



Vol. XXVI No. 4 & 5 – APRIL & MAY 2021

Dear Church Family,

During this season we celebrate the hope that we have as Christians...Christ is risen from the dead conquering death and sin and the promised gift of the Holy Spirit to be with us always and to lead us into all truth! This hope has always shone especially bright in tough times throughout the ages. One of the familiar songs we hear during the Easter season written by Gloria Gaither "Because He Lives" was written during one such time in her life in the 1960's. "*Because he (Jesus) lives, I can face tomorrow. Because he lives, all fear is gone. Because I know who holds the future. Life is worth the living, just because he lives.*"

Gloria reflects on this time in her life that gave her the inspiration to write this song in an interview:

*It was on New Year's Eve that I sat alone in the darkness and quiet of our living room, thinking about the world and our country and Bill's discouragement and the family problems and about our baby yet unborn. Who in their right mind would bring a child into a world like this? I thought, the world is so evil. Influences beyond our control are so strong. What will happen to this child? I can't quite explain what happened at that moment, but suddenly I felt released from it all. The panic that had begun to build inside was gently dispelled by a reassuring presence that engulfed my life and drew my attention. Gradually, the fear left, and the joy began to return. I knew I could have that baby and face the future with optimism and trust. It was the Resurrection affirming itself in our lives once again. It was LIFE conquering death in the regularity of my day.*

These words of hope, as I think about them take on great significance in our world trying to recover from COVID, faced with struggle, mistrust, hate, violence and division, a world where there is much poverty, pain and uncertainty about the future. The hope that we have as Christians often stands in stark contrast to difficulties of our current circumstances, rooted in the very presence of God with us. With us through the resurrected Christ, with us through the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, and with us through the family of God that surrounds and supports us.

Just today as I write this article, I was feeling the weight of the world on me, not really even aware that it was pulling at me. I received a call from Pastor Ernie from Trinity UMC here in town just checking in with me to see how everything was going to which I responded that everything was good. In our short conversation Ernie sensed that something was weighing on me and asked if I was really ok. His gentle prodding helped me realize that at that moment I was feeling the weight of the world on my shoulders and that I didn't have to carry it alone. After further conversation and prayer, the circumstances were still the same and the weight of the moment still present. What was different was that I was reminded of the great hope I have in Jesus and God's presence with me, in this case through my brother in Christ.

Because He lives in us individually, in the community that surrounds us, and in the world today, we have hope for the future as well as the present! Because of this we celebrate Christ is risen and God is with us through the power of the Holy Spirit!

Happy Easter,

*Pastor Brian*

## 2nd Quarter Mission



**Ryan's CASE for SMILES** Ryan's Case for Smiles is a volunteer organization dedicated to improving the quality of life of children and their families as they cope with life-changing illnesses, injuries and experiences. A hospital stay or living in a shelter can be a terrifying experience, for a child. Recent research has shown that 20% of children hospitalized with cancer and 30% of their mothers suffer full symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Comparable rates of PTSD occur with U.S. veterans of the Vietnam War. Promising research shows trauma can be minimized and outcomes improved through experiences that reduce stress. A simple pillowcase can provide stress relief for emotional well-being. Volunteers create whimsical pillowcases that help Ryan's Case for Smiles get one step closer to its goal of *helping kids feel better to heal better*.

Warsaw FUMC member Shannon Jenks is the coordinator of the South Bend, Indiana Chapter of Ryan's Case for Smiles, which currently serves six local hospitals – Kosciusko Community, Parkview-Warsaw, Parkview-Columbia City, Mishawaka St. Joe, South Bend Beacon Memorial Children's and A Rosie Place; The Beaman Home; Joe's Kids; and Strengthening Families. About 3,000 pillowcases were delivered in 2020, and the South Bend Chapter is tracking to deliver more than 4,000 pillowcases in 2021.

Here are some ways you can provide life-changing support for Ryan's Case for Smiles:

Become one of 30+ volunteers! Upcoming workshops are Monday, April 12, 1p – 4:30p at Warsaw First UMC, 179 S. Indiana Street, Warsaw, IN and Tuesday, May 11, 9:30a – 1p at Lowery's Sewing Center, 707 E. Winona Avenue, Warsaw, IN (10% shopping discount)

*Coins for Cases* – fill a prescription bottle with your change . . . “Make change from your change” (bottles provided at both FUMC campuses – Downtown and The Connection) . . . drop off at the Church Office or place in the Sunday morning offering Sunday coin and mission offerings during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2021

Contact Shannon for other ways and with any questions: [smilessouthbend@gmail.com](mailto:smilessouthbend@gmail.com)

## 5th Sunday Mission Focus



The second of the four 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays in 2021 is coming up on **Sunday, May 30<sup>th</sup>**. On this particular Sunday we will be celebrating **UMCOR Sunday** at Warsaw FUMC. **UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief)** comes alongside those who suffer from natural or human-caused disasters to alleviate suffering and to be a source of help and hope for those left most vulnerable. All funds given for UMCOR Sunday will underwrite UMCOR's administrative costs so that 100% of designated gifts will benefit communities that have been upended by famine, hurricanes, wars, floods, fires or other events.

*Thank you for being part of the United Methodist connection that makes it possible for UMCOR to share hope throughout the world.*



Youth Group decorating for the Warsaw Parks & Rec Leprechaun Hunt!

## Youth Ministry

The Youth Group has started meeting again in person! We have enjoyed seeing each other these last few weeks! We are meeting Sunday at 6:30 p.m. at the Connection Campus.

## Children's Ministry

The Family Ministry team has re-implemented Children's Church during the Downtown service each Sunday. If you would like to volunteer for a Sunday, please email [communications@warsawfumc.org](mailto:communications@warsawfumc.org) to get on the schedule! The team is also currently sending monthly care packages to the children to keep connected with them.



## Church Finances

Averages Year 2021 thru March 18	
Attendance In-person: 40 Online: 200	Giving: Offering \$7,982.00 Missions \$952.36
2021 YTD February Budgeted Financials	
Operating Income:	\$67,616.48
Operating Expenses:	\$76,871.15
1st Quarter Mission Focus Bashor Children's Home	\$2,271.75

We continue to be grateful for the faithful giving of our church family. Even though there is a year-to-date deficit showing thru February, be assured the bank funds are positive. The payment of annual maintenance agreements, insurance premiums, and pandemic related supplies (in order to open the doors again) expenses during the first quarter impact the bottom line at this time.

Ann Baker, Business Manager

# give!

Online Giving is now a secure and reliable way to set up recurring or one-time donations to the church. Visit [warsawfumc.org](http://warsawfumc.org) and select "Give" at the top of the page.



## Small Group Studies

David Heim has put together this list of Small Groups that are currently meeting together. The most updated version will also be on our website at [warsawfumc.org/adult/](http://warsawfumc.org/adult/). If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to David at [david.heim@inumc.org](mailto:david.heim@inumc.org)

### Fidelity Adult Sunday School Class

Leader: Richard & Patsianne Harrold - [rpharrold72@gmail.com](mailto:rpharrold72@gmail.com)

Meets: Sunday morning at 10:00AM following worship in Basement Fellowship Hall and Classroom depending on space

Studies: Bible Study Curriculum

### Connection Adult Sunday School

Leader: Richard Balke - [rebalke74@embarqmail.com](mailto:rebalke74@embarqmail.com)

Meets: Sunday 10:15AM weekly at Connection Cafe

Studies: Bible based studies

### Monday Morning Women's Study

Leader: Kathee Reed - [katheereed@comcast.net](mailto:katheereed@comcast.net)

Meets: 2nd & 4th Monday at 9:30AM in Downtown Parlor/Library beginning Mar. 8

Studies: Bible & Devotional Books

### Tuesday 6PM Prayer Group

Leader: Sue Balke - [rebalke74@embarqmail.com](mailto:rebalke74@embarqmail.com)

Meets: Weekly at 6:00PM in Downtown Parlor/Library

Studies: Prayer Group

### Tuesday 7:30PM Small Group

Leader: Richard Balke -

[rebalke74@embarqmail.com](mailto:rebalke74@embarqmail.com)

Meets: 7:30PM weekly in the Downtown Parlor/Library

Studies: Bible based studies

### Wednesday Afternoon Study

Leader: Jan Wilcox - [wilcox.jj57@gmail.com](mailto:wilcox.jj57@gmail.com)

Meets: Every Wednesday at 1:30PM by Zoom and soon in person

Studies: Books & Bible studies

The majority of participants are retired women, but it is open to anyone, man or woman.

### Men's Zoom Bible Study

Leader: Pastor Brian—[brian.smith@inumc.org](mailto:brian.smith@inumc.org)

Meets: Every Thursday via Zoom at 8AM

Studies: Scripture for Sunday worship

Open to all men

### Men's In-Person Bible Study

Leader: Richard Harrold - [rpharrold72@gmail.com](mailto:rpharrold72@gmail.com)

Meets: Every Thursday at 8AM Downtown

Studies: Scripture for Sunday worship

Open to all men

### Thursday Night Bible Study

Leader: Pastor Brian Smith - [brian.smith@inumc.org](mailto:brian.smith@inumc.org)

Meets: Every Thursday at 7:00PM by Zoom

Studies: Scripture for Sunday's worship

### Luke & Dave's Study

Leaders: Luke Becknell & David Heim -

[luke@todaysheadlines.comcastbiz.net](mailto:luke@todaysheadlines.comcastbiz.net)

& [david.heim@inumc.org](mailto:david.heim@inumc.org)

Meets: Currently not meeting due to COVID, but will begin again in late April one Friday evening a month in the downtown parlor

Studies: Bible, books, Wired Word, etc.





## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

4/1	Nancy Kleeman	4/23
4/2	Leslie Andrews	4/24
	Finn Bailey	
	Patsianne Harrold	
4/3	Todd Hughes	4/25
	Beckett Maile	
4/4	Sara Beck	4/28
4/5	Kim (Clay) Kashman	
4/8	Kyle Mangas	
4/9	Sue Pyle	
4/10	Jan Hamrick	5/1
	Michael Jenks	
4/12	Clara Popenfoose	5/2
	Troy Turley	
4/13	Judy Miller	5/2
	Barb Teel	5/3
4/15	Ben Bradway	5/4
	Patti Longenecker	
	Nancy Williams	
4/17	Mandy Bailey	5/5
	Pat Glover	5/6
4/18	Stephanie Booth	5/8
	Bonnie Jarboe	
	Gabi Lancaster	
4/19	Barbara Gauger	5/10
4/21	Beck Beers	5/11
4/22	Mallory Bartel	5/17

## MAY BIRTHDAYS

Lee Bair	Shannon Jenks
Larry Bair	June Stealy
Joy Carlson	5/22 David McConnell II
Mitchell Gauger	Mary Read
Ashlyn Vitoux	5/23 Don Bergen
Amy Stenoish	5/24 Oliver Allen
Carolyn Williamson	Angela Neubaum
Jack May	Mike Reed
Eric Shafer	5/25 Noah Quance
	5/26 Sue Simmons
	Mari Truman
5/1 Jeff Servies	5/27 John Mannan
Kevin Williamson	Lori Stovall
5/2 Peggy Alt	5/28 Heather Drudge
Sonjia Gilbert	
5/2 Carolyn Walmer	
5/3 Julie Nethercutt	
5/4 Priscilla Conley	
Joellen Hauth	
Bill Kaster	
5/5 Dave McConnell	
5/6 Lorraine Zirkle	
5/8 Erica Gauger	
Shawn Patterson	
Bob Smith	
5/10 Laurie McCammon	
Jean Reed	
5/11 Christopher Carmer	
5/17 Brian Walsh	
5/18 Barb VanCuren	
5/19 Carol Rappe	
Lauren (Easterday)	
Salla	
5/20 Deb Mangas	
Carolyn Rearick	
5/21 John Conley	



**LILY**—The lily that blooms around Easter is a symbol of Christ's resurrection because it rises from a seemingly lifeless bulb decaying in the ground. It is also used as a symbol of Christ himself. The lily, a symbol of purity, is often used to represent the Virgin Mary.





## Community Closet

The Closet and Kitchen continues to serve the community in the drive-thru fashion and is going well. We are remaining open on the first Wednesday of the month. We have only been closed one time during the pandemic. The team has been distributing information about COVID vaccines to our Spanish speaking families this week and *Our Daily Bread* Easter devotionals the week before Easter. We are currently in need of both men and women's deodorant.

Krystal Smith—Community Closet

## College Ministry

The higher education ministry team College care packages are back! Boxes will be packed April 11 for our 15 college students. If you wish to support this cause, please bring your donations of single serve snacks, candy, or anything you think kids can use in their last weeks of the semester. Donations can be dropped off in the church office. Thank you for your support.



-Diane Wulliiman, Higher Ed Committee Chairperson  
dwulliiman@gmail.com

## Historian

ARCHIVE

I am sharing the life of Cyrus Lynch, another one of the six ministers who are buried in Warsaw Oakwood Cemetery. Rev. Lynch was pastor in 1888 and then was chosen Presiding Elder of the Warsaw District. The following is part of his funeral biography quoted from the April 30, 1908 *Northern-Indianian* obituary.

"Cyrus Washington Lynch, son of John and Levicey Lynch, was born in Campbell County, Va. Aug 16, 1831. They were Methodists, and at one of the oldtime camp-meetings Cyrus was converted while yet a boy. The family emigrated in wagons to Indiana in 1853 and settled in Randolph County. There Brother Lynch was wedded to Mary A. Harris in 1855. Of their children," ... one died in infancy" ...and two "survive. The deceased was licensed by the quarterly conference and recommended to the annual conference ...in 1858. He entered into his life work with all his heart and vigor and great revivals everywhere attended his ministry... Brother Lynch was bereft of his young wife, but he went bravely on with his work. In 1863 he found a worthy helpmate in Miss Anna Cash.... To their union five children were born...."

"One marked characteristic of Brother Lynch was his unceasing diligence and his work brought him into prominence in the conference. ...He was appointed to the presiding eldership of the Fort Wayne district, and later was sent to the Warsaw charge... the brethren instinctively turned to Brother Lynch to take up the work of the district. This he did and served the full term of six years with signal success. Then he was sent to Redkey and ... Tipton, after which he desired and received an appointment that he might return to Warsaw. He continued in the active work until 1906, when failing strength compelled retirement."

Janet K—Church Historian

# SUMMER WORSHIP PLANS

I wanted to update everyone on some changes to our summer 2021 worship schedule that Servant Council approved at our March 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

## The decision Servant Council approved at its March 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting:

We will provide only two Sunday morning worship services, 9am Downtown and 11am Connection through the summertime with the exception of the last Sunday of the month on May 30, June 27, July 25 and August 29 when we will provide one church-wide 9am worship gathering at Beyer Park on Pike Lake only.

## The reason for needed changes:

- Challenges for one pastor and worship leader to provide three Sunday morning worship services in three different locations during the summer months.
- A very hurried Sunday morning for staff and volunteers to set up and tear down for the 8am lake service then the rush to set up and lead the 9am Downtown service.

## How we arrived at the decision for changes:

- These challenges came up again at the January Ministry Team meeting along with concern over another price increase for use of Lucerne Park (from \$175 to \$200/Sunday) and it was suggested that we present these issues to Servant Council.
- These issues were brought to Servant Council at their January meeting and after some discussion it was suggested that we reserve Beyer Park (\$50/Sunday) for summer worship and table any decision regarding summer worship schedule changes until more information could be gathered regarding worship attendance at the three services.
- At the February Servant Council meeting, the summer worship plan discussion was revisited. After considering several options to pare down to two Sunday morning services, a motion to offer a 9am Lake and 11am Connection service was made and passed by a very narrow margin.
- After further discussion following the meeting through email, the Council felt it would be important to revisit this decision at their March meeting and to get further input from our Ministry and Operational Teams.
- The Operational Team met a couple of times and looked at numerous possible options for how to resolve the challenges on Sunday morning and narrowed the options down to a list of 5 that were most viable.
- At the March Servant Council meeting these options were presented. Pastor Brian made the recommendation based upon discussion with the various groups and with Music Brian Brauchla that we go with the option of having just 2 Sunday morning Summer worship services at 9am Downtown and 11am at the Connection with one church-wide service at the Lake the last Sunday of the months of May-August at 9am.
- After some discussion Servant Council approved this option with just one member opposing.

## Other factors that had to be taken into consideration:

- We have contracted with WIOE and Brian Walsh to broadcast worship at 9am on the radio and therefore this 9am time slot cannot be adjusted.
- Music Brian Brauchla is now leading our Connection Praise Team as well and has responsibility at the Connection Sunday mornings as well as Downtown.
- Communication will be key in making sure worship plans are as clear as possible. Grateful for our Communications Team that will make sure this is done.

Change is NEVER easy! Our lake lovers will be disappointed we aren't gathering every week in God's beautiful creation to worship. Our later Connection service folks may not find a 9am worship service doable. Our Downtown worship attendees may not be comfortable being outdoors for worship. Perhaps one of the hard lessons many of us learned through pandemic is that we can continue to remain connected in worship no matter where we are with our virtual options and the need to be flexible. Thank you for being patient and flexible as we navigate challenging times. We will continue to offer virtual worship services for those unable or not ready yet to gather in person.

May God bless and keep us and guide us as we seek to connect all people to God's love and purpose.

Warsaw First United Methodist Church  
 179 South Indiana Street  
 Warsaw, IN 46580-2810

Non-Profit Organization  
 US Postage PAID  
 Permit No. 21  
 Warsaw, IN 46580



or current occupant

## Warsaw First United Methodist Church



**Pastor** Brian Smith – [pastor@warsawfumc.org](mailto:pastor@warsawfumc.org)  
**Director of Worship Ministries** Brian Brauchla – [music@warsawfumc.org](mailto:music@warsawfumc.org)  
**Director of Youth Ministries** Courtney Sale – [youth@warsawfumc.org](mailto:youth@warsawfumc.org)  
**Business Manager/Finance Secretary**  
 Ann Baker – [busmgr@warsawfumc.org](mailto:busmgr@warsawfumc.org)  
**Communications Coordinator** Mandy Ferguson – [communications@warsawfumc.org](mailto:communications@warsawfumc.org)

*Our Mission:* Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Downtown: 179 South Indiana Street, Warsaw (mailing address)  
 The Connection: 1692 West Lake Street, Warsaw  
 Office: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday  
 (574) 267-6933 / [office@warsawfumc.org](mailto:office@warsawfumc.org) / [www.warsawfumc.org](http://www.warsawfumc.org)