



July Calendar Dates

Wednesday nights

6:30pm

Youth Director, Darren Dewitt

Cell: 574-276-3453



Nursery

We offer nursery care on Sunday mornings for infants through age 3 years old in room 11, with a rotating staff of volunteers.

Osceola United Methodist Church  
431 North Beech Road., Osceola, IN 46561  
574-679-4435 , [www.osceolaumc.org](http://www.osceolaumc.org)

Prayer requests can be called into the office or emailed to [prayerministry@osceolaumc.org](mailto:prayerministry@osceolaumc.org)



**Children's Sunday**  
Morning Programs  
will resume in August  
Sunday School 10:10 am  
Leaders: Angie Burghduf &  
Susan Adkins  
Kids Church 11:15 am  
Leader: Angie Perkey

Hey parents, each week new activity packets and crayons will be available for kids to pickup before going into service. Pick yours up in the Narthex when picking up your bulletins.



Christian Education Committee

# The Messenger, July 2020

Monthly Newsletter  
of the  
Osceola United Methodist Church

## Sermon Series

**July 5:** Hope for your home: When not everyone is on board with you. Hebrews 4:12

**July 12:** Brutally Honest: David's heart cry in the Psalms. **Week 1** - Expressing your fears to God. Psalm 34

**July 19:** Brutally Honest: David's heart cry in the Psalms. **Week 2** - The Cry of Loneliness. Psalm 142

**July 26:** Brutally Honest: David's heart cry in the Psalms. **Week 3** - Expressing your anger to God without sin. Psalm 109:1-15



## CORONAVIRUS COVID-19 UPDATE

Some church events are still cancelled, however some are beginning to resume. If you are resuming your committee meetings or events please let the church office know so we can update the church calendar. Thank you!

## In This Issue

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This month's spot light is on Jesus and the words he gave us to live by.

Our country is hurting right now, which is no secret to any of us, but what are we/you doing to help calm the storm. Are you part of the solution for peace or part of the problem? If we are Christians, aren't we called to be the solution?

Mark 12:30-31 says, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." The second is this: "Love your neighbor as yourself." There is no commandment greater than these. If we love God with all our heart and soul, why can't we also love our neighbor the same way?

The other scripture given to us is this: Matthew 5-9 says, **Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.** I want to be a peace maker in this world of upheaval, because I want to be part of the solution. How about you?

Osceola, IN 46561  
431 N. Beech Road  
Osceola United Methodist Church  
OUMC



# The Pastor's Corner

I am writing this the Monday after our first in person services in almost 3 months! It was so refreshing to gather together once again. Of course it wasn't the same not having some of you there, we still had to wear masks, and keep our social space, but even with the restrictions it was wonderful to gather in person again. Thinking about the past 3 months I need to offer a humble brag about our church family.

We ceased having in person services in early March yet we have never ceased being the church! Immediately people in our church family stepped up and adjusted making difficult decisions in unprecedented times. We made the hard decision to shut down in person services, to close our day care, and to take our services online. Our food bank continued to operate and offer help to families in a much needed period. Individuals, community members, and other churches saw the work we were doing and donated blessing us with the finances we needed. Our care team members remained in close contact with our church family over the phone. Our outreach committee helped with care packages, delivering in home communion supplies, and our updated connections book. Our finance committee poured time and effort into applying for the PPP loan from the government which will turn into a grant in the coming days. We formed a reopening team which prayed and took measures to ensure a safe and secure re-launching of our day care and our in person services. Our men's group and others have helped work on many projects around the church including cleaning up our playground and back field areas. The trustees oversaw the finishing our new parking lot. Women in our church sewed much needed masks for nursing homes and our church family. Our youth continued to meet over zoom along with a church bible study and our ad council and finance meetings. Bryan Fox stepped up and did research and leg work to get our church the capability to live stream. We applied for and received a grant from the center for congregations for \$5000 towards this. There is so much more I could say but I must say I am proud of how you all have responded!

During a difficult time you all have been flexible and understanding. You have stepped up and fulfilled much needed roles. You have remained faithful to give to the work of this church. So forgive me as I humbly brag about you and your response and let me encourage you to keep responding in faith. We will still face difficult decisions in the coming weeks. There is still vital work and service ahead the Lord will ask us to do. And I have no doubt you will be faithful to respond to God's call.


Humbly Proud,

Pastor Will

# Ongoing Events

SUNDAYS	MONDAYS	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS	FRIDAYS	SATURDAYS
9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service Includes kids bible study  10:10am Fellowship <b>Children's</b> Sunday School Adult Studies  11:15a.m. Modern Worship Service includes Kids Church	9:30 a.m. Tai Chi (YR)	9:00 a.m. Tuesday a.m. Bible Study (P)  6:00 p.m. Modern Worship Band Practice (S)  8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting (RR)	9:30 a.m. Tai Chi in the (YR)  6:15 p.m. Hand- bells rehearsal (S) (Sept-May)  6:30 p.m. Youth Group Meeting (YR)  7:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal (S) (Sept-May)	4:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting (P)  6:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop Meeting in the (FH)  6:00 p.m. Thursday Evening Bible Study (P)  8:00 p.m. BBGS practice ev/oth wk (S)		8:00 a.m. Fit Like a Warrior (FH) Bible Study & Zumba  9:00 a.m. BBGS practice ev/oth wk (S)

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<b>Promise Keepers Breakfast:</b> <b>Real Services Senior Lunch:</b> <b>Promise Keeper's Lunch:</b> <b>Women's Breakfast Bunch:</b> <b>Young at Hearts</b>  <b>Caring Hands</b> <b>Christian Book Club</b> <b>Euchre</b>	<b>Every other Wed of the month at the Curve Café at 6 a.m.</b> <b>Monday – Friday at 10 a.m. in the reception room</b> <b>Every other Tuesday of the month at O.C. Café at 11:30 a.m.</b> <b>Last Wednesday of every month Macadoo's Restaurant at 9 a.m.</b> <b>Senior Luncheon - first Wednesday of the month at an area restaurant at 11:30</b> <b>Meets the 3rd Friday of each month (Parlor) 9am -12pm, breaks for summer</b> <b>Once a month 2nd Sunday of each month (off site &amp; times, TBA)</b> <b>Meets the 4th Sunday of each month at 5:30-7:30</b>	
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Yay, the parking lot is done!!  
Have you checked it out?

Thank you to everyone who helped make this possible.

We have added several Handicap spaces and made the parking spots slightly larger.

The driveway entrance is the last thing to be done and that will be resurfaced in the next couple weeks.

This would not have been possible without your financial contributions.

God Is So Good!

## NEW GUIDELINES for the NARTHEX



- When coming in, keep social distance between people
- Pick up a bulletin / communion cup and wafer
- Please respect any roped off areas.
- Choose a seat in the sanctuary separate from others
- Use the time before service to meditate on God
- Leaving the sanctuary will be done with social distancing



### Young at Hearts Luncheon



Hello Seniors,  
Our July gathering for lunch has been  
**CANCELLED** due to COVID-19  
Hopefully we will see each other in  
August.

**Frustrating, yes, but remember;  
*This too shall pass!***

### Christian Book Club

Sunday, July 12 at  
7:00 pm  
OUMC Reception Room  
We will discuss the book,  
Tristian's Gap,  
by Nancy Rue.

Hostess: Sue Miller,  
255-8447

Come for Snacks,  
fellowship and a lively  
discussion of this  
wonderful book.



### Food Pantry

We served **35** families, a total of  
**110** individuals in the month of  
**June**

Thank you for your  
continued support to this vital  
ministry and making a  
difference in the lives of our  
neighbors.

Missions Committee



### Euchre Night

July 26, 2020 5:30pm-7:30pm

Everyone welcome

Bring a snack to share or bring a friend.

Play cards, eat food, have fun!!! See you there!

### Women's Breakfast Bunch

Wednesday July 29th at  
Macadoo's at 9:00 AM  
2108 Lincolnway East,  
Mishawaka



We always enjoy each others company at our  
monthly breakfast. Its been a few months  
since we have been able to gather so hopefully  
you can join us this month for conversation,  
devotion, and breakfast.

Call Linda Trader at 256-9567 if you need  
further information.



June 15 : Psalm 119... .. As I have written previously, I have been on  
a journey  
through the Psalms and today was a day I must confess, I had some  
mixed  
emotions about since this was the day I would be reading the longest  
chapter in  
the longest book in the Bible. Now I have read through Psalms a  
number of times but this is the first time I have read them in this de-

liberate fashion of one each day for the entire 150 Psalms. So for the previous 118 days each  
morning after my devotions I have read and then reflected on each one, some just a verse or  
two, others a stanza, or the whole Psalm.

The Spirit woke me quite early today and at 4:45 a.m. with my cup of coffee on the table be-  
side me I began to quickly read, but then something happened I stopped and started over  
slowly and quite deliberately, like I was trying to taste each and every word, searching for what  
seasonings made up the flavor, the aroma, of each and every word, verse and stanza. It began  
simply with a single scent in my head getting more complex as I went along, sage, honeysuck-  
le, jasmine, nutmeg, from savory to sweet and back and forth in some sort deliberate random-  
ness, each stanza with its own unique smell, all the while building and building into a  
wonderful medley, and at the same time painting a beautiful picture of worship in my heart,  
culminating with some unknown song in the final stanza!!

I sat in the stillness, staring at the page, trying to retain the aroma, the vision, the sound for as  
long as possible aware, it was all too quickly fading from my senses. As I felt the last of it all  
ebbing away, I prayerfully thanked the Lord for giving me this experience, for filling my senses  
in a way that has never happened before, for filling my heart overflowing with an awareness  
of His holiness and love, grace and mercy.

Psalm 119:169-176 May my cry come before you, Lord; give me understanding  
according to your word. **170** May my supplication come before you; deliver  
me according to your promise. **171** May my lips overflow with praise, for you  
teach me your decrees. **172** May my tongue sing of your word, for all your  
commands are righteous. **173** May your hand be ready to help me, for I  
have chosen your precepts. **174** long for your salvation, Lord, and your law  
gives me delight. **175** Let me live that I may praise you, and may your laws  
sustain me. **176** I have strayed like a lost sheep. Seek your servant, for I  
have not forgotten your commands.

By Allen Bishop



### Men's Conference

On Friday evening and Saturday morning, July 31 – Aug 1, the Promise Keepers organization is holding a Virtual Conference intended to “Build up Godly Men for a Better Tomorrow”. The Osceola United Methodist Church will be broadcasting this event at the church. As with the Promise Keepers events in the 1990s, this event will include world renowned guest speakers including guest professional athletes, and worship with today's biggest artists.

Registration is required at the following link:

<https://promisekeepers.brushfire.com/simulcast-2020/467590>. The registration is free, but a donation of any amount is encouraged. The event is from 7:00 – 10:00 pm on Friday and continues from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm on Saturday. We invite ALL the men of the church, young and old, to attend this conference. If you have questions, please contact David Fox at 574-259-4770.

Thank you!



*Hello Church family,  
I wish to thank Gary and Cory Godfrey, Louis Trost, Jeff Sawyer, Dena Phillips, Debbie Fox, Braden Fox and several of the Daycare employees for helping with the recent maintenance and repair work accomplished in the playground areas.*

*The children now have a safe and fun area for exercise and playtime.*

*David Fox*



### Ad Council Chairperson's thoughts – Is it us or is it God?

Everybody has an opinion. God has given us the ability to think and to speak. And, with this mix we can have disagreements in the church. The new parking lot is great, and it is impressive we raise the money for it. So why the comments on the way it is painted? Probably because we can have our own opinion. But, in reality, we'll get use to it. If it is really important to someone on how the parking spaces are laid out, then they could join the Trustees Committee and have a say when the parking lot

gets resealed in a few years.

Another challenge is social distancing. Some feel everyone has to wear a mask and be 6 feet apart. The other extreme is people who feel it is of little use and we don't need masks at all. The challenge is that we all belong to OUMC and would like to come back to church for services. We are going to have to give and take, compromise and be gracious on these issues because we are not dividing services between masks and no masks.

Paul had to deal with the same type of problems in the churches he founded. The issue was different but the idea that people had opinions and that was causing strife is the same. In 1 Corinthians 3:4-7 the people are grouping themselves by who had, as we would say, brought them to Christ. Paul points out that “I planted, Apollos watered, but God was causing the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but God who causes the growth. (verse 6-7)” Paul shows that what God is doing is far more important than what God's fellow workers (he and Apollos) are doing (verse 9).

So, where is God in having the parking lot repaved? Yes, people gave money for it and others got the bids and coordinated the work, but, we still need to see how God caused it to happen. One idea may be how God guided some people to raise money through the Talent Fund Raiser and give it to the parking lot project. Another thought may be how a company, possibly under God's guidance, gave us a reasonable bid so we could afford to do it. Then we can thank and praise God for it, making Him the most important part of the process.

The same thing goes for the church opening back up for services, meetings and activities. We have had a number of people trying to figure out what is best for those coming to church services. It looks different to have half the pews closed off by blue tape so we keep our distance. Having music but not being allowed to sing is strange too (our spittle when singing can go a lot farther than 6 feet). How about being ushered out, like at a wedding? All this is different, and we have our opinions on it. What is the same is we are there to worship God! Yes, it is different than before, but we are still worshiping God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Realizing worship is the most important thing means the changes don't seem so important anymore.

Thank you, God, for leading us through all of these changes.

Susan Baldwin, Ad Council Chairperson

### MEET THE STAFF

Senior Pastor  
Will Deeds  
willdeeds@osceolaumc.org

Visitation Pastor:  
Rev. Leroy Wise  
wise\_w@sbcglobal.net

Office Manager  
Susan Adkins  
oumcoffice@osceolaumc.org

Worship Leader:  
Will Deeds

Sunday Morning  
**Children's**  
Coordinator:  
Angie Perkey  
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Youth Director  
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Bookkeeper:  
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Maintenance:  
James Trader

Worship & Choir  
Accompanist:  
Lynn Lambert

Choir & Handbell  
Interim Director:  
Barney Barnell

Visual Communications:  
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