

FUMC News



JULY 2024

**BEDFORD FIRST
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Renewed Commitment

In commitment and renewal to my covenant as a clergy person in The United Methodist Church, I now reverently accept my appointments to Bedford First United Methodist Church and Bedford Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church with a joyful mind and will, and pray that I shall be worthy of my call to the ministry, my Conference relationship, and the places of labor to which I have been appointed.

And, with that statement, I begin my 5th year in Bedford, Indiana!

As many of you already know, it is a time of change for me; a time of renewals and new opportunities. Last October, I began working with a second congregation in Lawrence County, Bedford Wesley Chapel. My appointment there becomes official on July 1 and I am grateful for another opportunity to share God's word.

July 1 marks another change for me. As you know, Levi King has resigned his position as Next Generation Director. His last day is June 30. Judy Clifton and I are going to try and keep the group going, so please keep us in your prayers!

(I find it strangely amusing that all this is happening at the same time I've moved into less than full-time employment.)

Matthew 19 contains the story of Jesus' encounter with the rich young man. After the man leaves disappointed in Jesus' response to his questions, Jesus discusses the situation with the Disciples. When they voice the question "Then who can be saved?" Jesus responds in verse 26: "*With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.*"

Apparently, God isn't finished with me yet! (HINT: He's not finished with you either!)

Blessings,
Pastor Judi

Inside this issue:

<i>Next Generation</i>	2
<i>Soul Food</i>	2
<i>The Safe of Tiny Baby Jesus</i>	3
<i>Birthdays</i>	4
<i>Calendar</i>	4

Next Generation: Goodbye, Levi

As I prepare to leave my role as Next Generation Director and my presence at Bedford First, I want to express my deepest gratitude to each of you. This journey has been incredibly fulfilling, and I have grown and learned so much, thanks to the friendships, opportunities, support, encouragement, and dedication to the next generation that you've shown.



Working alongside such awesome people has been a true blessing. From organizing events to engaging in meaningful conversations, every experience has enriched my life and helped me grow both personally and professionally.

Although saying goodbye is never easy, I am filled with gratitude for the memories we've created and the impact we've made together. Thank you for everything.

~Levi King

Soul Food

The book for our Wednesday, July 3 meeting is *7 Women* by Eric Metaxas. I found this book very interesting with some old facts I knew, but some new ones that I hadn't known and even a woman I had never heard about. I think we can all find something to admire about these women!

We meet at 10:30 AM on the first Wednesday of every month in the Friendship Classroom and welcome all newcomers. After our meetings those who are able go out to lunch together which is always enjoyable.

~Linda Schoonmaker



The Saga of Tiny Baby Jesus

Two of my clergy colleagues at *The Turning Pointe Church* in Evansville introduced me to the movie “Talladega Nights” and the characters’ tendency to start every prayer with the phrase “Dear Tiny Baby Jesus.” I wasn’t so enamored with the movie, but the phrase has remained with me all these years. Fast forward to the first leg of the youth mission trip to Midwest Mission in May. Kayeh showed me a little figure she had received on the last day of school. It was a very small figure of the resurrected Jesus (hence the scarf around His body). For some reason, the phrase “tiny baby Jesus” came to mind, so I took a picture of the figure on the dashboard of the car we were in and posted it on Facebook with the caption, “Tiny baby Jesus on his way to Midwest Mission!” The youth, and I, became inspired to create other “Tiny Baby Jesus” moments during our trip and had a lot of fun coming up with different scenarios. But alas, tiny baby Jesus was left behind at the Cracker Barrel in Terre Haute. We mourned our loss, but were greatly consoled with the knowledge that the real Jesus remains with us always!

Today, you have your own opportunity to share tiny baby Jesus with your world! We have a supply of tiny baby Jesus figurines ready and willing to be deployed, left, shared, sent (whatever) to anyone you might choose. The idea is to leave the little figurines in unexpected places (a shelf, a mailbox, a bathroom sink, someone’s desk, etc.) for another to find. Think of it as a way to remind others of Jesus’ love for them; maybe brighten the day of someone who is struggling and hurting. There’s no cost and you are welcomed to as many as you can hand out. After all, everyone could use a tiny baby Jesus in their life!

~Pastor Judi



- 2 Rowena Mount, Pam Bell and Gabe Bower
- 5 Judy Johnson
- 8 Elise Minshall
- 13 Sally Alesia
- 17 Dale Groh
- 18 Sandy Huffman
- 21 Anthony Minshall
- 29 Kayeh Kwakye



UPCOMING *Events*

- July 2, Hospitality Committee at 9:00 AM
- July 3, Soul Food at 10:30 AM
- July 9, Administrative Council at 6:00 PM
- Last Monday of the month, Euchre at 2:00 PM
- Every Tuesday, Men's Breakfast at Bob Evans at 9:00 AM
- Every Tuesday, Grief Share from 2:00 to 3:30 PM
- Every Tuesday, Bible study at 4:00 PM
- Every Thursday, Fiber Time at 2:00 PM
- Every Friday, Youth Group at 6:30 PM
- Every Saturday, Gideons at 8:00 AM

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*Making disciples Jesus
Christ for the transfor-
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