



First United Methodist Church
127 N 4th St
Vandalia, IL 62471



First United Methodist Church of Vandalia:
Planting and nurturing seeds of faith, cultivating devoted disciples of Christ, and feeding souls for the glory of God.

Backpack 2 School

Backpack 2 School is August 7. Backpacks have been purchased. If you would like to contribute, please make check payable to FUMC and indicate "Backpack 2 School" in the memo.



Total Backpacks Purchased	\$4,835.15
Total Donations Received	<u>\$3,015.00</u>
Balance Remaining	<u>\$1,820.15</u>

Mission Trip This year's mission trip will once again be to Henderson Settlement where we will touch the lives of those living in some of the poorest conditions in the country. The mission team will leave Vandalia First United Methodist Church on Sunday, July 28, after eating a light lunch in Wesley Hall. We should arrive at Frakes, Kentucky around dusk that evening. Work will begin on Monday at the home of a middle-aged couple with a teen-aged daughter. This year's project will include installation of electrical wiring, insulation, and drywall. The team will also learn the fine art of finishing drywall to Pastor Terry's standards. Wednesday is traditionally a day off for recreation and/or sight-seeing. The group will head home on Saturday, August 3 and share their experience the next day in worship. Around eight people are signed-up to go. Others can join the group but must commit before the first of July so that reservations can be made and fees paid. Room and board run around \$325 per person; however, the church has paid those fees for individuals not able to pay. At present, materials should cost around \$1,000.

Church Staff

Pastor: Terry Westerfield: tlwpastor@outlook.com
Administrative Assistant: Casey Kistler: vandaliafumc@outlook.com
Secretary: Sue Miller (Tues. & Fri.)
Director of Music: Steph Kilzer
Childcare Providers: Jordyn Rademacher, Amanda Milam
Custodian: Cindy Koonce
Assistant Custodian: Andy Sidwell

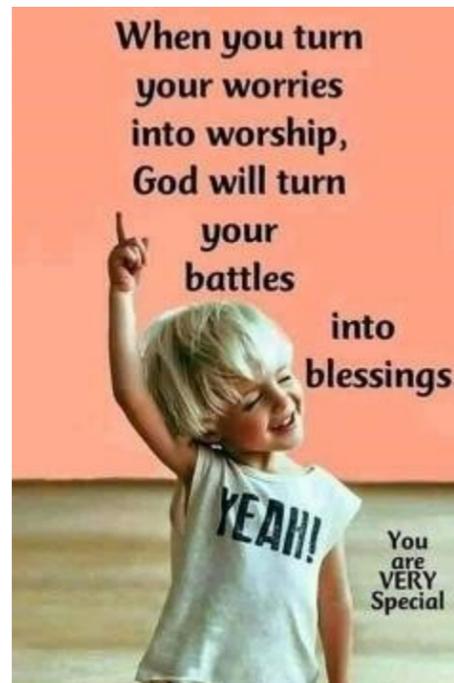


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Contact us

M-W-TR: 8a—4p
T-F: 8a-12p
Phone: 618-283-3684
Email: vandaliafumc@outlook.com
Website: www.vandaliafirstumc.org



Nursing Home Residents:

Brookstone (1607 W. Fillmore)
Don & Diane Adams (Apt.15); Carlos Biellier (Apt. 2); Margaret Carroll (Apt. 10); Wendell & Arlene Hoffman (Apt.4); Iris Rademacher (Apt. 36); Frank Roeder (Apt. 25)

Sweet Briar (410 Sunset Dr.)
Wayne Hale (Room 10)

FCH/Long Term Care (650 West Taylor)
Marian Miller, Priscilla Roeder, Eva Durbin, Bob Clark

Shut-Ins:
Mike Beckett, 2625 W. Jefferson St, Vandalia
Phyllis Rames, 620 N. 7th St, Vandalia



Don Adams (Fayette County Hospital)
Leslie Baker (Mike & Pam Baker's daughter in law; back surgery)
Patti Bohner (Don & Diane Adams' daughter; Mobility issues)
Jan Carroll (Candy's daughter; recuperating from neck surgery)
Roger Clark (bladder cancer; additional tests)
Carolyn Cooper (home; back surgery Monday, June 17 at Decatur Memorial Hospital)
Mason Currier (6 year old grandson of Roger & Peg Clark; cancer treatments)
Dannie Donaldson (hip replacement surgery on July 27)
Gary Doolen (chemotherapy for cancer)
Wendell Dugan (recuperating from surgery to treat infected, new hip)
Mason Feltner (Kelly Clark's 9 year old nephew; chemotherapy for A.L.L. leukemia)
Arlene Hoffman (shingles)
Kent Jones (Peg Clark's brother-in-law; heart problems)
Brian Kelly (son of Paulette Kelly, friend of Kim Warner; brain cancer)
Ray Kramer (recuperating from gallbladder surgery)
Louise Kruenegel (several health concerns; home)

Carson LaDage (Bill & Sharon's grandson; brain stem tumor & cysts)
Katie Langham (friend of Kathryn Taylor; cancer)
Wanda McCollum (chemotherapy for cancer)
Kent Merry Family
Dana Myers (Patrick's mother; breast cancer)
Roy Nichels (friend of Dannie Donaldson; cancer)
Ginny Peckenpaugh (friend of Carole White; ALS)
Norman Rhoades (Kathryn Taylor's father; Parkinson's Disease)
Dorine Rincker (Peg Clark's mother; comfort care)
Keith Rincker (Peg Clark's brother, having surgery for double hernia)
Kent Rincker (Peg Clark's brother; not responding very well to chemotherapy for cancer)
Kurt Rincker (Peg Clark's brother; recuperating from surgery for cancer)
Ericka Sanders (co-worker of Jaime Warren; stage 3 breast cancer)
Sherry Schneider (surgery on July 1 for cancer of the lining of the uterus)
Dorothy Schultz (recuperating from surgery to repair broken hip; home)
Opal Rose Trimble (5-month-old granddaughter of Joy Lawson; polio-type illness; continues to show improvement)
Ken Williams (pneumonia; home)

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A huge thank you to ALL of our Vacation Bible School volunteers! We averaged around 70 kids each day! Thank you to our bus drivers: JD Vieregge & Bill LaDage, Snack station leaders: Deb Durbin, Sharon Hagy & the Hospitality Committee, Music leaders: Sue Miller & Steph Kilzer, Bible Story leader: Joyce Staff, Science leader: Charlene Jett, Sound and video: Jeremie Rademacher, Recreation & Games leader: Kelly Clark, and Crafts leaders: Brandi Gathe, Susan Casey, & Tessa Opfer. Thank you to Alexa Campbell and Jill Zimmer for some behind the scenes decoration assistance. Thank you to our group leaders: Sharon Mueller, Sandy Stombaugh, Lisa Burnam, Jody Burnam, Sophie Eckhardt, Katie Eckhardt, Sherry Schneider, Sandy Leidner, Jeremie Rademacher, Jordyn Rademacher, Tonya Langston, Steph Kilzer, and Barb McCart.



Our Caring Continues

Operation Christmas Child exists because of the many people who are dedicated to spreading His word to the hurting children around the world through the means of a simple shoebox. It takes everyone working together for this ministry to be a **SUCCESS! YOU ARE APPRECIATED!**

Prayer Shawl Members: Members of the Prayer Shawl Team continue to bless the children with their handmade gifts. Each "extra" box packed so far contains items from this group of women. Thank you for blessing the children around the world with bright, colorful gifts.

Andy Sidwell: I love Andy's enthusiasm for OCC! He continues to donate many items monthly for shoeboxes. Each month, Andy also shares about the ministry of OCC with the people that he meets when looking for items. Andy, thank you for your witness.

Sherry Schneider: Sherry has helped with OCC for many years and has recently helped pack many of the extra boxes that have already been packed for this year. She truly has a heart for the children and for the ministry of OCC. Thank you Sherry for all of your encouragement, work, and devotion to this ministry! We will pray for your upcoming surgery and ask for total healing to take place. We look forward to working with you again soon!

Thank You FUMC Family, Thank you all so much for the beautiful prayer shawl. It is truly a blessing to know I had so many people praying for Baby Dothager and me as we were going through a bit of a difficult couple of days. Baby Dothager has been doing great through all of this, while I'm finally feeling back to myself again. Thank you all so much! Love, Jordan, Calista, and Baby Dothager

Just wanted to say a huge thank you to all the awesome workers who made this year's Bible School such a success. To all who prepared, taught, drove, delivered, prayed, and shared of their gifts and talents to give into each child. THANK YOU!! My grandsons loved every part! And the lunch you provided was 5 star!! Thanks to all, Leila Miller

The Schneider families want to thank everyone who participated in the Pizza Hut fundraiser and everyone who donated to the adoption of our precious Meilyn Joy! We appreciate it so much and are so thankful for our church family! Also, thank you for your prayers and we ask that you continue to pray for safe travels and a smooth transition for our sweet little girl. We are still looking at August as the month she will come home to her forever family! God Bless you, Drew, Jenna, & Family, Drew, Sherry, & Family



The Church office is closed Thursday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day.



Pastor Terry is on vacation July 1—July 17. Please contact Alan Lurkins, SPRC Chairperson, or the church office if there is a need for pastoral care.

From the Pastor's Study: Are There Clocks in Heaven?

On an island off Norway, north of the Arctic Circle, the sun doesn't set from May 18 to July 26, a full 69 days. The locals, having endured the long polar night from November to January, when the sun doesn't rise at all, make the most the precious months filled with sunlight, with no regard to conventional timekeeping. "There's constant daylight, and we act accordingly," said one islander. "In the middle of the night, which city folk might call '2 a.m.,' you can spot children playing soccer, people painting their houses or mowing their lawns, and teens going for a swim."

In what seems to be an effort to boost tourism, residents of the island gathered at a town hall meeting to sign a petition for a time-free zone. One official stated, "To many of us, getting this in writing would simply mean formalizing something we have been practicing for generations." Islanders hope to be free of traditional opening hours and to introduce flexibility in school and working hours. Fishing and tourism are the main industries on this island with a population of little more than 300 people. . . Local fishermen and women often spend days on the ocean pursuing their catch, with little regard to timetable." (MAUREEN O'HARE, CNN)

Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. (GENESIS 1:3-5)

The first creation story in Genesis chapter one tells us that light and darkness were created on day one, before the creation of the sun and the moon which occurred on day four. Thus, the first item of creation was time. God created *chronos* for the physical universe. My dad's '66 Chrysler Newport had a "chronometer" in its dash. It was a square, silver-colored analog clock that had difficulty keeping accurate time. It took me a while before I understood that a chronometer was a device that measures "chronos," physical time. It was a clock!

For those of us in this world, time is a burden. We either have too much time or too little. For children Christmas eve can be a painfully long period of time, while Christmas day passes all too quickly. Parents can yearn for more hours in the day, while some of the lonely find their days painfully long. *Chronos* is of our world; it speaks of beginnings and endings. We human beings are bound by *chronos*; as we were born into this world, so we will die and depart from it. As our sun was set into motion by God's hand, one day it will collapse and die.

Chronos has limits. It does not speak of eternity, but *kairos* does. Technically, this Greek word for time speaks of the "opportune moment." Think of it as time measured in terms of quality rather than quantity. This is the time of God's world. It has no beginning, and it has no end. The passing of time is measured in terms of quality. *Kairos* comes to mind when you gather with friends that you haven't seen in a while and you start to reminisce. You don't immediately recall how long ago it was; but rather, you begin your recollection with the feelings of excitement over a memory. It's only later that *chronos* creeps into your mind when you realize how long ago the memory took place.

"And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb." (REVELATION 21:23)

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Heaven is where we continually dwell with God; and since God is light, there will be no darkness in heaven. Since our time in heaven is *kairos* time; there is no beginning, and there is no end. God has no beginning, and God has no end. The creator of time in our physical world will always be, and how comforting that is. When we enter the kingdom of God we will be set free from the bond of *chronos*, and we will live with God for eternity.

It makes me wonder; then, are there clocks in heaven? There definitely won't be any chronometers like those in my dad's four-door Chrysler Newport; and seems that a device measuring *kairos* would always have one reading: the best of times, for every moment with God is the most opportune time!

Yours in Christ,
Terry

Greetings to the Kaskaskia River District Pastors and Churches

The Kaskaskia District Lay Servant Ministries Team has been busy planning a Basic Training and three Advanced Trainings for this fall. As the district we are in need of Lay Servants to help with the many committees and programs, plus persons who are willing to do pulpit supply. All of these courses are beneficial to each of us as personal growth events. **Registration deadline is August 28th.**



Contact Nancy Myers to register or for more information.

BASIC Course-Saturdays, September 7th and 21st. At Olney First UMC. 8a.m.-4p.m. both of the days. The cost is \$30.00. Nancy Myers and Diane Goff will be co-leading the classes. We have a few student's books available, but when they are gone you will need to order your own: Lay Servant Ministries, Participants Book. Registration deadline is August 26th

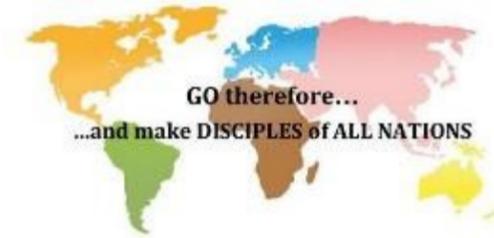
Heritage-Living Our United Methodist Beliefs. Saturday, October 5th at Centralia Cornerstone UMC. 8a.m. -6p.m. The cost is \$40.00, which will include the student's book. Contact R.C. Merten to register or for information. Registration deadline: September 23rd.

PREACHING from Your Heart to Theirs. Saturdays, November 2nd -November 9th. At Sumer Beulah UMC from 10:00a.m.-3:00p.m both days. The cost \$30.00 and you will need to order your own book, From Your Heart to Theirs. Rev Mike Rucker is the leader. Contact Nancy Myers to register or for information. Registration deadline is October 21st.

GOD'S MISSION—Our Journey. Saturdays, Nov. 2nd and 9th at Sumner Beulah UMC. 10:00a.m. - 3:00p.m. both days. The cost is \$30.00, and you will need to order your own book. Nancy Myers will be the leader. The required text is A Mission Journey: A Handbook for Volunteers. This class would be excellent for all who are interested in mission work both locally and internationally, VIM trips, or if you are just interested in missions. Registration is October 21st, contact Nancy for registration or information. There will be snacks and drinks available during the day, but you will need to bring a sack lunch for noon. To order books, contact the Upper Room by calling 800-972-0433 or online at Bookstore.UpperRoom.org. If you have problems, contact either R.C. or Nancy. R.C. Merten 618-918-0124 rcjmr608@charter.net Nancy Myers 618-553-2645 nmyers941@gmail.com

The **Outreach Committee** is planning a work trip to Midwest Distribution Center on August 29. If you would like to attend, please let Kim Warner know so the necessary paperwork can be completed. There is room for 10 and every skill level is needed.

The **Prison Ministry** is in need of men's dress shirts and slacks. Any size is welcome. Bring your donation and leave them across from the office, please label the bag "Prison Ministry".



Why participate in Operation Christmas Child? Through OCC, you are taking part in one of the very last things that Jesus shared: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been give to me. Therefore **go and make disciples of all nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20.

Obviously, if this was one of the last things Jesus shared then it was something very important! I think sometimes in the busyness of what we do and the "tasks" that we have, we forget the simpleness of this command. **It's something we can ALL do.** Think about it:

**We all have authority from heaven and on earth
We can all make disciples**

We can all teach new converts to obey God's commands

So, the next time you are in a quiet moment, just be in that moment and actually think about what you are doing to fulfill, *The Great Commission*. Think about Jesus telling his disciples to spread the gospel to every nation. Most of us can't be missionaries abroad; however we can still be part of the journey taking shoeboxes to children around the world and put this shoebox into the hands of local ministers who can share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with the children. Think about how packing a shoebox will connect you with one child who will hear about Jesus and whose life may be forever changed because you are following Jesus's command to spread the gospel. Pray for the child who will receive your shoebox. Pray for the volunteers as they process your box and for the national leadership teams that will present the Gospel to these children.

Pray in the weeks ahead what quality items to include in your shoebox this year, as if you were presenting this box to Jesus. Once you pack your shoebox, again pray for the child who will receive it and know that is one more time you have taken the gospel to all the nations! Continue to pray that the child will accept Jesus as their personal Savior!

In ten years, Vandalia Drop Off has processed 21,960 shoeboxes. This means that 21,960 children have been given the opportunity to hear the gospel. Lives are being transformed, because of your partnership with Operation Christmas Child. Please pray that we can continue to reach more children!

Operation Christmas Child has given out **165 million shoeboxes in 150 countries over 25 years.** Many more children need to be reached. Help us spread His word to the children of the world.

STOCK UP ON BACK TO SCHOOL SALES FOR YOUR SHOEBOXES

Do you realize that many children cannot attend school, because they do not have school supplies? Pencils are broken into smaller pencils, so children in the same family can have their own pencil. Small pieces of paper are given to the children to use over and over again. Please put school supplies in each of the shoeboxes that you pack! **NO LIQUID GLUE**, please! Now is the time to stock up on school supplies for your shoeboxes! Save \$ in the next few weeks while everything is on sale and bless the children!

