

Bedford First United Methodist Church
Erie United Methodist Church
Grace United Methodist Church
Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church

Lawrence County UMC News



The month of November is traditionally observed as Stewardship Month in many Christian traditions. It makes sense. November is a month of celebrations of gratitude:

- We light candles and say a special prayer in remembrance of the members of our church who have passed away since our last observation on All Saint's Sunday on November 2
- We celebrate our country's veterans for their sacrifices and courage on November 9 (and November 11 which is Veteran's Day)
- We honor Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior on Christ the King/Reign of Christ Sunday on November 23
- We gather in homes and community spaces to feast on the harvest's bounty on November 27
- We begin our Advent journey to Bethlehem on November 30

It's also a good time to reflect on your contributions to the programs of this congregation:

- Your time
- Your gifts and talents
- Your financial resources

It should be no secret to any of you that this congregation is hurting. For most of the week, the building remains silent and unoccupied. Possibly a silent witness to what has become comfortable in our lives. Maybe it's time for a change. The Strategic Planning Committee has worked diligently this year to come up with ideas and suggestions that are forward-thinking and inclusive. They will be presenting their ideas to the congregation in late October/early November. Please plan to attend this meeting when we finally settle on a date and find out for yourself what these dedicated and faithful Christians have developed, then consider how your involvement might support this effort. It will take all of us, each with our unique abilities, skills, knowledge and gifts to make this effort a success. In the meantime, pray for the congregation (and this pastor) that we may all remain ever alert and ready to do God's will and serve as His hands and feet as we go and be God's church!

Blessings,
Pastor Judi

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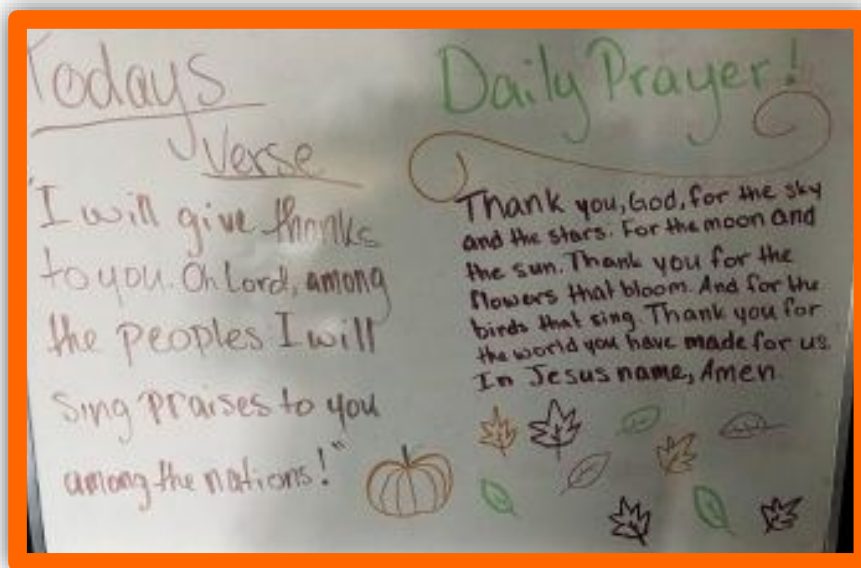
Next Generation



Madison, Kayeh and Abby have been working hard to develop a children's Sunday school program. We are all so proud and grateful for their hard work and dedication! Plus, they are helping to introduce a new generation to serving as acolytes for our worship services!

The youth are planning a Trunk or Treat Event at the church for Sunday, October 26, 2025 in the church parking lot, beginning at 6:00 PM. Please let Madison, Kayeh, Abby or Richard know if you are interested in participating.

~Pastor Judi



Congratulations!

Kayeh Kwakye was recognized at the Bedford Rotary Club meeting on September 18 as one of the “Student of the Month” recipients from Bedford-North Lawrence. Our own Rowena Cross-Najafi serves as Secretary for that group and here are her notes on Kayeh’s presentation:

"The third BNL Student of the Month was Kayeh Kwakye. Kayeh went to Springville Elementary and Oolitic Middle School. She has been on the swim team for four years. She is a founding member of the Interact Club and presently serving as Historian. She also participates in Orchestra, for which she is the President of the Council; National Honor Society, Beta Club, and Renaissance, for which she is the Senior Class Representative. She plans to go to IU Bloomington and study clinical psychology. After graduation she wants to be a children’s psychologist."

Asked about her favorite teacher, she said Mr. Cobb, who teaches U.S. History.

Asked about the Interact experience, Kayeh said she was ‘super excited’ about what they can accomplish."

Congratulations, Kayeh!



Financial Report

August was a good giving month for the General Fund. We had a surplus of \$850 after having deficits earlier in the year. No special income was noticed, however the utility use was lower than usual.



~Jerry Jackson,
Treasurer

Trustees Report

The trustees had a new furnace/air-conditioner unit installed that services the office and hallway. Thirty-one years ago, we replaced boilers/radiators with gas air-conditioning and the office furnace finally gave out. The cost was \$12,500 and the trustee account had the necessary funds thanks to ongoing contributions and trust fund interest.

Several contractors were asked for estimates to replace the roof over the bell tower area. Only one responded. That bid of nearly \$20,000 is under consideration by the trustees and Administrative Council.

~Trustees



Notices

- * Former pastor, Curt Hurley, will be bringing the message during the service on October 12. A pitch-in dinner will follow the service so everyone has the opportunity to visit with Curt and Laura.
- * Charge Conference is October 18, 2025 at 1:00 PM. It will be held at Shoals United Methodist Church, 502 Main Street, Shoals, Indiana 47581.
- * All Saints Sunday is coming up on November 2.

Soul Food

Soul Food Book Club will meet at 10:30 AM on Wednesday, October 1 in the Friendship Classroom. We will be discussing *I Am the Messenger* by Markus Zusak with Sherry Hardesty leading the discussion. I look forward to seeing all of our members at the meeting. For those who would like, we will go to lunch following the meeting.



~Linda Schoonmaker

Contribution Envelopes

Just a reminder—please fill out your contribution envelopes before placing them in the plate. If you don't know your envelope number, I can provide that to you. Having all the blanks completed is very helpful in making sure your money goes to the correct funds. If you are making a cash donation, it is extremely important that you fill in the amount included in the envelope. A sample envelope is below. If you use a "pew envelope," please fill in the amount, your name, and what fund the money is for (if you mark "Regular Offering" the money goes into the General Fund). Thank you!

~Tammy Dodds
Administrative Assistant

JAN 1ST SUN		
 0271-406876 JPB 0271-628162	An Offering To God Through The United Methodist Church	General Fund \$ <u>50</u>
	<i>"...we give thee thanks, and we praise your glorious name...everything is a gift from you, and we have only given back what is yours already." 1 Chronicles 29:13-14</i>	Building Fund \$ _____
	Name <u>Sample</u>	Other \$ <u>25</u>
	Date <u>10/05/25</u> Envelope No. <u>2000</u>	<u>STO</u> (Please Specify)
		Total \$ <u>75</u> Cokesbury 



3 Linda Spaulding
 5 Marilyn Langley
 9 Elane Tyrec
 12 Nancy Poston
 19 Shannon Minshall
 21 Jack Allen
 23 Mackenzie Clifton
 25 Gabe DeWolfe
 26 Keith Wadsworth
 28 Mabrey Minton



Oct. 1, Soul Food at 10:30 AM , BFUMC
 Oct. 1, UMW at 1:00 PM, Grace UMC
 Oct. 7, Hospitality Committee at 9:00 AM, BFUMC
 Oct. 12, Pitch-in Dinner at 11:30 AM, BFUMC
 Oct. 14, Administrative Council at 6:00 PM, BFUMC
 October 18, Charge Conference at Shoals UMCC
 Every Sunday, Chimes Practice at 8:45 AM
 Every Sunday, Choir Practice at 9:30 AM
 Last Monday of the month, Euchre at 2:00 PM
 Every Tuesday, Men's Breakfast at Denny's at 9:00 AM
 Every Tuesday, Grief Share at 2:00 PM
 Every Tuesday, Bible study at 4:00 PM
 Every Thursday, Fiber Time at 2:00 PM
 Every Saturday, Gideons at 8:00 AM

*Bedford First United
Methodist Church*

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*Making disciples
 Jesus Christ for
 the transformation
 of the world.*