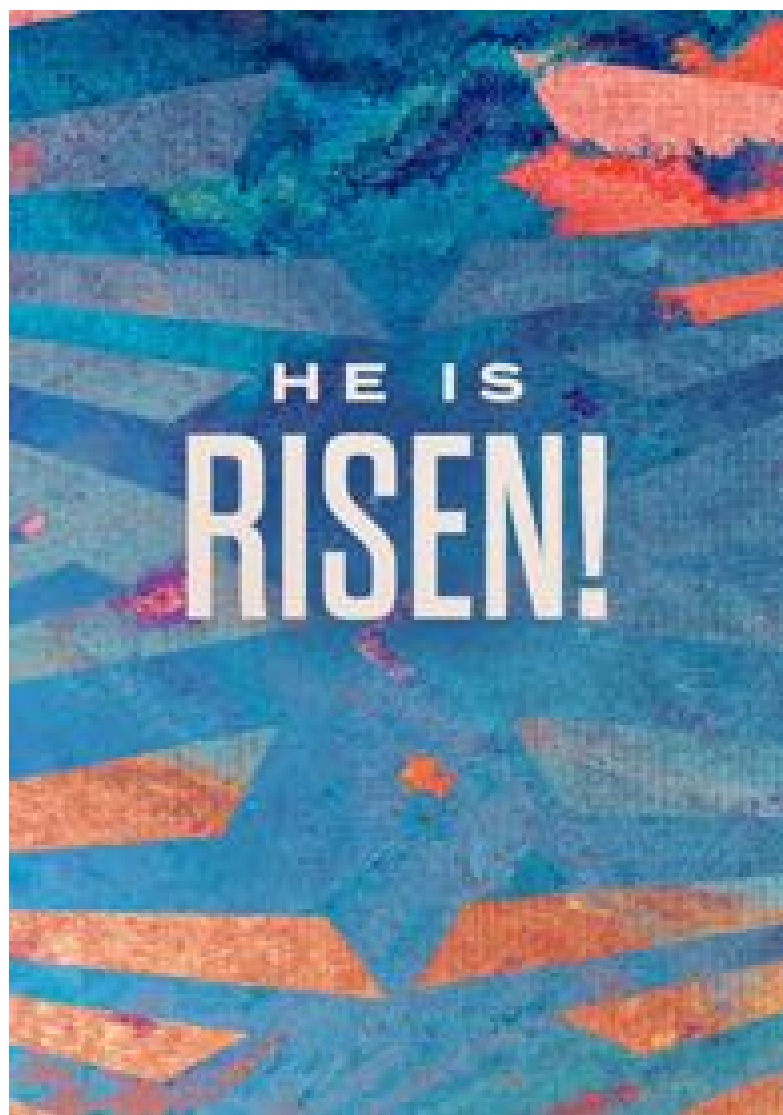


THE BEACON

March
2024

THE BEACON IS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF CROWN POINT, IN



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, MARCH 24TH

PALM SUNDAY

SERVICE SCHEDULE

• 8:00 AM • 9:30 AM • 11:00 AM •

SUNDAY, MARCH 24TH

"A NIGHT OF WORSHIP"

COME, EXPERIENCE GOD
6:00 PM IN DOWNEY HALL

THURSDAY, MARCH 28TH

MAUNDY THURSDAY

SERVICE AT 7:00 PM

FRIDAY, MARCH 29TH

GOOD FRIDAY

SERVICE AT 7:00 PM

SUNDAY, MARCH 31ST

EASTER SUNDAY

SUNRISE SERVICE @ 6:30 AM

MAPLEWOOD CEMETERY
555 S. INDIANA AVE., CROWN POINT

CHURCH SERVICES

• 8:00 AM • 9:30 AM • 11:00 AM •

SUNDAY

SERVICE

SCHEDULE

PLEASE JOIN US ON SUNDAY

8:00 AM: TRADITIONAL SERVICE

9:30 AM: CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

11:00 AM: TRADITIONAL SERVICE



MISSION
MOMENT

THE MISSION COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE TO
THANK EVERYONE FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS
TO THE UKRAINE MEDICAL SUPPLY
COLLECTION.



FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR MARK INTO THE WILD!

It may be just February, but the first hint of spring in the air. After several bouts of frigid temperatures, at least for the moment, the thermometer is hovering at about 50. The breeze carries with it the scent of wet earth and the hope that spring is on its way. For each of us, spring brings its own set of memories and emotions - one of mine is that I most keenly miss owning a motorcycle.

I have owned and rode motorcycles from the age of 17 until about 10 years ago, finally succumbing to the pleas of my family and the reality of my own convictions, I reluctantly sold my last bike. For all those years, one of my rites of early spring was to drag the bike out of storage and get it ready for summer riding.

For all their drawback, riding a motorcycle was one of my great joys for many years, but one of my chief memories of riding was the sensation of riding through the world, and not just merely in it.

For the initiated, I should explain that riding a motorcycle simply feels different than a car. In my car today, I ride in a vehicle that has been engineered to insulate me from the sensations of the road. Shock absorbers smooth out the bumps, the temperature is carefully controlled to protect me from the chill or heat, and I'm surrounded by steel and airbags to protect me from danger. Riding on a motorcycle is a profoundly different experience. On a bike, you travel through the world. You feel every bump and turn. You sense the cool or the warmth, and see things, (and occasionally smell things) that make you feel utterly alive.

The truth is that I, like most of us, prefer a life that is safe, comfortable, and insulated. I want protection from the things that tend to disturb the warm cocoon of self-involved security that I want to build around myself. We do that even in our faith. We turn to God and faith to make our lives feel comfortable and predictable. In short, to insulate us from life. But then comes Lent.

Lent, the 40 days before Easter is a time when we remember the journey of Christ toward a cross, and ultimately an empty tomb. It was a story of drama and passion, as Jesus walks through some of the very best and worst things life can give. A journey that would cost Him everything yet end in joy and victory. His was a journey that was anything but insulated, and I have the feeling that is what He wants for us too.

Christ never promised us a life of easy comfort. In fact, He promises us that the life lived following Him would be one of adventure, passion and perhaps even the occasional heartbreak. He promised to walk with us through life not simply in it. And through that to give us a life worth living, with the same glory and victory toward which He walked.

This Lent, I hope that you will take the opportunity to walk with us as we follow Him, through life. It's a journey that may not be easy or always comfortable but promises us the joy and fulfillment. And it's a journey that we take together. Come be a part of the adventure this Lent and always, as we travel with Him into life! In the wild.

Pastor Mark



Register using the QR Code above or the link below:

<https://www.kindridgiving.com/App/Form/25819d0a-37d4-4133-ae57-44cd3f6be3f2>



At the recent Love Circle February meeting, members made Valentine's Day cards for the residents at Colonial Nursing Home in Crown Point.

The Love Circle meets the first Wednesday of the month from September through June in Downey Hall. Their meetings include a program, fellowship, and refreshments.

Love Circle is one of the three circles at First United Methodist Church that are part of the United Women in Faith. We run fundraisers during the year, help fund local and worldwide missions for the UWF. Our next upcoming fundraiser is the annual Birthday Luncheon which has been in existence for over 55 years.

If you would like to know more about Love Circle, please come join us at a meeting or contact Sharon Thom at...

thom72@sbcglobal.net.

Colonial Nursing Home is a skilled nursing facility offering quality rehabilitative care as well as excellent long-term care. Colonial has the programs and support services to assist you and your loved one as their care needs increase or decrease.



Above... L to R: Beverly Rhodes, Nancy Zanellato, Louise Moore, Gail Scott, Anna Hoffman, Phyllis Meyers, & Cathy Wilson.



Above... L to R: Marcia Miller, Pat Cherry, Arliss Hove, Beverly Rhodes, & Marilyn Saylor.



Above... L to R: Kay Bazin & Anna Rominger



Community Help Network (Home of Buddy Bags) provides household and hygiene items for low-income families in South Lake County. Low-income families cannot use their SNAP (Food Stamps) benefits to purchase paper products, hygiene items or cleaning supplies.

Community Help Network offers these supplies in our Household Pantry to our families. The pantry is currently serving about one hundred families each month. Community Help Network is challenging our community to collect these items during the Lenten period. These items may be dropped off at church during Lent. This is an amazing way to “sacrifice” for others during Lent.

Items Needed in the Household Pantry...

All-purpose cleaner, dish soap, laundry pods, fabric softener sheets, hand soap, body wash, shampoo, deodorant, hand or body lotion, hand sanitizer, disposable razors, toothpaste, toothbrushes, feminine supplies, diapers, baby wipes, adult diapers, adult wipes, toilet paper, paper towels.



Our March “MISSION MOMENT” will be the Community Help Network.

The Mission of Community Help Network, Inc. is to provide programming to help eliminate food insecurity and systemic poverty in South Lake County, Indiana. We serve those citizens in our community that dwell in poverty, acclaiming their diversity with equity and inclusiveness.

So, let's come together to make a positive impact in our community. Donate today and help us ensure that no child in South Lake County goes hungry. Together, we can make a difference!

***“Never do nothing just because you can only do a little.”
-Bonnie-***

All loose change on Sunday, March 10th along with checks and envelopes will go to Community Help Network to help them achieve their mission!





GROW CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

**JOIN US THIS FOR THESE EXCITING
UPCOMING EVENTS FOR
YOUR FAMILY & CHILDREN!
FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO SIGN UP
TO ATTEND PLEASE SEE OUR
FACEBOOK PAGE
@FUMCCP.SUNDAYSCHOOL**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 23RD
10:00-12:30 PM
BUNNY HOP**



**SUNDAY, APRIL 7TH
2:00 PM IN DOWNEY HALL
- CARD MAKING FOR SOLDIERS -
MISSION PROJECT**

**May 12th @ 2:00 PM
- Mini Golf at Zao Island -
Special Event**



TAX TIME IS HERE.
THERE IS A FREE TAX
SERVICE AT CROWN
POINT LIBRARY FOR
SENIORS. YOU NEED TO
MAKE AN APPOINTMENT THRU THE
CIRCULATION DEPARTMENT. THEIR NUMBER
IS: 1-219-663-0207.

ALICE JENKINS SCHOLARSHIP

**THE APPLICATION FORMS ARE NOW
AVAILABLE FOR OUR GRADUATING
SENIORS AT THE WELCOME CENTER.**

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS ARE DUE ON

APRIL 5, 2024.

EACH SCHOLARSHIP IS UP TO \$1,000

**THE ALICE JENKINS SCHOLARSHIP
MAY BE USED FOR...**

- AN ACCREDITED CERTIFICATE •
- ACCREDITED TRADE SCHOOL •
- ACCREDITED COMMUNITY COLLEGE •
- ACCREDITED COLLEGE / UNIVERSITY •



New
Beginnings

An Older Adult Ministry



GODS BLESSINGS

CARLA SMOLEK

DIRECTOR, OLDER ADULT MINISTRIES

EPHESIANS 2:10... "FOR WE ARE GOD'S HANDIWORK, CREATED IN CHRIST JESUS TO DO HIS WORKS, WHICH GOD PREPARED IN ADVANCE FOR US TO DO."

UPCOMING NEW BEGINNING'S LUNCH'S

MARCH 4TH AT 12:00 NOON... DOWNEY HALL

OUR GUEST SPEAKER WILL BE CAPTAIN JENKINS FROM LAKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT SVU DEPARTMENT. **RESERVATIONS WERE REQUIRED BY FEBRUARY 23RD.**

APRIL 1ST AT 12:00 NOON... DOWNEY HALL

OUR GUEST SPEAKER WILL BE OUR OWN KAY HOSMER FROM AMERICA'S SENIOR'S.

**WE ASK THAT YOU PLEASE BRING A
PERSONAL HYGIENE OR
HOUSE CLEANING PRODUCT FOR THE
LITTLE HELP FOOD PANTRY
THNAK YOU!**



CRAFTY GRANNIES ARE BACK IN SESSION. FRIDAY MORNING FROM 9:30-11:30 A.M. DOWNEY HALL.

ALL ARE WELCOME. YOU DON'T NEED TO BE A GRANNIE TO HANG OUT WITH US.



IF YOU HAVE A SPARE HOUR EVERY OTHER WEEK AND WOULD LOVE TO VISIT CHURCH MEMBERS IN NURSING HOMES. PLEASE CONTACT ME 1-219-477-9115 OR 1-219-663-1515.



WE'RE CHANGING THE LOCATION FOR OUR MONTHLY BLOOD PRESSURE AND BLOOD SUGAR TESTING. IT WILL NOW BE LOCATED IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY FROM 8:30-10:30 A.M. 1ST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH.

GODS BLESSINGS,
CARLA SMOLEK
DIRECTOR OF OLDER ADULT'S

**I support
renewable energy -
IT'S CALLED COFFEE!**



ROATAN MISSION TRIP 2024



Our mission team would love to thank our church family, our friends, and families for supporting us on our latest mission trip January 27 - February 3rd, 2024.

Our team served new communities and renewed friendships to serve Him. At our eye clinic we passed out 350 pairs of eyeglasses, 300 pairs of sunglasses, and 300 eye cases made by some ladies from Heritage Quilters. During the eye clinic five different TV stations came out to the eye clinic in Coxen Hole to interview team members and clients.

During our mission trip we stayed rather busy and did not let the grass grow under our feet. In addition to the Eye Clinic...

- We painted 3 classrooms at **Sandy Bay Lighthouse Ministries Orphanage**.
- Made medical donations to the orphanage and **Clinica Esperanza**.
- **Toured Abundant Life Foundation**... they have constructed a new park, library, and affordable housing.
- We teamed with **Roatan Children's Ministries** to feed over 100 needy children.
- Shared the Lord's word and school supplies.
- Set-up two food distribution locations, one in **Flowers Bay** the other in **West End** where over 100 families were served.

I would also like to thank all the members of the 2024 Roatan Missions Team for all their help.

Bonnie Meyer
Dr. Sheila Bogart
Julie Bogart
Wilnelia Rodriguez
Jeannette Worst
Kali Rasala
Maggie Reister

God has opened new doors to continue serving his children on the island. Mark your calendar for next year's mission trip. January 25-February 8th, 2025. Please contact Carla Smolek if you're interested. Rooms are already booked.

God Blessings,
Carla Smolek Team Leader



On the pages that follow you will find pictures of our team hard at work! We hope you enjoy them!



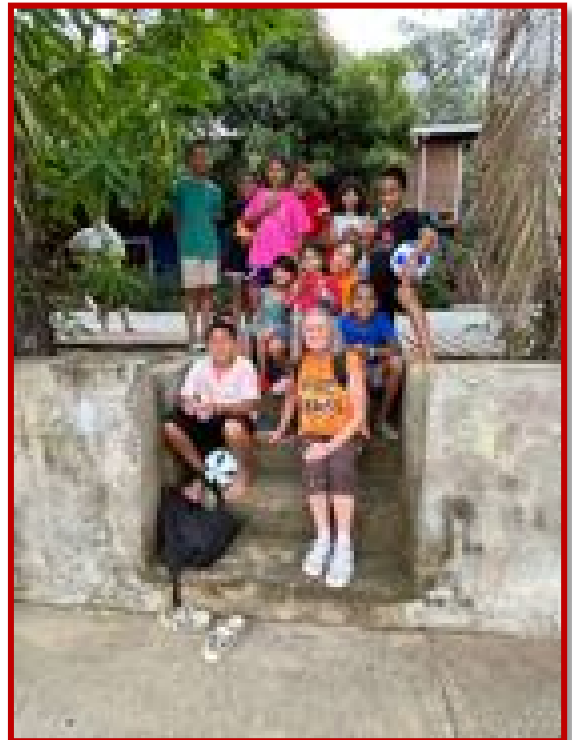
Bonnie Meyer (above) and Carla Smolek (below) with Ms. Peggy from Clinica Esperanza collected medical supplies donated.



At our Isla La Bonita Eyer Clinic we passed out 350 pairs of eyeglasses, 300 pairs of sunglasses, and 300 eye cases made by some ladies from Heritage Quilters.



Enjoying some time with the children at the Sandy Bay Lighthouse Ministries Orphanage after lunch.



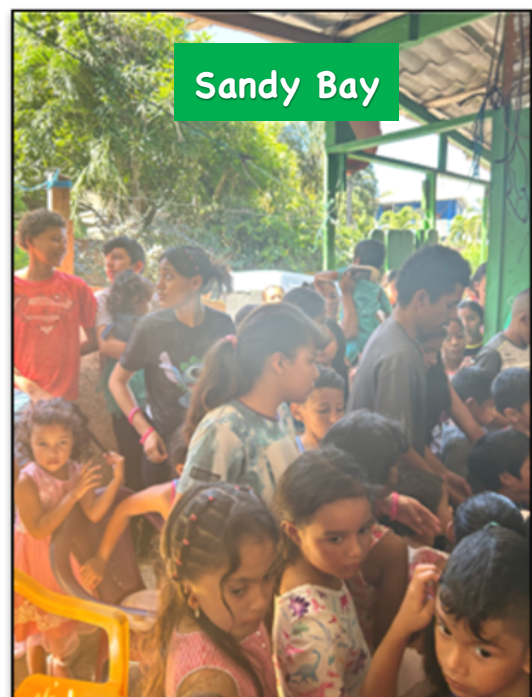
Jeannette Worst applying A fresh coat of paint
Sandy Bay Lighthouse Ministries Orphanage



Kali Rasala and Maggie Reister getting in on the fun... have you ever seen happier painters!



Providing nutritional meals for the residents...



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

NEW BEGINNINGS LUNCH

MONDAY, MARCH 4TH

NEW BEGINNINGS LUNCH

12:00 NOON IN DOWNEY HALL

A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE LAKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S
DEPARTMENT WILL BE SPEAKING

APRIL 1ST AT 12:00 NOON... DOWNEY HALL

OUR GUEST SPEAKER WILL BE OUR OWN KAY HOSMIER
FROM AMERICA'S SENIOR'S.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

MONDAY, MARCH 11TH

BLOOD DRIVE

2:30 PM TO 7:00 PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 23RD

BUNNY HOP

10:00 AM - 12:30 PM

A GROW CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES SPECIAL EVENT

SUNDAY, MARCH 24TH

A NIGHT OF WORSHIP

6:00 PM IN DOWNEY HALL

COME EXPERIENCE GOD

LED BY DANNO LAMBERT, TIM KUIPER & THE YOUTH

SATURDAY, APRIL 5TH

BEARS & BADGES

ON THE SQUARE SPORTS ACADEMY

DOORS OPEN AT 5:30

PLEASE SEE INFORMATION IN THE BEACON &
REGISTER AT FUMCCP.ORG

APRIL 7TH @ 2:00 PM

- CARD MAKING FOR SOLDIERS -
MISSION PROJECT





FRIDAY, APRIL 6TH AT 6PM
(DOORS OPEN AT 5:30PM)
THE ON SQUARE SPORTS ACADEMY



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
PRESENTS

BEARS & BADGES
FUNDRAISER DINNER FOR CROWN POINT FIRST RESPONDERS.
PROCEEDS WILL HELP PURCHASE AED UNITS FOR
FIRST RESPONDERS & THE CROWN POINT COMMUNITY

SPECIAL GUESTS...
JIM MILLER
QUARTERBACK & NFL Radio
DENNIS MCKINNON
WIDE RECEIVER & Author

Tickets \$ 50



• **SILENT AUCTION OF BEARS MEMORABILIA** •

WWW.BEARSANDBADGES.NET

4th Anniversary Dinner/Fundraiser

Saturday April 17th Doors Open at 5:00 pm
Signature Banquets 1906 East Commercial Lowell IN



"Sustaining Our Vision"

Tickets \$125 per person



The QR Code to purchase tickets



Guest Speaker
Crown Point Mayor
Peter Land



Live Music From
Jill Haymon

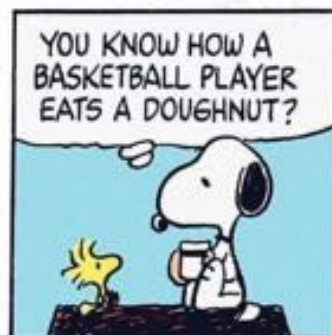
Purchase your tickets before March 20th and your name will be put in a drawing for one of ten Crown Point medals at our April event

The Hotts



**Raffles
Door Prizes
Wine Pull
Mystery Gift Cards**

Community Apple Banquets, Inc. 1906 East Commercial Lowell, Indiana 46049
100% of the proceeds will go to the City of Lowell. 100% of the proceeds
www.communityapplebanquets.com



I asked myself if I was crazy and we all said no.

