



# SELLERSBURG

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## *Words to the Wise*

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September | 2024

### *Pastor's Pen...*

Our busy year continues into September. The BBQ Pork Dinner is coming up fast on the 13th. This will be my second year. It is wonderful to see how many volunteers come forward to help make the event a success. It is a success not just in terms of how much money it raises, but in terms of the fun and fellowship it creates from working together for a common ministry. Seeing all of the smiling faces and hearing the laughter while working hard and serving our community is a wonderful thing.

The effect of seeing people work together is far more important to me than how much money the fundraiser earns. We are created to be in community with one another, and seeing that in a friendly, inclusive way is such a joy. Our theme for September is Joy, cultivating it, sustaining it, and living it. Real lasting joy is found in aligning ourselves with God's purpose and will. In these troubling times of church decline across America, it is too easy to give up and settle for uneasiness and hopelessness. We have to work to align ourselves with God, but in that work we can escape the bonds of despair, and experience God's true and lasting Joy.

The first part of this work is taking inventory of what we have accomplished, and what we are currently doing. Sometimes the amazing work we are doing feels unimportant because we do it out of habit instead of recognizing the ministry impact we are already creating. By naming the work already being done, we can celebrate and reconnect that work with God's mission for our lives and our church.

The second part is opening up space for new work in which we can engage. Together, we can discern new ministries where God is calling us. Once we have named where we are today, we can begin to see clearly where we need to go tomorrow. To help us on this journey, a small group is attending a workshop called Fresh Expressions. This workshop, along with others, will help us see the possibilities of doing God's work in new and unique ways that will engage our community in meaningful ways.

There is always Joy to be found in doing God's will. That is not to say that the work is not sometimes hard, but rather that the Joy supersedes the hard work, and in fact is increased by the difficulty of the work. If you have ever been a part of a day long or week long mission trip, then you know what I am talking about. While in the moment, the work may at times be difficult. Looking back the discomfort is eased or removed by the feeling of Joy knowing that what you were doing was God's work.

How often do you experience Joy in your life? Does the Joy you experience feel fleeting and temporary? Wouldn't it be great to experience Joy all the time, no matter what specific circumstances you are facing? Real Joy comes from God. Join with me in September as we journey together in search of the lasting Joy that only a life led in God's will can bring. Together let's cultivate Joy.

Blessings,

**Pastor John**

[john.demaree@inumc.org](mailto:john.demaree@inumc.org)



**WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY**



In September, the Wednesday evening Bible Study is going to start at the beginning with a unique video series about understanding the Bible. We read scriptures from the Bible every Sunday morning, but how often do you open its pages on your own? By stepping back to take a look at the Bible as a whole, we can better understand the context for the individual books and Bible stories that we hear on a Sunday morning, or read in our devotionals. Learning how to engage the Bible will help you be more consistent in your own personal study of the scriptures as well. Join us each Wednesday night at 6:30 pm in room 2 located in the church basement. Enter through the rear door of the church directly from the parking lot.

**Newsletter Articles**

Newsletter articles are due by the 17th of each month. Please submit any and all articles by then to the church office. [sellersburgumc@gmail.com](mailto:sellersburgumc@gmail.com)



**Friday Morning Bible Study**

In September, the Friday morning Bible Study is going to reflect on the sermon series Cultivating Joy. This series is part of a curriculum created by the Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church. The curriculum is not only a sermon series, but also includes a study which mirrors the sermon series. The Friday morning class will be on break for two of the 4 Fridays in September. On the 13th, we will be preparing for the BBQ that evening, and the 20th Pastor John will be out of town. Join us for Friday mornings, Sept 6th and 27th, in room 2 located in the church basement. Enter through the rear door of the church directly from the parking lot.





*Beyond the Walls Ministry*

We have several members in nursing homes and rehab facilities. Please keep them in your prayers. Communion is taken to these members when they are visited. If you have some free time, send them a card or stop by for a visit. Let me know if you need their information.

**Kathy Waterman**  
**812-256-5298**



Visit our church website to view the worship service, set up online giving, or learn more about the church ministries.



*Young at Heart*

Young-At-Heart will meet on **Wednesday, September 4, at 11:30 a.m.** Meatloaf and a chicken casserole will be furnished, along with drinks. Bring a dish and join us for wonderful fellowship, delicious food, and BINGO fun. Hope to see you there!

**Everyone is invited!**

**Phyllis Hunefeld (502-693-3696)**  
**Maureen Atkinson (812-786-2119)**



Check out What's Up Wednesday...  
*Available on Facebook and through our website*

**[SellersburgUMC.com](http://SellersburgUMC.com)**



**Interested in singing with the choir?**

**The Choir is BACK!!!  
Started back Wednesday  
August 28**

5:00 - 6:00 pm.

See Diana, our accompanist and choir director, after our Sunday service for more information.

[dholman@ius.edu](mailto:dholman@ius.edu) or 812-207-3087



*United Women in Faith*

United Women in Faith will prepare and bake apple dumplings on Saturday, September 28, at 10 a.m. They will be on sale before and after church service on Sunday the 29th. Members, if you have not yet signed up to help, you will be receiving a call from Phyllis Hunefeld.



There will be no other meeting this month.

Phyllis Hunefeld  
(502-693-3696 or  
[Phyllis.hunefeld@gmail.com](mailto:Phyllis.hunefeld@gmail.com))



**Sunday School Opportunities**

Sunday School is offered to all age groups before our service downstairs and in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00am



*Music Ministry*

The world we live upon has a way of attempting to divide one from their neighbors and from God. In times of fear we must take the time to share fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Christ and with the world beyond. One way which we do this is through the gift of song. Music has been a vital expression of praise since the early days of the church and the collective singing of people in Christ can bring solace, comfort, and joy to those who lift their voices.

Paul wrote in 1st Thessalonians that Christians should seek to encourage one another and help to build each other up. Congregational singing is an excellent way to do this. I encourage you, even if you do not normally sing, do so whenever possible. There is nothing to lose, of import, when one expresses the joy of Christ's salvation through song.

-Collin Daily



**SUMC Prayer Chain**

If you'd like to be a part of our prayer chain, you can join by sending the message "@sumcprayer" to the number "81010" in a text using your phone.

If you'd like to sign up for emails, then you can send an email to [sellersburgumc@gmail.com](mailto:sellersburgumc@gmail.com) and let us know so we can get you signed up.



GROW PRAY SERVE

Are you receiving Pastor John's weekly email?

If not, email the office and let Tony know!

## MEN'S WEEKLY PRAYER GROUP

August is upon us and soon we will be in September. Where does the time go?

Speaking of time, it is very rewarding spending one hour a week, every Saturday morning with the Men's Prayer Group for coffee, Breakfast, fellowship, prayer and sharing many things about our relationship with the Lord and growing closer to him.

Not only do we pray for individuals in our church families, we pray for others outside our families who are in need of a miracle, a touch from the Lord.

Ask and you shall receive. This we know, as we have witnessed firsthand the answers of our prayers every week.

As we pray, we keep watch over those who we pray for.

Our faith in God reveals to us every week that he hears our prayers and blesses those who we have prayed for. The list of requests we bring to the table every week is endless, as is the list of miracles we have witnessed.

We give praise to God, for his calling of men to come together in like minded thinking, to achieve the call he asks of us.

Always Praying For You, Men's Prayer Group



### WORK DAY REMINDER

**To all able and willing men at SUMC, it is time to spruce up the old barn, and make the farm look new again.**

**A work day has been called for August 31, @ 10:00 am, after Men's Prayer Group. It's not all day, and not hard work. We need to clean some lights and fix ceiling tiles.**

**You can bet it will be fun. This group of guys are fun! And not all of them attend the weekly prayer group, but they do know how to work.**

**See Rob Lamb for more information.**



**Birthday List**

See a mistake or omission? Need a mailing address for a card? Contact the church office [sellersburgumc@gmail.com](mailto:sellersburgumc@gmail.com)

**September**

- Meredith Sims Sep 9
- Dwight Elrod Sep 16
- Joanna Demaree Sep 17
- Dorothy Scannapieco Sep 18
- Marc Lomax Sep 19
- Paulette Davison Sep 22
- Collin Daily Sep 24
- Phyllis Hunefeld Sep 24
- Derek Reuille Sep 25
- John Koerner Sep 27
- Scott Goodwin Sep 28
- Jim McMillin Sep 29
- Sue Smith Sep 29

**October**

- Doris Prentice Oct 8
- Bob Waterman Oct 13
- Jack Myers Oct 17
- Kendra Reuille Oct 18
- Calista Werle Oct 21
- Jared Lickliter Oct 25
- Peggy Sayre Oct 28
- Regina Kerber Oct 28
- David Pickel Oct 31

**Prayer List**

1. Joyce Adams
2. Anthony Fugit & mother, Barbara
3. Alice & Denny Jones
4. Janice Jones
5. John Scannapieco
6. Pastor John's parents
7. The people of Ukraine
8. Jennifer Demaree's cousin Eddie
9. Ralph Raeinhardt
10. Tardy family
11. Janet Smith Family
12. The people suffering in the Israel/Hamas War
13. Brenda Croucher
14. Paulette Davidson
15. Janice Jones family in the death of Bobby
16. Dottie Meyer



# BBQ PORK DINNER

*Sellersburg*



*United Methodist Church*

**FRIDAY  
SEPT 13**

**226 N NEW ALBANY ST  
4:30-7PM**

— X —  
**BAKE SALE IN WELCOME CENTER  
EAT-IN OR CARRY-OUT  
DRIVE-THRU ON STREET**



— X —  
**PORK BBQ DINNER \$12  
HOT DOG DINNER \$5**

**Sellersburg United Women in Faith**

**Annual Fundraiser for Missions**

# **Apple Dumplings**

**\$5  
Each**



**Will go on sale  
before and after Church until sold out**

## **Sunday**

# **Sept. 29, 2024**

**To pre-order contact Phyllis Hunefeld at 502-693-3696  
(call or text) or [Phyllis.hunefeld@gmail.com](mailto:Phyllis.hunefeld@gmail.com)**



## FINANCIAL UPDATE

Below is the SUMC financial report for July, 2024:

- **Income Comparison 2023 vs. 2024 per Church Treasurer Report:**

Income through 31Jul24:	\$110,385.34
Income through 31Jul23:	<u>\$132,035.44</u>
 <b>Difference:</b>	 <b>\$- 21,670.10</b> (deficit)

- **Income Projection to the End of the Year**

Income through 31Jul24 from above:	\$110,385.34
Number of Sundays:	30
 Average Giving Per Sunday:	 \$ 3,679.51
 Projection of Income to 31Dec24:	 \$191,334.59

- **Income versus Expenses**

The Income versus Expense Report for the end of July, 2024, per Church Treasurer Report:

Income through End of July, 2024:	\$110,385.34
Expenses through End of July, 2024:	<u>\$112,681.98</u>
 Net Income:	 <b>\$ -\$2,296.64</b> (deficit)

The church remains current in their obligations to the United Methodist Church. All other bills are also current.

R Waterman  
Finance  
August 17, 2024



### **Early Response Teams (ERT)**

ERTs provide a caring Christian presence in the aftermath of a disaster. ERTs help to prevent further damage to personal properties by tarping, removing debris, and cleaning out flooded areas. They offer both helping hands and hope to those in need.

ERTs must complete a one-day training that focuses on working with those impacted by disaster, procedures, and site safety.

#### **THE NEXT ERT BASIC TRAINING FOR INDIANA WILL BE:**

Saturday, Oct 12, 2024, 8:30am – 5:00pm

Trinity UMC, 2796 Charlestown Rd, New Albany, IN 47150

Lunch, snacks and all materials will be provided

For more information and to register, contact:

Ron Heustis at [rlheustis@gmail.com](mailto:rlheustis@gmail.com)

Registration deadline: Oct 4