

# East Columbus United Methodist Church

A Church for Everyone!

**JUNE 2025** 





# God's Grace Is Always with Us, Even When We Don't See It

May the peace of God be with you always.

May and June are beautiful months that many of us love. The warmth and coolness intertwine, and the blue skies and vibrant green trees fill our hearts with a sense of joyful anticipation.

Since I've been away from my wife and children for a short while, the house has become quiet. As I cook, wash dishes, clean, water the garden, and do laundry, I find my days quite busy. And through it all, I'm reminded again with deep gratitude of just how much my wife has carried and helped in so many areas.

In the routine of daily life, we often forget to be thankful for the precious things that have become so familiar. Oxygen in the air is essential for our lives, yet we rarely appreciate it simply because it is always around us. Likewise, we often overlook the constant presence of God's protection and Christ's companionship.

Imagine that as you walk or enter a space, an evil spirit sends spiritual arrows your way. At that very moment, the shield of the Holy Spirit deflects them to protect you. But because we cannot see it with our eyes, we pass by without realizing what has taken place.

Even though we cannot see it, God's protection is always with us. That is why we must remember this grace as "gratitude for what we did not notice, but was always there."

"But you are a shield around me, O LORD; you bestow glory on me and lift up my head. To the LORD I cry aloud, and he answers me from his holy hill. Selah" (Psalm 3:3-4)

In this beautiful season, how about recovering this kind of gratitude?

Let us give thanks when the weather is warm, and give thanks when it is cool.

Give thanks for daily bread.

Give thanks for the presence of our families.

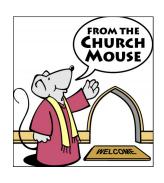
Give thanks for the breath we breathe, for the water we drink.

Give thanks that we can sleep at night and wake up in the morning.

When we begin to notice and give thanks for these quiet, simple blessings, each day becomes a treasure chest full of God's grace. Please Remember! You are God's precious people.

I love you all and bless you in the name of Christ!

In Christ's love, Pastor Jongmin



# A father's love



Our earthly fathers may not have soft, smooth hands.

Their hands may be rough from daily toil.

But their hands have held onto ours over the years to guide us gently.

Our heavenly Father gave us His only Son. He sacrificed the hands of the Son to save each of us.

If your Dad is within reach, hold his hand
And thank him for being your Dad.
Happy Father's Day to all the Dads....Timothy







I have said before someone from the 1700s (or even early 1900s) would be shocked if they were brought into today. Technology has changed a lot: Cars, airplanes, buildings, computers, cell phones, GPS, as well as things like air conditioning and indoor plumbing (can I get an amen?) We don't have flying cars yet, but there are driverless ones. Those tools can make life easier, more enjoyable, and productive, but can be used for evil. Either way, there is a cost. Cell phones are great when you are broken down on the road, or someone else has an emergency. Pay phones are gone (the were never as convenient) it is great to make calls away from home to see if a store has an item, call in a restaurant order etc. I have said before that one of the best things about cell phones is people being able to reach you at any given moment, but one of the worst things about cell phones is people being able to reach you at any given moment. I don't see a friend or loved one calling as negative, but getting a text from CVS during service time saying they can fill a prescription for 90 days is another (they ALWAYS seemed to choose then). (I have since muted their number). I use the cell phone to communicate with the people serving in the balcony when there are issues. Although it is on vibrate, it is a necessary and good tool in that regard. But, some are slaves to their devices and missing life around them. But, I digress.

Getting back to society, far beyond "things", one has to see many negative changes. I talked with a friend about some sins and crazy stuff that is seen as good and normal in the world, and asked if she would have thought 10 or 20 years ago that things would be like this. She did not, and neither did I (though I definitely saw and accurately predicted where some sin would lead in society). Sin and evil are sometimes called wonderful.

It seems like the church in general has lost its place. Churches have not spoken up on sin (either in an attempt to be "nice", feeling weak, out of fear, or wanting to avoid unpleasantness. We should not be like Westboro Baptist whose methods are horrible regardless of their stance or intent. But, we have seen the results of the church being passive and coexisting with sin and wrong. Even some local churches has allowed society to influence them, instead of being a light and influencing society. The easy way of not making waves may be more pleasant in the moment, but I believe society has gotten worse as a result. We certainly can't stop evil or sin, but turning a blind eye to it and singing "Kum Ba Yah" in our own little bubble is costly in the end. Either way though, God needs to be the motivator, and love and right needs to be the intent. Some people think that getting along and coexisting is the proper response, but Jesus wasn't that way with the money changers in the temple. Obviously that response isn't the proper response for many things), but the fact He did it shows that it is a proper response in the right circumstances when it comes to defending right and fighting evil. There is a quote that says "the only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." The world has folks who are unafraid (even emboldened) to promote sin and evil (It doesn't hurt that society often easily accepts this, if not celebrate it). Where are the ones to promote good, and fight evil?

Someone a part of our congregation decades ago once shared in Sunday school that something dishonest was happening at his workplace. He reported it to management, but the person doing so was friends with the management, so the person from church was made to have unpleasantness at work and ended up losing a position and money due to his doing the right thing and speaking against wrong. As far as I know he is still there, and possibly still paying. This wasn't a situation where he was mistaken, or there was a legitimate reason (the person SHOULD be given the ability to explain themselves). It was that they were friends with a boss. Sometimes those with social standing, power, popularity or position are given passes (the Bible warns about favoritism, yet it likely happens every day).

What if America's forefathers didn't fight the tyranny, but instead took the easy and "nice" "go along to get along" way out? Daniel, Shadrach Meshach and Abednego did not. We are to do things in love, but there are also times we are to fight evil, and use the proverbial sword against satan and his demons. We might be amazed at the spiritual battles in the background of our current society.

# HOOSIER TRAILS COUNCIL Troop 549



The troop stayed in the youth center to help with the Block Party. The scouts had a great time helping the community and meeting new people. They enjoyed playing the games and helping with various activities. Afterwards we decided to go to Columbus Bowling Center. The boys had a great time bowling. We got to bowl 2 ½ games as Cosmic Bowling. The neon lights were a lot of fun.

June 8th – June 14th

Sunday June 8th the troop will be leaving to go to Maumee Scout Reservation for summer camp. Tucker will be working as a lifeguard again this year. The boys are excited about taking the different merit badges they offer at camp. This year our campsite will have hammock poles to use hammocks to sleep in. The campsite is close to the one shower house. Thursday night is family visitation night and Order of the Arrow selections. I am hoping for nice dry weather.

If you know any boys that are interested in scouting the door is always open for their visit on our scout nights. Please feel free to pass my contact information 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 6:30 - 8:00 at the Youth Center.

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



Mary Alice Lanham thanks everyone for her birthday cards. I appreciate your thoughts and prayers. I miss everyone. God's blessings to all.

Thank you for all the prayers, cards and visits over the years. Thank you for the flowers and thank you to Pastor Jongmin for coming to the service.

Beverly and the Charles Greenwood family

<u>A BIG THANK YOU</u> to everyone who worked to make Mr T's Annual Block Party a huge success!

### BLESSING FOOD BOX DONATIONS

If you would like to donate items they can be put directly inside the box. The long term storage location for donated food will be in the Sewing Room (next to the East wooden door). If you are unable to climb the stairs, please leave your donation in the plastic totes under the coat rack. Thank you for helping to feed those less fortunate! *This was Philip Mattern's Eagle Scout project*.

### **ONLY A DAD**

Only a dad, but he gives his all!
To smooth the way for his children small,
Doing, with courage stern and grim,
The deeds that his father did for him.
This is the line that for him I pen,
Only a dad, but the best of men.
-Edgar A. Guest



Our condolences to Beverly Greenwood and family at the passing of loved one, Charles Greenwood.

Condolences to Pete and Bev Grimm on the passing of brother, Ron Cox.

Condolences to the Goss family at the passing of their loved one, Harriet.



<u>Grace's Table Free Meal,</u> Sunday, June 8 at 5pm in the Youth Center.

Weekly Prayer Hour, 10am in the Sanctuary. Every Tuesday a prayer time is held from 10am to 11am for anyone to come and lift up their personal prayers. Come and pray for a few minutes or the whole hour. Please enter through the Elevator Door.

<u>Clarity Baby Bottle Campaign.</u> Pickup a baby bottle in the Information Area, fill it with spare change and return by Sunday, June 15. Help make a difference in the lives of new mothers and babies!



### **Blessings Bestowed**

When author Garry Smalley asked 100 people to share how they knew they'd received their parents' blessing, they offered these memories of fatherly love.

- \*My father put his arm around me at church and let me lay my head on his shoulder.
- \*When my father faced a transfer at work, he purposely took another job so I could finish my senior year in high school.
- \*When I wrecked my parents' car, my father's first reaction was to hug me and let me cry instead of yelling at me.
- \*My father went with me to the store when I had to return a purchase I regretted.
- \*My father let me practice pitching to him for a long time after work.
- \*My father cried during my wedding because he was going to miss me being at home.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion	2	3 10am - Prayer Hour	4 6pm-Choir	5 6:30pm-Scouts	6	7
8 9am -Worship 10:10am - Sunday School 5pm-Grace's Table	9	10 10am - Prayer Hour	11 6pm-Choir	12 6:30pm-Scouts	13	14
15 9am - Worship 10:10am - Sunday School  Happy  Follows  Day!	16	17 10am - Prayer Hour	18 6pm-Choir	19 6:30pm-Scouts	20	21
9am-Worship 10:10am-Sunday School	23	24 10am - Prayer Hour	25 6pm-Choir	26 6:30pm- Scouts  Office Closed	27 Office Closed	28
29 Guest Speaker 9am - Worship 10:10am - Sunday School	30					



June 5..Diana Fear

- " 6..Don Wilson Janie Kamp
- " 7..Tom Gorman
- " 9..Bob Hodler

June 10..Brenda Hodler Brenda Wilson

- " 17..Alice Sechrest
- " 19..Peggy Skinner
- " 21..Sherri Hanna



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

**Church Office: 812.376.7418** 

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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.