

The WORD

August 2024

Volume 55 Issue 8



Westville United Methodist Church

**Communion
August 4, 2024**

**“Reach up, Reach in, Reach out
Reach up to God, Reach in to know
God, Reach out in Love”**

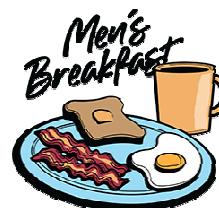
Sunday Morning Schedule:

Sunday School 9:15 am –

Worship in the Sanctuary 10:15am

Drive In Service Radio Station 91.3

Men's Breakfast—August 24th 9 am



August 21st

Ice Cream Social

JESUS IS COMING AGAIN!!!

THE WORD is a publication of Westville United Methodist Church at 154 Main St.,
P.O. Box 619; Westville, IN 46391 (219) 785-2314

*******CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Tues.—Thurs. 8am—1pm**

Our Web Address is www.westvilleumc.org

In order to go green The Word will be e-mailed to you. Be sure to e-mail your address to Jane at
[**secretarywumc@csinet.net**](mailto:secretarywumc@csinet.net)

Printed copies will continue to be available at the church for those who do not have e-mail.



Dear Beloved Church,

As we step into the month of August, I invite you to pause and consider the significance of Sabbath. While our practice as United Methodists centers around Sunday worship, let us explore the broader concept of Sabbath—a day of rest, reflection, and renewal.

The Seventh Day

“Sabbath” originates from the Hebrew word “Shabbat,” meaning “seventh.” For both Jewish and Christian traditions, this day holds special meaning. For observant Jews, Sabbath falls on Saturday—the seventh day of the week. It commemorates God’s rest after creating the world. In contrast, early Christians shifted their day of worship to Sunday—the day of Jesus’ resurrection and new creation.

Worship and Rest

Our United Methodist tradition emphasizes worship on the Lord’s Day (Sunday). We gather as a community to honor the resurrection of Jesus, seeking spiritual nourishment and connection. But Sabbath extends beyond Sunday services. Let’s explore three aspects:

1. **Worship:** Just as Jewish people gather for Sabbath, we commit to regular worship. Our membership vows emphasize “prayers” and “presence.” Gathering together strengthens our faith and bonds us as a family.
2. **Trust:** God’s example of resting after creation teaches us trust. When we pause from work, we affirm our reliance on God’s provision. Trusting in God, others, and the value of our labor enriches our lives.

Rest: Rest isn’t mere idleness; it’s recentering. Whether through prayer, meditation, or quiet moments, Sabbath rest rejuvenates our minds, bodies, and souls.

Practical Steps

As we navigate August, consider these practical steps:

- **Set Aside Time:** Dedicate intentional moments for Sabbath. Whether it’s a quiet morning walk or an evening with loved ones, prioritize rest.
- **Disconnect:** Unplug from screens and distractions. Let Sabbath be a sanctuary from the noise of daily life.

Reflect: Use this time to reflect on God’s goodness, your journey, and the needs of our community. Remember, Sabbath isn’t legalistic; it’s a gift—a rhythm that sustains us.

As your pastor, I too need to be intentional in honoring the Sabbath where I can rejuvenate and renew my Spirit so that I can better serve you. With that reason, I have requested to take 3 weeks off this month and your administrative board agreed to allow me this time. I ask that you keep me in prayer while I am away from you and that you continue to remember how loved you all are.

May this August be a month of intentional rest, drawing us closer to God and one another.

Thank you all for your continued support.

Blessings, Pastor Toby

Needs for our Friday Care & Share Back Pack.

Items needed are Canned meals, such as spaghetti's, ravioli, Soup

Canned meats, such as chicken, tuna

Mac & cheese meals or individual servings

Cereal (individual servings or smaller boxes that will fit in a bag

Pancake mix

Snacks Individually packaged such as Cheezits, crackers, pretzels, nuts, raisins,

Granola bars, breakfast bars

Individual serving fruit cups, such as applesauce, peaches, pears

Individual Instant oatmeal

Individual Puddings

Hot cocoa to be mixed with water

We also really need volunteers! PACKERS (Thursday's) and DELIVERERS (Fridays)



We will again this summer plan for our **Free Farmers Market!**

As you are planting remember to plan extra to share with others.

Monday's 5-6pm



Community Garden is in progress!!!!!! :)



Community Meals planned so far:

August 21st Ice Cream Social



Community Meal



As we reflect on the abundance of blessings bestowed upon our church during the month of July, we are reminded of the first line of the doxology we sing every week: "Praise God from whom all blessings flow". And boy, did the blessings flow bountifully!!

Our monthly Meet and Eat free meal earlier in the month broke an attendance record as everyone gathered for a wonderful picnic. We saw new faces, old friends, broke bread together, and felt God's presence. This event truly highlighted the unity of our church family as we joyously shared our abundance and love with our community neighbors.

Earlier in the month we were blessed with the opportunity to honor and recognize two high school seniors and one adult who made the decision to further her education and change her career. This is the first time in four years we have had the amazing opportunity to honor graduates and give scholarships. Taylor Bachman graduated from South Central High School this past spring and has chosen Purdue University in Lafayette as the school where she will work to achieve a degree in Veterinary Science. At the LaPorte County fair this year, you could find Taylor on the demolition derby track for her first race ever -- and she placed 5th in her division and was the only girl driving -- proving that she meets challenges head on!!

Logan Salyer graduated from LaPorte High school and will be attending Boston School in LaPorte to expand his life and employments skills. Logan has a dream to own his own burger joint some day -- and to have his family work for HIM!

Amanda Kelly has already begun her new adventure by attending Ivy Tech in order to add an elementary teaching certificate to the degree she already has. Amanda is currently a kindergarten aide at South Central and hopes to have her own classroom of students in the very near future. Amanda has been a part of our church since she was a young child and is director of our youth outreach and our education programs. If there are kids involved, you can be sure that Amanda has played key role in making that event a huge success! Teaching is so obviously the calling God has placed on her life and we couldn't be more proud of her for answering this call. We praise each of these young people for their hard work and dedication. Their commitment to furthering their education is inspiring, and we pray for their continued success and growth in all of their endeavors.

Our church family has grown this past month with the recent intake of several new members. We extend a warm welcome to Jon and Alyssa Emery, Ramey, Shantrece, and Logan Salyer, and Rita White. We look forward to the new perspectives and gifts they bring to our community. Our prayer is that they may continue to find fellowship, spiritual growth, and joy within our congregation.

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The blessings didn't stop with just membership. Shantrece and Logan Salyer also chose to deepen their commitment by being baptized, marking the beginning of new lives in Christ. We celebrate and rejoice with them as they embark on this spiritual journey knowing that they are surrounded by the love and support of a church that cares deeply for them.

Our Vacation Bible School program was blessed with an abundance of 28 children this year as they learned all about God's love for them. This, too, was a record year! The kids enjoyed music, a bounce house, saw lots of dinosaurs, made crafts, had snacks, lunch, and dinner, and played the ever-popular water games. It was a joy to witness their enthusiasm and eagerness to learn about God's love. We are grateful for the volunteers who dedicated their time and energy to making VBS a memorable and impactful experience for all the kids! As these volunteers made their way home that evening and rested their weary bones and went to bed earlier than usual, they knew they had made a difference in a lot of little lives. They also knew they were following Jesus' lead in bringing the children to Him. No greater blessing than this!

Last, but not least, we are so immensely thankful for the amazing donations of headphones made possible by the generosity of our congregation. With Amanda's help, our church partnered with the American Legion to make sure that children heading back to school will be well-equipped to succeed in their studies. We were challenged to provide 50 headphones! As is the usual M/O of our giving congregation, we once again exceeded the challenge!!! These acts of kindness reflect the true spirit of giving and the loving nature that defines this small family of believers who put their entire hearts in showing our community and neighbors how much we care about them! God's love is endless and we never stop in our endeavors to become more like Him! Let us continue to celebrate and give thanks for these many blessings, confident that the Lord's grace and goodness will continue to guide us through each and every season. We may be small, and we may be tired, but we eagerly await to see where God leads us in August knowing He will provide the means, the energy, and the blessings. Thanks be to GOD!!!!



"There's a blessing in every moment."

Share your blessing with Jan Buchanan or Kathie Long for the next edition of the Word!!

Join us in local missions!**Items needed for the Food Pantry:**

8/4 Personal Hygiene: toothpaste, & brushes, soap, deodorant, sanitary napkins, tampons., shaving cream

8/11 Pastas, noodles, macaroni, sauces, Hamburger Helper

8/18 Sugar, flour, cake mixes, cooking oil, shortening

8/25 Drinks, juices, coffee, coffee filters, tea

TIME & LOCATION**Food Pantry Information:**

The American Legion is now working in cooperation with the WMC Food Pantry ministry. Please drop off donations of the above mentioned items at the Legion. **For those receiving donations, items may be picked up at the American Legion on Thursdays from 4:30—5:30.**

IMPORTANT REMINDER

INFORMATION FOR THE WORD IS DUE BY Aug 27th 24th IN ORDER TO BE READY FOR PUBLICATION BY Aug 29th AT THE LATEST. CAN BE EMAILED TO secretarywumc@csinet.net



**Family Life Center is available for rental for parties and celebrations.
Contact the church office at 219-785-2314 for more information.**

Save your pop cans and bring them to the church. The money earned from the can collection supports the Heifer Project.







July 8, 2024 Trustee Church Council

Trustee: Present: Jane, Amanda, Evert, Richard, Pastor Toby, Kathie for CC

Sconces – Kathie and Sue plan to work on these. They may need some electrical help.



Jane got an estimate to have a dead area in the tree at the parsonage cleaned up. The estimate is \$800.00. She will get another estimate. Alan has also requested we look into professional lawn care for our church. Jane will get an estimate from 2 companies.

We need help with our sound system in the church. We are not sure who to call.

Meeting adjourned at 6:21

Church Council:

Minutes from the May meeting were approved

Education: VBS is July 27. Spread the word

Nursery – Amanda is looking to have shelving made and get the nursery set up for anyone who would like to use it. We are looking for a TV and sound for those using the nursery. The American legion is putting together back to school bags for kids. Our church will provide 50 head sets for the chrome books.

Worship: Pastor is looking for someone to lead the music/singing in church so we can learn and stay together as we sing.

Outreach: We need to remind those supporting the community meals that there is money to fund these meals from the Care & Share program that has \$5000. We are looking for people or friends that will coordinate the meal.

Resale will have a leaders meeting after church Sunday.

Finance Reports were shared.

SPRC: Pastor Toby has asked for a Spiritual Renewal time in August. Jane made a motion to approve the Spiritual Renewal for August 5th through August 31st. Amanda 2nd the motion and the motion passed.

The Free Community Meal will be August 21st and the theme is an Ice Cream Social (including a meal) sponsored by the Resale Shop leaders.

The Sept meal will be Sept 18th with this being the anniversary of our first community meal. Birthday Party Theme

Pastors Comments: We have several who have completed the new member class and Pastor is looking for a date for this celebration.

Back to school recognition and Bibles for 3rd graders will be in August.

Jane had a concern about our sanctuary being handicap accessible. The organ in the front of the church should be removed to make the aisle open. We discussed getting rid of both organs. We are going to look into having someone come and pick them up to dispose of them.

Meeting adjourned at 7:38.

Care & Concern

Health and Healing

Kelly Murphy	Helen Hershman
Pete Buckmaster	Gerald Felton
Alex Toth	Donna Bunch
Cassandra & Family	Missy Culbertson
Jean Huber	Kristi - Journey
Rachel Wolferd	Sheryl Elliott
Bob Allison	Kenneth Martin
Lila Rudd & Family	Jerry Adrian
Bob & Sheila McCaughey	Aaron Belcher
Brittney Ritchie	Christopher Watson
Sandy & Ken Fraley	Beverly Dickinson
Diane Bedella	Amir Du Puis

The Family of Joe Gaines
 The Family of Roni Alumbaugh
 The Family of George Dobos

*Those suffering with addiction, poverty, &/or depression

*Unspoken Prayers **Families **Youth

The Care Corner

Jackie Swanson

Guidance & Protection

Quinn Bacon	Preston Wilson
Aaron Hale	Aiden Jonas

All Military Personnel
 All Victims of War

**PRAYER CHAIN**

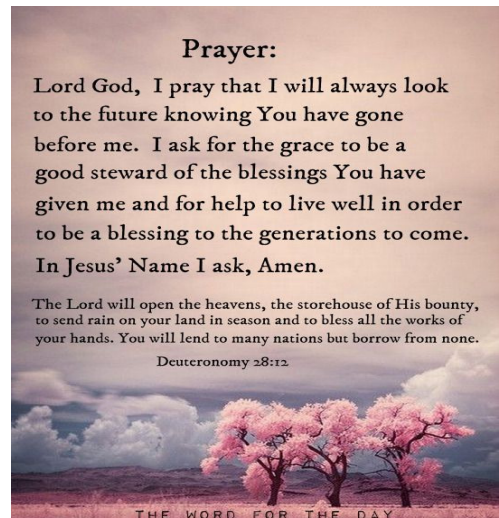
If you have a special need for prayer, the prayer chain can be activated by calling church Secretary Jane Bachman (785-2314)

Prayer:

Lord God, I pray that I will always look to the future knowing You have gone before me. I ask for the grace to be a good steward of the blessings You have given me and for help to live well in order to be a blessing to the generations to come. In Jesus' Name I ask, Amen.

The Lord will open the heavens, the storehouse of His bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the works of your hands. You will lend to many nations but borrow from none.

Deuteronomy 28:12



Pastor Toby Guill maybe reached @ 219-850-3768

Or email at toby.guill@inumc.org

***** **Church Office Hours** *****

Tuesday—Thursday 8am –1pm

My hours vary, please call

Aug Birthdays

JoAnn McLane	1-Aug
Amanda Elkins	2-Aug
Randy Bennett	3-Aug
Ray Music	4-Aug
Allysia Olmos	5-Aug
Dottie Bentley	7-Aug
Evert White	9-Aug
Marie Culbertson	10-Aug
Michael Jerde	10-Aug
Wyatt Bulger	11-Aug
Charlene Glassley	12-Aug
Linda Lennartz	12-Aug
Sheila McCaughey	15-Aug
Herb Lennartz	16-Aug
Kathy Kolosci	20-Aug
Gary VanMeter	24-Aug
Jill Carden	27-Aug
Bryan McCuen	27-Aug
Emily Olmos	28-Aug

**WELCOME STATEMENT**

"With open hearts, open minds and open doors; we welcome people of all races, nationalities, theologies and abilities. We welcome people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. We offer a safe and compassionate place to reconcile faith, identity, hope, understanding and mutual respect".

July Giving

Date	Worship	Giving
7/7/2024	58	\$ 1,949.50
7/14/2024	52	\$ 1,417.30
7/21/2024	51	\$ 1,872.90
7/28/2024	52	\$ 1,354.50

Aug Dates of Joining

8/17/2014 Claude Ames

8/17/2014 Sandy Ames

**Aug Wedding Anniversary's**

Gary & Cathy Murphy	4-Aug
Doug & Dawn Tharp	8-Aug
Phil & Jan Koss	10-Aug
Herb & Linda Lennartz	12-Aug
Claude & Sandy Ames	14-Aug
Stephan & Karen Jerde	18-Aug
Frank & Kathie Long	22-Aug
Warren & Mary Howard	2-Aug



Westville United Methodist Church

**Give as the Lord calls you to give:
be as generous to God as God has been
to you!**


Thank you for being Faithful Givers

Your tithes and offerings maybe mailed to

WUMC P O Box 619, Westville, In 46391



August 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Resale Shop 1-4pm	2	3 Resale Shop 9-12
4 	5	6 Tri Kappa FLC Resale Shop 9-12	7 Resale Shop 1-4pm	8 Resale Shop 1-4 pm	9	10 Resale Shop 9-12
11	12 <u>Trustee/Church Council</u> <u>6/6:30pm</u>	13 Resale Shop 9am-12	14 Resale Shop 1-4pm	15 Resale Shop 1-4pm Lion's Club Brd Mtg Brk Rm	16	17 Kairos FLC Resale Shop 9-12
18	19	20 Resale Shop 9-12	21 Free Community Meal 5-7pm Ice Cream Social Resale Shop 1-4pm	22 Resale Shop 1-4pm	23	24 Men's Breakfast 9 am Resale Shop 9-noon
25	26	27 Resale Shop 9-12 pm	28 Resale Shop 1-4pm	29 Resale Shop 1-4pm	30	31 Resale Shop 9-12 noon