

East Columbus United Methodist Church

A Church for Everyone!

MAY 2024





Come, all you who are thirsty!

May the peace of God be with you always.

We notice how quickly the grass in our yards grows back shortly after it's mowed. It's a vibrant spring day, full of vitality. As we observe the rapidly growing grass, we're reminded of the life in Jesus.

"I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. (John 12:24)

Jesus died on the cross and rose again, giving us life. His life spread to many more people even faster than grass grows. Therefore, anyone who accepts Jesus into the field of their hearts continually exudes vitality, much like a lush green lawn. It's because Jesus is life.

When we are weary, thirsty, or hungry, we must turn to Jesus. There is no other way.

"Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare." (Isaiah 55:1-2)

The way to Jesus is simple: attend worship, read the Bible, pray, and partake in the Holy Communion. Marjorie Thomson said this about worship in her book: "At times, we might think of the sanctuary as a theater, the pulpit as a stage, the worship leader as an actor, and the congregation as the audience. But we need to change our perspective. Both the worship leader and the entire congregation are actors, and the audience witnessing this worship is God."

If we approach worship thinking of ourselves as the actors and God as the audience, how much might our hearts change? God examines every part of our hearts and receives our worship. Especially when we worship with thirsty hearts, God accepts that worship.

Beloved brothers and sisters, let's come to Jesus through worship. Only He can satisfy our thirst and hunger. Let's offer our hearts to Jesus! The Lord loves you all.

In the Love of Christ, Pastor Jongmin



I have had a few things come up recently making me think that it is the topic I need to write about this month. Something came up in choir, and I joked good naturedly that we are often used to doing things a certain way / set in our ways, and don't deviate from that going back years in Methodism. I mentioned how before we combined services, I was able to look out and knew just where people sat, and it was easy to tell who was missing from the stage. Combining services made that tough for a while. Someone mentioned how the Skinners have been changing locations at times kind of keeping us on our toes. I talked about memories as a teen having a pastor in his sermon here, asking people to get up and sit somewhere else than where they normally sat. I recall him telling us we could return to our pews (probably within a minute or two). I think he knew that people were likely uncomfortable out of their element so to speak. I don't know for sure, but I suspect the point of his sermon was either about going out of our comfort zones, or maybe not being set in our ways, I don't recall.

Charlie and Judy were visiting the church, and called me on the same Sunday afternoon. Charlie asked if I were still there, and I said yes. He asked if they could get back in the church, and I said yes. He made a comment something to the effect of that it was nice to know someone's habits (my being here on Sunday) and how this was my second home (laughing when he said it).

Some habits can be good, and some bad. Some may be done "because we've always done it that way", and sometimes people can forget why they initially did it that way (or maybe it was done that way before them, and they carried on no questions asked). Some of my reasons for working here after church services have changed. We no longer have evening service, but now there are videos and DVD to do .) Sundays often give me a chance to do things I can't do as easily through the week, catch up on some administrative things, get ahead on some things to do projects later, and many other things. Sometimes there is more time for those things than others depending on issues with the videos etc.

By the same token, some people think that change is always good. Don't get stuck in a rut. They get bored easily and want to shake things up That too isn't good. Change for the sake of the change isn't the answer.

I have recently been working on several projects (besides Easter) and one big thing was relocating some music to store in a different place and way than I had been doing for years. I had tried saving money year back, by storing in things that were supposed to work, but failed in many ways. It made getting the music and re-filing the music when done, difficult, inconvenient, and slower than it should be. I had perfectly good reasons for doing it that way when I set it up, but it just wasn't working well. But, there wasn't another feasible option. I was able to relocate some things (after spending minimal money on better solutions, and shuffling some things away) to make room in a better place for it that improves most aspects of how it had been. It is in a more convenient location, easier to access and re-file, makes the previous location look tremendously neater, should prolong the life of the folders by reducing wear, etc. There are some slight drawbacks such as the things moved not being quite so handy, but my solution is such that there should be minimal drawbacks, and overall a much improved experience.

Sometimes we find the best way to do something, and changing it is not a good thing. Sometimes things change, and our normal behavior may need reassessed. Sometimes the reason something was done a certain way before no longer exists. But some keep doing it because that was how it was always done.

Some of you may remember 25 or 30 years ago when transparencies and an overhead projector was used to display lyrics on a screen in the corner. We then moved up to PowerPoint and a projector. Then probably over 20 years ago, got a hanging screen and better projector installed in the balcony. It is a much better solution. Will it always be? I doubt it, but it works for us just fine currently.

We need to be open to if God wants us to do something differently (or in a different way), while not chasing every new and shiny thing trying to copy someone else. I have seen churches lose their own identities and what is best for their congregations trying to emulate what someone with a different clientele and resources is doing. I think of the Bible and differences in peoples' ministries, and the same is true today. We all are different parts of the body, serving in different ways.

HOOSIER TRAILS COUNCIL Troop 549



May 10-12th Patoka Lake Campout

April 6-8 Solar Eclipse Camporee was held at Maumee Scout Reservation. It was a lot of fun. They had 6 stations set up around the event for the eclipse that had them make pinhole cameras, finding time and direction during the day, making sun prints, fire building challenges, solar cooking demonstrations, solar eclipse geometry and safety. The newer boys were getting pretty tired when Monday the 8th rolled around for the Eclipse. They were more than ready to come home until, the darkness happened. Their moods changed from I am wanting to go home to this is the coolest thing I have ever seen and experienced. I wish it would not have ended so soon. Can we make it do it again? The crickets and frogs were croaking. The frogs were coming out of the woods into the open field to roam around as they thought it was nighttime. It was something they will talk about the rest of their lives.

April 13, the troop helped our Charter Organization the Columbus Amateur Radio Club at North High School Cafeteria to set up and sell food at their yearly Ham Fest. The boys had fun looking at the electrical equipment. Some even bought walkie talkies and was using them during the event. We did earn some money for the troop by serving Biscuits and Gravy, coffee and other drinks. It is becoming an event they look forward to doing each year.

April 16, the troop helped serve food at their annual Phi Beta PSI Fundraiser at the Commons Mall. This event happens twice a year. It is to raise money for breast cancer. They sold out 450 seats in 20 minutes this Spring. This is a great event for everyone and supports a much-needed cause. The attendees really enjoy seeing the scouts helping out a good cause. We get a lot of feedback on how scouting is needed more than ever in this world. The boys get a lot of praise and support from the community.

May 10-12, this campout will be at Patoka Lake Fisherman's Campground. This has been on the schedule the last 2 years, but we have had to cancel it for unforeseen circumstances. We will be fishing, hiking, and visiting the nature center. We may even venture to French Lick to ride on the historical train. This should be a fun campout for the scouts.

If you know any boys that are interested in scouting, the door is always open for them to visit on our scout nights. Please feel free to pass my contact information on to anyone interested in visiting or joining our troop. Boys ages need to be 11 years old to join and less than 18. Meeting time Thursday is at 6:30pm-8pm at the Youth Center.

Bruce McIntosh, Scoutmaster 812-374-9009 brucemcintoshbsa@yahoo.com



NO! BUT WHY???

What Mother ... young or wise ... hasn't dealt with an afternoon (or longer) of a conversation consisting of repeated "NOs" (especially from your two year old) ... or when they get older ... either "BUT WHY??" or just "WHY?"

And no matter how much you try to explain the reason behind the answer ... they still ask "WHY??"

Even if you're not the biological Mom ... maybe the awesome 2^{nd} Mom or Mom stand-in (y'all know who you are for this little mouse! \bigcirc) coming up with the answer to these questions can be challenging ... or as a friend of mine calls them ... problatunities!

For any non-linguist reading this ... that's a problem presented which will afford you the opportunity to find a new and unique way of solving the problem.

So ... what's the answer to this age-old dilemma? I'm sure this little mouse has no clue!

Disappointed? Imagine how God feels when we constantly tell Him "NO!" ... or repeatedly ask Him "WHY??" Just my opinion but I'm sure He feels as frustrated by the word "NO!" as most Moms feel when they hear it all afternoon ... or for every afternoon in an entire week ... nay ... month!

Or when we keep asking "WHY?" when God has given us the answer ... but we just don't like it? And as teenagers over the generations have learned, if you keep asking why long enough one or both parents will wear down and say that all elusive "YES!". But God isn't like Moms and Dads ... He knows what is best for us and His patience goes beyond measure ... and isn't that a wonderful thing?

So, Mom, just a word of encouragement ... the "NO!" years don't last forever ... I won't say that about the "WHY?" years ... but God will give you all the patience you need to continue to love and nurture the children in your life.

Thanks, Mom, for being patient with all the "NO" answers or the repeated "WHY?" questions and for loving us just the same!!

Happy Mother's Day Timothy



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6pm-Choir	2 5:30pm-Trustee Mtg. 6:30pm-Scouts	3	4
5 Communion 9am Worship 10:10 -Sunday School	6	7 10-11am Prayer Hour	8 6pm-Choir	9 6:30pm-Scouts	10	11
9am Worship 10:10 - Sunday School 5pm - Grace's Table		14 10-11am Prayer Hour	15 6pm-Choir	16 6:30pm-Scouts	17	18 Block Party 11am-2pm
9am - Worship 10:10 - Sunday School	20	21 10-11am Prayer Hour BCSC Last Day of School	22 6pm-Choir	23 6:30pm-Scouts	24 New Tech Graduation— 7pm	25 Graduation North HS—10am East HS—1pm
26 9am - Worship 10:10 - Sunday School	Memorial Day Office Closed	28 10-11am Prayer Hour	29 6pm-Choir	30 6:30pm-Scouts	31	



May 3...Abigail Lee

May 8...Karen Parks

May 9...Jane Dilsizian

May 11...Shirley Sylvia

May 12...Paula Turnbow

May 15...Philip Mattern Gabriel Mattern



We are so thankful for all the prayers, cards and visits. Charlotte & Tom Hadley



Over the years, Memorial Day has become a big holiday weekend. It's now the unofficial start of summer, rather than a day of tribute to the departed it was originally meant to be.

Even if we plan fun events for Memorial Day weekend, it's important to stop long enough to bow our heads and pay respect to our departed loved ones—especially those who fell in battle while helping preserve America's liberties.

Let us take time to make the pilgrimage to various cemeteries and pause long enough to say, "Thank you, Father, for these special lives, for sacrifices made and for friendships we have shared."



In Memory of David Stuckey Who entered live eternal April 4, 2024

Our condolences to Marsha Stuckey and family at the passing of loved one, David Stuckey.



<u>Tuesday Hour of Prayer Time</u>, 10-11am in the Sanctuary. Join us for an hour of quiet prayer time. Please enter through the Elevator Door or the Glass Doors near the office.

Trustee Meeting Thursday, May 2 at 5:30 pm.

<u>Grace's Table Free Meal,</u> Sunday, May 12, at 5pm in the Youth Center.



Annual Block Party

Saturday, May 18, 11 am -2 pm.

Free food, activities for kids, music and more! Local Service Providers will have information on programs available in our community. Invite your friends, family and neighbors.

Volunteers are needed, please see Debbie Fox to find out where you can help.

SCUBA VBS

Coming July 17-19
Watch for more information to be announced.



East Columbus United Methodist Church 2439 Indiana Avenue, Columbus IN 47201

Return Service Requested

Jongmin Lee, Senior Minister Angie Sherfick, Adm. Assistant Terry Snyder, Music Director

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Pastor Email: jongmin.lee@inumc.org

Worship Director Email: music@eastcolumbusumc.org

Church Website: www.eastcolumbusumc.org

9:00 am - Worship Service

10:10am - Sunday School

OUR CHURCH MISSION

Growing the Family of God by Making Loving Disciples of Jesus Christ.