors, we were able to serve 6,988 meals across 96 days for the first half of 2026!

Volunteer Engagement

- We logged 1,341 hours of service from 44 volunteers.
- This is \$43,743.42 in volunteer labor, proving they are the heart of our operation.
- Many guests have shared their appreciation of the kindness and compassion they receive during meal distribution.

Food Donations

- We received an estimated \$5,789.94 in food donations.
- Thank you to all of the individuals, businesses, and nonprofits that lent their support.
- A shout out to Jean for collecting donations from Al's Supermarket and Panera Bread, and to Tom O'Brien for ordering and delivering from the Food Bank!

Volunteer Spotlight



Nancy Noble started volunteering at the soup kitchen in 2014, when service was dine-in twice a week. Soup was served on Mondays, a meal on Thursdays, and she was in charge of refreshments. She most enjoys helping the less fortunate and handing out meals.

Tannehill Community Soup Kitchen is supported by grants from Health Foundation of La Porte, United Way of La Porte County, First United Methodist Church, and Walmart.



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 – Villa #7

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

Memorials

Joan Brill

- Marlene Woodfield

Margaret Zeek

- Marlene Woodfield
- John and Karen VanderWagen

Betty Staples

- Judy Commers
- Marlene Woodfield
- Sue Cassler
- Annie Trout
- Karen Durnell
- Dottie Evett
- William Staples

Roxanna Young

- Dottie Evett
- Karen Durnell

Ruth Lyness

- Nardberg Nieces and Nephews
- Judy Commers
- Dottie Evett
- Marlene Woodfield
- Gary and Debbie Bartholomew
- Sue Cassler
- Maggie Stepniewski
- Jean Dreessen
- Ronald and Velda Lyness
- William and Marilyn Nicholson
- John and Karen VanderWagen

June 29, 2026

Dear Friends at 1 st UMC,

Please don't forget to mark your calendar on the 3 rd 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 July 16 th as we always look forward to seeing everyone.

The goal for 2026 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. This year in the 1st half we earned \$1,310 for the church. Thank you for your ongoing support and we look forward to seeing you soon. God bless!

For our January give back \$180.00

For our February give back \$130.00

For our March give back \$240.00

For our April give back \$210.00

For our May give back \$240.00

For our June give back \$310.00

2026 Year to date: \$1,310.00



**BLESSING OF THE
BACKPACKS
SUNDAY AUG. 9TH**

**EVERYONE GOING BACK TO
SCHOOL PLEASE BRING YOUR
BACKPACKS OR WORK BAGS
TO BE BLESSED**



**BACK TO
SCHOOL BASH**

FRIDAY AUGUST 7TH

@6PM

Come Join us for a back to
school bash! We will having
hotdogs with lots of games and
fun fellowship!



Wow! You all are simply the best. Whenever we ask for donations you guys go above and beyond! Here is a huge thank you for your generosity and giving. We wouldn't be able to help our community without you. Here are pictures of all the diapers and school supplies everyone donated!



WASHINGTON PARK

ZOO DONATIONS

- ARTIFICIAL PLANTS OR TREES
- RUBBERMAID STORAGE BINS WITH LIDS
- WASH CLOTHS; TOWELS
- PET BOWLS (VARIOUS SIZES)
- SHREDDED PAPER
- HEMP OR MANILA ROPE
- DISH SOAP; LAUNDRY SOAP; FABRIC SOFTENER; BLEACH
- TRASHBAGS
- SILVER METAL BOWLS (VARIOUS SIZES)
- KENNELS; CAGES; CRATES
- DISPOSABLE LATEX GLOVES
- ART CANVAS
- BINOCULAR MICROSCOPES
- ARTS & CRAFT SUPPLIES
- CARD STOCK/PAPER 8.5X11
- MEDICAL EQUIPMENT/SUPPLIES
- POSTER BOARD
- BINOCULARS
- ANIMAL BOOKS
- ANIMAL EDUCATION ITEMS
- PLASTIC & SILK PLANTS
- LIVE TREES; BUSHES; FLOWERS (INDOOR OR OUTDOOR)
- PAINT BRUSHES
- GARDEN CARTS
- TOOLS
- CARABINEER CLIPS
- CABLE TIES
- LARGE ROCKS
- JELLY (ANY FLAVOR)
- APPLESAUCE
- HORSE TOYS
- BOOMER BALLS; LARGE TYPE BALL
- PARROT TOYS
- DRIED FRUITS
- NILLA WAFERS/VANILLA COOKIES
- DRY CEREALS
- SHREDDED PAPER
- JELLO MIX
- NEW/USED PERFUMES OR COLOGNES
- DOG OR CAT TOYS
- PEANUT BUTTER
- CHEEZ-IT/GOLDFISH CRACKERS
- EXTRACTS
- SPICES
- 100% FRUIT JUICE
- BABY TOYS
- CATNIP
- NUTS
- IC CREAM CONES
- GRASS SEED
- GARDEN TOOLS
- 4X4 WOOD POSTS
- GARDEN DECORATIONS

We are collecting donations for our Little

Free Food Pantry

Items May Include but are not limited to:

Ready to eat food



- Granola Bars
- Apple Sauce
- Trail Mix
- Beef Jerky
- Crackers
- Chips
- Peanut Butter
- ECT.

Hygiene Products Travel

Size:

- Soap
- Shampoo
- Tooth Brush
- Tooth Paste
- Band Aids
- Feminine Products
- ECT.

Tarnhill Soup Kitchen

Sundays, Mondays,

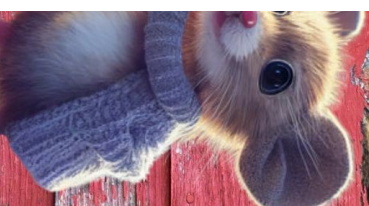
Wednesdays and Thursdays

11:30am-12:15pm



Eclectic Shop

*Fridays
9am-1pm*



*Welcome!
We are glad you are
here*

