



March-April-May
2020

CALVARY COMMENTS

FROM THE PASTOR



"The wrong things the sinful self does are clear: committing sexual sin, being morally bad, doing all kinds of shameful things, worshiping false gods, taking part in witchcraft, hating people, causing trouble, being jealous, angry or selfish, causing people to argue and divide into separate groups, being filled with envy, getting drunk, having wild parties, and doing other things like this. I warn you now as I warned you before: The people who do these things will not have a part in God's kingdom. But the fruit that the Spirit produces in a person's life is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these kinds of things. —Galatians 5:19-23

The year 2020 has arrived and with it come a whole host of anxieties about the future. Such anxieties are normal in an election year as we face the prospect of voting on positions of significant leadership in our country—and as happens every general election year, it is also the year in which our quadrennial General Conference in The United Methodist Church is held. As we face our national elections and our church's General Conference, anxieties are running high. What will happen, and what will it mean for us? For our nation? For our church? Will there be changes? Will we be able to live with the changes that are made?

Unfortunately, when anxieties run high, tempers often run high as well! As I look at the state of both our nation and our United Methodist denomination, I grieve at the types of behavior that appear to have become acceptable. I watch as people turn a blind eye to the despicable behaviors of some of our leaders, as people who claim to be followers of Christ make excuses for the ways in which our leaders (who sometimes also claim to be followers of Christ) talk about and treat people who see things differently than they do. I see hatred, jealousy, anger, and selfishness. I hear heated arguments and watch as our country and our church becomes more and more divided. I watch as those who hold different opinions and ideologies demonize each other and smear each other with hate speech instead of making any effort to truly listen, understand, and learn from one another. I notice how we are quick to point out the faults in those on the "other side" of the fence, while failing to notice or acknowledge similar faults on our own side. These types of behaviors are not acceptable for people who claim to be true followers of Christ! Such behaviors are rooted in our sinfulness and our depravity; and while none of us can claim perfection, true followers of Christ should be working hard to transform their lives into His likeness, making such sinful behaviors and attitudes less and less evident in their lives as the fruit of the Spirit grows to maturity within them.

In Matthew 7 Jesus says that we will know the true nature of people by their fruits. Anyone can say they are a Christian—people running for office often claim faith in order to gain leverage with Christian voters (one of many ways people misuse God's name and take it in vain)—but just because a person *claims* Christian faith does not mean they are *living* as a true disciple of Jesus Christ!! Look for their fruits—in their speech, in their actions, in their demeanor in debates, in their propaganda, in the way they talk about and treat others, especially those who stand on the other side of the "fence". Do you see evidence of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control in their lives? It is good for us to seek to elect persons of Christian conviction into office, but when we do so we want to be as certain as possible that we are electing persons of *true* Christian conviction, and not persons who see Christian "faith" as nothing more than a way to gain leverage with their voter base. A true follower of Christ should not have to flaunt their faith about or make a show of it in order to convince people they are a Christian; a true follower of Christ will be known through the fruits of his or her life—and those fruits will be evident whether they actively speak of their faith or not! This year—keep your eyes open. Keep your ears open. Look for the fruit!!

In Christ's Service,
Pastor Shalimar

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE YOUR NEWSLETTER ELECTRONICALLY

Do to the increasing cost of postage, we will begin publishing "Calvary Comments" quarterly and offering the option of receiving the newsletter electronically as a PDF document. If you are able and willing to receive an electronic copy of the newsletter in place of a hard copy, please contact the church office to let us know and to ensure we have your updated e-mail address on file. We will continue providing hard copies to those who wish to receive them.

EVENTS IN MARCH-APRIL-MAY

March 4	Trustees Meeting
March 14	Celebration of Gene Cogan's Life @ American Legion
March 29	Easter Flower Orders Due
April 1	Trustees Meeting
April 5	Palm/Passion Sunday
April 8	Finance Meeting
April 9	Maundy Thursday Service
April 10	Good Friday Service
April 11	Easter Sunday Service/Easter Egg Hunt
April 15	Staff Parish Meeting
April 25	Camp Lakewood Work Day
April 29	Administrative Council
April 30-May 2	Rummage Sale
May 2	Camp Lakewood Work day
May 3-15	United Methodist General Conference Session in Minneapolis
May 25	Memorial Day—Office Closed



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church®

Worship

*"All the earth will worship You, and will sing praises to You;
They will sing praises to your name." Psalm 66:4*

During Lent we will continue our focus on the Fruit of the Spirit. We will then turn to a focus on Jesus' passion and resurrection and some of the sound teaching he gave us in the Gospel of John.

March 1 1st Sunday in Lent "Fruit of the Spirit: Kindness" <i>We will celebrate communion this Sunday</i>	April 19 2nd Sunday of Easter John 20:19-31
March 8 2nd Sunday in Lent Daylight Savings Time Begins "Fruit of the Spirit: Generosity"	April 26 3rd Sunday of Easter Luke 24:13-35 Native American Ministries Sunday
March 15 3rd Sunday in Lent "Fruit of the Spirit: Faithfulness"	May 3 4th Sunday of Easter John 10:1-10 <i>We will celebrate communion this Sunday</i>
March 22 4th Sunday in Lent UMCOR Sunday "Fruit of the Spirit: Gentleness"	May 10 5th Sunday of Easter John 14:1-14 Mother's Day/ Festival of the Christian Home
March 29 5th Sunday in Lent "Fruit of the Spirit: Self-Control"	May 17 6th Sunday of Easter John 14:15-21
April 5 Passion/Palm Sun- day Philippians 2:5-11 <i>We will celebrate communion this Sunday</i>	May 24 7th Sunday of Easter Luke 24:44-53 Ascension Sunday Heritage Sunday/ Aldersgate Day GUEST PREACH- ER
April 12 Easter Sunday Matthew 28:1-10 <i>We will celebrate communion this Sunday</i>	May 31 Day of Pentecost John 7:37-39 <i>Wear red to church this Sun- day!</i>

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY Sunday, April 5 9:00 a.m.

We will begin the service with a joyous procession of palms and end with the story of Christ's passion as we lead into Holy Week. Prayer stations will be set up in the narthex for use before and after this service and throughout Holy Week.

MAUNDY THURSDAY Thursday, April 9 7:00 p.m.

This service will be held in the Narthex. Holy Communion will be served during this service as we recall Jesus' last supper with his disciples. Participants will also have the opportunity to share in foot washing or hand washing after the example of Jesus if they so choose. Prayer stations will be set up in the narthex to use before, after, and during this service.

GOOD FRIDAY Friday, April 10 7:00 p.m.

During this somber but powerful service we will hear the story of Christ's passion and recall with awe the sacrifice he made for us on the cross. Prayer stations will be set up in the narthex for use before and after this service.

EASTER SUNDAY Sunday, April 12 9:00 a.m.

Holy Communion will be served this Sunday as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord!

"Worship is an encounter with the living God through the risen Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit"—UM Book of Worship

CELEBRATING THE CHRISTIAN YEAR

LENT

Lent is a season lasting 40 days (excluding Sundays) stretching from Ash Wednesday until Easter. Lent is a penitential season, focused on devotion and discipline as we prepare ourselves for the joyous Easter celebration. The color for Lent is purple, symbolizing royalty and penance.

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

Palm/Passion Sunday marks the beginning of "Holy Week"—the holiest week in the Christian year, tracing the events in the final week leading up to Jesus' death and resurrection. On this day we celebrate Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem and are reminded how quickly we can move from welcoming Christ to rejecting Him.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

"Maundy" means "mandate" and on Maundy Thursday we remember the mandate Christ gave his disciples in John 13 to love one another. On this day we recall Jesus' last supper with his disciples, his act of washing their feet, his time of anguished prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane, and his arrest. "Maundy Thursday," the first day in the "Triduum" which stretches through Holy Saturday.

GOOD FRIDAY

Good Friday is "good" because of what Jesus did for us on this day in order that we might be saved. On Good Friday we recall Christ's passion—his crucifixion and death. There is no color for Good Friday. The altar and sanctuary are stripped bare and crosses are draped in black.

EASTER

Easter is a season lasting 50 days, also known as "The Great Fifty Days," which begins on Easter Sunday and stretches until the Day of Pentecost. During the Easter Season we celebrate Christ's victory over death and his continued presence with us today.

ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Ascension of the Lord occurs 40 days after Easter. As this always falls on a Thursday (May 24th this year), it is usually celebrated on the 7th Sunday of Easter. On Ascension Day we celebrate the ascension of Jesus Christ into heaven where he sits at the right hand of God awaiting the end of time and the final judgment.

DAY OF PENTECOST

The 8th and final Sunday of Easter is the Day of Pentecost, when we remember and celebrate the movement of the Holy Spirit, whose power transformed a group of frightened disciples into the greatest evangelists of all time and whose power continues to strengthen and motivate us to share the gospel today.

MISSIONS

"How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses to help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action." —1 John 3:17-18

Missions of the Month

All undesignated "missions" funds collected during that month will go toward that month's selected mission.

MARCH:

Costa Rica Mission Project, Inc.

Costa Rica Mission Project, Inc., run by UVMIM missionaries Wil and Yolanda Bailey, is committed to working with the Methodist Church in the southern zone of Costa Rica, building relationships, parsonages, and churches. Funds will support them in their ministry efforts. Go to www.costaricamissionproject.org for more information.

APRIL:

Common Grace Ministries

Common Grace Ministries Inc. serves Noble County residents who are experiencing financial crisis. Common Grace assists with rent, utilities, and medical bills. They also have a food pantry to assist those in the 46755 area code and a furniture bank for those who need assistance furnishing their homes. To learn more about Common Grace Ministries, Inc., their ministries, and eligibility requirements, go to <http://www.commongraceministries.org>.

MAY:

Life and Family Services

Life and Family Services is dedicated to assisting young families in Noble County in taking healthy steps toward better parenting and daily living choices. They strive to give accurate information to women facing unplanned pregnancies, wanting to know their pregnancy options, needing pregnancy education, and parenting information. They are also committed to providing quality childcare for the children of single teens and students. To learn more about Life and Family Services go to <http://www.lfsfamilies.org/>

"Risk-taking Mission and Service is one of the fundamental activities of church life that is so critical that failure to practice it in some form results in a deterioration of the church's vitality and ability to make disciples of Jesus Christ." —Robert Schnase

MISSION TRIP TO CAMP MONETO

Nashville, IN

Details are still being worked out and dates finalized, but we are planning a half-week mission trip to Camp Moneto, one of our seven United Methodist Camps this summer—most likely in late June. Camp Moneto is located just down the road from Brown County State Park in southern Indiana. We will be staying on site and assisting with some general upkeep and maintenance projects. Keep your eyes and ears open for more information in the coming weeks.

CAMP LAKEWOOD WORK DAYS

Saturday, April 25

Saturday, May 2

9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Summer Camp is just around the corner and Camp Lakewood needs help getting ready for all the campers who will encounter Jesus at camp this summer! Sign up sheets will go out in April. All skill levels (and no skill level!) are welcome. There will be plenty to do!

IMPACT 2818 OUTDOOR MINISTRIES SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION

Registration is open for our Impact 2818 Summer Camps! There are camps for people from all ages, from Kindergarten through graduating Seniors as well as family camps for the whole family to attend. Avilla Calvary will cover 50% of the registration fee. Go to www.beacamper.com.

ADOPT A TEACHER



Please continue to pray for the Avilla Elementary teachers we've adopted this year! One of our adopted teachers, Melinda Delashmit, moved to a new school so we have picked up her replacement, Brody Dixon. A huge thank you to everyone who purchased items off of the teachers' wish lists this year!! All the teachers have been VERY appreciative!!

Sarah Chesebrough (Art)
 Lauren Clark (1st Grade)
 Brody Dixon (Gym)
 Ethan Hood (2nd Grade)
 Katherine Matthews (Music)
 Bethany Swary (Functional Living Skills)

Here are excerpts from the communications I've had with some of the teachers:

From Sarah Chesebrough: Please send a heartfelt thank you to your congregation- for the prayers and for the items for my room. Both are such wonderful blessings. If I could ask for a special prayer request - for all of the Avilla and Northside students to feel warm and safe this holiday season, for the love of family and friends to surround them all, and for God blessings and love to fill their lives. Also- patience for me to remember that I am Gods light in their world, 45 minutes each week.

From Melinda Delashmit: I have accepted a teaching position at the high school and will be transferring over next week. I want to thank you and all the members of the church for supporting our classroom this year! They have enjoyed the games on the playground and the treats. I also greatly appreciate the prayers over our school and our classroom.

From Lauren Clark: Thank you so much for the lovely card and the amazing classroom items! I am excited to use the cute stickers on the papers the students turn in. The magnets I received are awesome and heavy duty. I appreciate all that you are doing to help me out.

From Ethan Hood: Thank you so much for the card and gift card to Walmart. It's really appreciated and I really am excited for the adopt a classroom project.

From Bethany Swary: You have no idea what an answer to prayer this is. Switching districts has not been kind to my finances. I have been teaching special ed for 15 years now. I was literally just thinking "my kids need so many things how am I going to prioritize everything and still stick within our family budget." It's true that teachers so often dip into their own pockets to give students what they need and deserve. This is such a blessing.....truly. Thanks so much for all you do, it is much appreciated.

READING BUDDIES

This year, Pastor Shalimar and Mrs. Diehl were the only volunteers for the Reading Buddies program at Avilla Elementary. Between them they reached a total of 20 kids—many of whom come from very rough home situations and just need some one-on-one attention. The time spent with these children is a true blessing! Please keep your eyes and hearts open for next year's Reading Buddies program. Is God calling you to pour your life into one or more school children next school year??

PROJECT 2:16

"FIGHT HUNGER: GIVE HOPE"

Thank you to everyone who made our Project 2:16 mission day a success!! Whether you contributed financially to our fundraising efforts or joined us for the food packing experience, you are appreciated and we couldn't have done it without you! On Sunday, February 16th, fifteen representatives from Avilla Calvary traveled to Project 2:16 in Fort Wayne and packed 3026 meals for hungry people! These meals, a mixture of rice, protein, vegetables, and vitamins, are sent to places here in the states and around the world to fight hunger and malnutrition. The meals we packed will be sent to Haiti. Look for us to continue supporting this mission in the future!! Thank you to the following team-members who helped us pack: Angie, Cady, Carly, & Cara Smith, Julie & Rachel Becker, Scott & Janice Parks, Brad & Sandy Igney, Dianna Danalds, Kathy Hile, Larry Corbin, Steve Smurr, and Shalimar Holderly.

If you'd like to learn more about this organization, go to:
<https://project-216.org/>

Special Sunday Offerings

To learn more go to
[http://www.umc.org/
 how-we-serve/special-
 sundays.](http://www.umc.org/how-we-serve/special-sundays)

March 22:
 UMCOR Sunday

April 26:
 Native American
 Ministries Sunday

STAMPS & SODAS

**CANCELLED
 POSTAGE
 STAMPS**
 Are sent to Marian
 Mission Store-
 house

**POP CAN
 TABS**
 Are sent to Ronald
 McDonald House.
 For more infor-
 mation go to
www.rmhc.org

Discipleship

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel. —Philippians 1:27

NOTES ABOUT OUR UPCOMING GENERAL CONFERENCE

The General Conference of The United Methodist Church will meet in Minneapolis May 3-15, 2020. The General Conference meets quadrennially and is the only body of the United Methodist Church with the authority to make changes to our doctrine and polity. A total of 862 delegates were elected by each Annual and Central Conference around the world in 2019. 55.9% of delegates will be from the U.S., 32% from Africa, 6% from the Philippines, 4.6% from Europe and the remainder from concordat churches that have close ties to The United Methodist Church. Sixteen lay and clergy delegates from our Indiana Conference will participate in this event.

While the General Conference will be dealing with legislation around a great variety of issues, the issues you are likely to hear the most about, especially on secular media, are hot-button issues around human sexuality and proposed plans to split the church. Please be forewarned that secular media sources, which in no way understand the workings of the church, often put out reports that are misinformed and misleading. As far as they are concerned, the more sensational, the better! Please do not be overly alarmed by anything you hear about the Conference proceedings on secular news media! It is my belief that Satan loves nothing more than to use the media to incite fear, anger, distrust, and dissension among God's people in his efforts to destroy Christ's Church! Furthermore, any changes made to the doctrine and polity of our church will not go into effect until January 2021 at earliest. If there are changes that affect us, we will have time to pray, discuss, and adjust as needed.

Yes, there will be changes. Changes are made very four years and rarely do they make any significant impact on the ministry of the local church. Yes, it is possible changes may be made with which we disagree or which cause us pain. We would do well to remember that changes that cause us to rejoice may cause others pain, and changes which cause us pain may cause others to rejoice. We are all sinners in need of a Savior! None of us has a monopoly on God's love, and each of us is just as likely to be wrong about our understanding and interpretation of Scripture as another. Follow the advice of Peter in 1 Peter 3: "So all of you should live together in peace. Try to understand each other. Love each other like brothers and sisters. Be kind and humble" and the advice of Paul in Colossians 3: "Show mercy to others. Be kind, humble, gentle, and patient. Don't be angry with one another, but forgive each other. If someone has wronged you, forgive them. Forgive others because the Lord forgave you. Together with these things, the most important part of your new life is to love each other."

In your conversation about what comes out of General Conference, guard your words and your attitudes toward others, especially those with whom you disagree. Avoid hateful speech, name-calling, and stereotyping large groups of people. Don't demonize those whose ideas and opinions you oppose. Don't let Satan use the controversies within our Church as a weapon to turn us and the world away from Christ who taught us that we would be identified by the love we show each other!

General Conferences come and go. Christian denominations come and go. The things of this earth are temporary, but Jesus Christ is the same—yesterday, today, and forever! Remember, our faith is not in our structure, nor is it in the finer points of our theology and doctrine or our interpretation of specific passages of Scripture—our faith is in Jesus Christ, crucified, died, risen, and coming again! Regardless of what happens in Minneapolis, our mission to "make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world" remains the same! Stay focused on the mission! Put your trust in God!

State of the Church: Protocol, Perspective, and Priorities *A Conversation with Bishop Trimble*

Please plan to join Bishop Trimble for a discussion on the State of the Church. He will share details about the Protocol, offer perspective, and clarify priorities of the church in Indiana, but he also wants to hear from you. Come ready to share in this dialogue about the state of The United Methodist Church.

- **Huntington Evangelical United Methodist Church:** Saturday, April 4 at 10:00am (ET)*

*If you are unable to attend in Huntington, other locations include Fishers (Mar 21), Washington (Mar 22), Seymour (Apr 19), and Lafayette (Apr 26). See Pastor Shalimar for details if you would like to

THE UPPER ROOM

The *Upper Room* devotional is published every other month and is available in the narthex free of charge! Pick up your copy today! Find additional devotional resources at www.upperroom.org.

Sacred Heart Bible Study

Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m.
@Presence Sacred Heart
Nursing Home

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

March

Gail Rodenbeck	1
Michelle Windle	2
Joy Sneary	15
Charlene Rhodes	21
Dale Richmond	31

April

Mary Felger	6	Trent Hile	15
Jim Felger	10	Brad Kemerly	17
Sandy Igney	10	Skye Caskey	21
Matt Kemerly	11	Keith Weimer	22
Cobin Moriarity	12	Jack Chaffins	24
Angie Moriarity	13	Lucas Richmond	25
Tony Gienger	14	Cody Parks	29
Abby Patrick	14		

May

Ed Ransom	1	Fred Clevenger	19
Bill Fetter	7	Nicole Harding	19
Jeff Danalds	10	Cara Smith	23
Scott Henry	12	Vickie Kemerly	27
Bill Lane	16	Wylene Desper	29
Scott Parks	17		

MARCH

- 16 Gary & Dorothy McKinley
- 22 Amber & Mike Taggart

APRIL

- 10 Jack & Sally Chaffins
- 17 Marvin & Renee Rodenbeck
- 18 Jeff & Dianna Danalds
- 19 Larry & Susie Corbin
- 26 Doyle & Rheta Igney

MAY

- 12 Scott & Janice Parks
- 15 Dan & Heidi Hart
- 18 Daniel & Kristina Desper
- 22 Earl & Nancy Eulitt
- 22 Dale & Liz Richmond
- 24 Walt & Shirley Kern
- 26 Brad & Amanda Kemerly



COLLECTION FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS AND MILITARY PERSONNEL

Twice a year we take up a special collection for our college students and military personnel. This spring we are collecting money which will be used to buy gift cards for these people to let them know we are thinking about them and praying for them, whether they are a student in college or serving in one of our military branches. If you would like to contribute, please make your check out to "Avilla Calvary UMC" and write "College Students" on the memo line. We will be collecting money through March 8th.

COLLEGE STUDENTS:

- Payton Hart
- Cassie Richmond
- Paul Shull

MILITARY PERSONELL:

- Chris Smurr



We lift up the families of the following saints-in-glory as they mourn the passing of their loved ones:

- Gloria Mullett (Dec. 21, 2019)
- Bishop Mike Coyner (Jan. 8, 2020)
- Gene Cogan (Jan. 29, 2020)

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Eugene "Gene" Cogan

**American Legion Post 240
Avilla, Indiana**

**Saturday March 14, 2020
1:00pm - - 4:00pm**

The Family of "Gene" Invites Everyone to Celebrate with Them on this Special Day.



He was a World War II veteran serving in the US Army. He was among the soldiers that landed on the beaches of Normandy. Gene was an educator and principal for many years, and also served as a State Representative for the Indiana General Assembly in 1965 and 1966.

VISITS AND CARDS

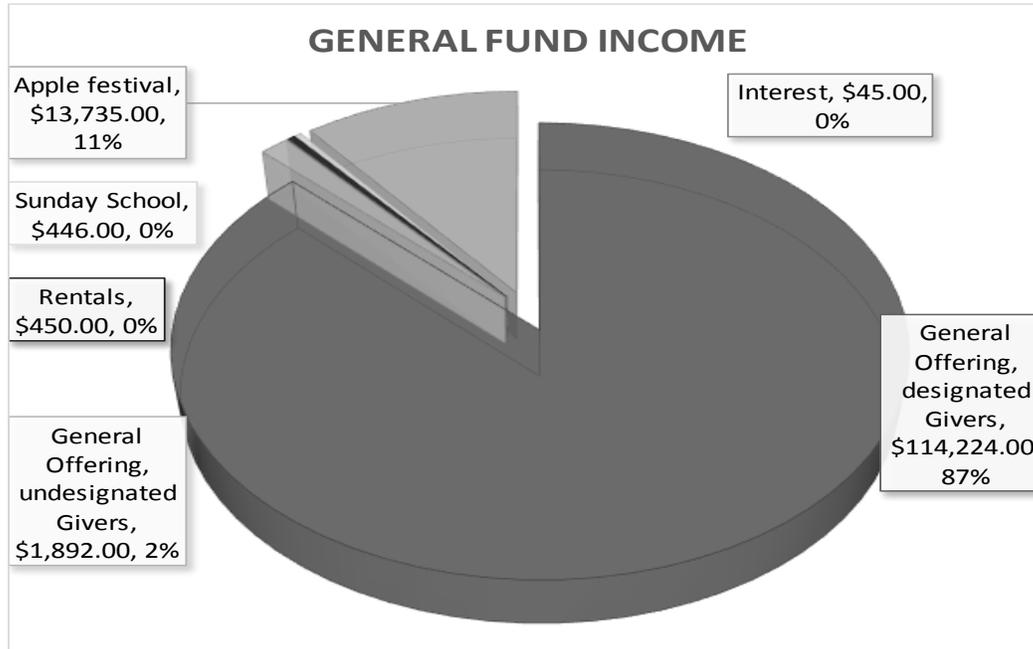
Keep the following in your thoughts and prayers and drop them a card or stop by for a visit over the next three months to brighten the days!

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Lutheran Life Villages: | Chapman Place: |
| Sharon Shisler | Margaret Ross |
| Orchard Point: | At Home: |
| Joy Sneary | Nicole Harding |
| Dianna Zimmerman | Gailanna Ransom |
| Presence Sacred Heart: | Sally Sibert |
| Ron Harding | Allan Simon |
| Pat Meyer | Ann VanZile |
| Wilma Mueller | |



2019 INCOME & EXPENSE REPORT

When we join the church as a professing member, we pledge to support it with our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. Gifts come to us in the form of time, talents, and treasures. Every Sunday we collect Tithes and Offerings, an act of worship in which we return to God a portion of what he has entrusted to us as a way of giving honor and glory to the One who so faithfully provides and showing our trust in his provision. The word "tithe" means 10%—a true tithe is 10% of our income, the biblical minimal standard for giving. "Offerings" refer to those gifts we give above and beyond the 10% that already belongs to God. At Avilla Calvary we seek to be good stewards of all the financial resources entrusted to us—whether it be for the General Fund, the Building Fund, the Memorial Fund, Missions, or any other fund in our church. The Finance Committee would like to express a huge "Thank You" to everyone who helped to provide financial support for our ministries in 2019 and looks forward with you to a wonderful year of ministry in 2020!!



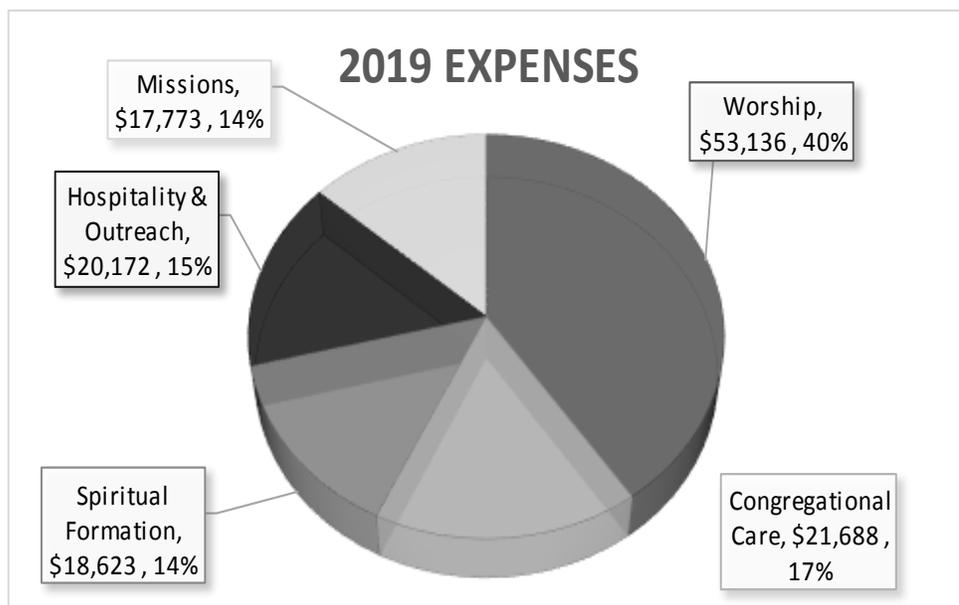
The "General Fund" is the fund that supports the church's operational budget. This includes all of our building expenses (gas, electric, general maintenance, etc.), staff compensation packages, office expenses (phone, copies, paper, etc.), and ministry expenses (Sunday School curriculum, worship resources, etc.). This graph helps you see the various avenues of income that support our operational budget. As you can see, in 2019 we pulled \$13,735 from the Apple Festival funds in order to balance our budget at the end of the year. Please note that this chart only shows giving to the General Fund and does not include any giving to designated funds such as Missions or Memorials.

2019 MISSIONS GIVING

In addition to our General Fund giving, one of our most popular funds is our Mission Fund. 100% of the monies given to a designated mission are sent straight to that mission. Each month we feature a "Mission of the Month." We also observe six "Special Offerings" throughout the course of the year. Individuals are also welcome to write a check to the church designated for a mission of their choice at any point in the year. In 2019, not only did we raise significant funds to help send a mission team to Costa Rica, we also supported the following missions over and above our general giving in the amount of \$8627!

Costa Rica Mission Projects, Inc	\$198	Native American Ministries Sun.	\$40
Common Grace	\$129	World Communion Sunday	\$15
UMCOR	\$1040	Debbie Vance Medical Need	\$210
Trinity Day Care (Albion)	\$53	Destiny Rescue	\$105
Restore Avilla	\$333	Riley Hospital	\$24
Life & Family Services	\$262	Avilla Teachers/School	\$239
Ken Vance	\$1200*	Project 216	\$345
Mountain Mission	\$59		
Noble House	\$287		
Camp Lakewood	\$223		
Avilla Food Pantry	\$3290		
Bishop's Christmas Offering	\$575		

*Please Note: Our church is committed to supporting Ken Vance in the amount of \$1200 each year. The difference (what is not covered by individual gifts) is drawn from the general budget.



All General Fund giving is used for ministry. Our ministry is made possible, in part, by faithful care of our building and grounds and the work of our staff persons. You may not think of something like an electric bill as being a “ministry expense”—but imagine how limited our ministry would be if we failed to pay our bills!! We would be worshipping with no heat, no air, no light and it is unlikely anyone would want to participate in Boy Scouts or take a Bible Study in a building that was dirty, dark and cold! For the purposes of this report all expenses, including building, office, and salary expenses, have been divided proportionately according to their use in each of these five categories: Worship, Congregational Care, Spiritual Formation, Hospitality and Outreach, and Missions.

WORSHIP: 40% of general fund giving supports worship! This includes the work of the pastor and secretary to plan worship and print worship materials, the contributions of our musicians, the use of the building (heat, air, etc.), and the work our custodians do to ensure that our worship space is clean.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE: 17% of general fund giving supports congregational care! This includes the time the pastor spends doing pastoral care, grief mailings that are sent to grieving families, cards and packages sent to shut-ins and college students, etc.

HOSPITALITY AND OUTREACH: 15% of general fund giving supports hospitality and outreach. This includes the time the pastor spends reaching out into the community, the efforts of our secretary to keep the office staffed, the purchase of any outreach materials or mailings, our web presence, the efforts of our custodians to ensure that our building is well-kept for individuals and groups who use it, and necessary building expenses.

MISSIONS: 14% of general fund giving supports missions. This includes our yearly \$1200 commitment in support of missionary Ken Vance as well as our Conference and District tithes (10% and 1% of our general fund giving respectively) which support the wider ministry of The United Methodist Church throughout the nation and the world.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION: 14% of general fund giving supports spiritual formation. This includes the time and resources the pastor uses for Bible study, Sunday School curriculum, devotional materials, use of the building for classes, etc.

**YOUR GIFTS MAKE MINISTRY POSSIBLE!! THANK YOU
FOR YOUR FINANCIAL FAITHFULNESS IN 2019!**

THE STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Gen. Offering for Dec/Jan/Feb	30,557.42
Expenses for Dec/Jan/Feb	32,292.90
2020 Year to date offerings:	11,379.60
2020 Year to date expenses:	18,635.94

Other Dec/Jan/Feb Offerings	
Missions—Food Pantry	\$765
Missions—Bishop’s Christmas	\$565
Missions—Project 216	\$722
Missions—Avilla Teachers	\$154
Missions—UMCOR	\$40
Missions—Ken Vance	\$206
Missions—Camp Scholarships	\$644
Missions—College Students	\$64
Building fund	\$1185
Trustees	\$240

Average attendance for Dec:	58
Average attendance for Jan:	54
Average attendance for Feb:	58
Total # of attendees in Dec/Jan/Feb	135

PLEASE NOTE: Income and expenses vary throughout the year. At the beginning of the year we pay some hefty bills, such as our property tax which is reflected in the year to date expenses. At the end of the year, any deficit is able to be covered by funds raised at the Apple Festival. The Finance Committee chooses to wait until the end of the year to rectify the account due to the fact that income often increases toward the end of the year to make up some of the deficit. While we would ideally like to see all our expenses met by our General Offering income each month, thanks to all our hard work at the Apple Festival every year we are able to continue to meet our bills during those times when our expenses exceed our income. Your financial contributions make a real difference, and we thank you for helping to ensure that our church is staffed, our building maintained, and our ministry to the church and community supported!

“As people grow in relationship to Christ, they grow also in the practice of Extravagant Generosity, offering more of themselves for the purposes of Christ and providing the resources that strengthen ministry and that help the church touch the lives of more and more people in the same way their own lives have been transformed by God.” —Robert Schnase



To the Calvary Methodist Church: Thank you for the fruit basket—Nicole Harding

Pastor Shalimar & Members: Thank you so much for remembering Diana this Christmas season. Blessings to all! —Becky Zimmerman

Thank you to everyone who sent me cards at gifts over the Christmas holiday!! I appreciate you all so much and am so thankful to have the opportunity to be your pastor! — Pastor Shalimar

Dear Friends in Mission: The dear people you just helped with your gift to UMCOR (\$470) may never have the opportunity to meet you, but if they did, I am certain their response would be—Thank you!! Since 1940, UMCOR has served as the humanitarian agency of The United Methodist Church, providing disaster response and relief to areas impacted by natural and man-made disasters around the world. And through your financial support, you are serving within a vital network of interactive relationships as UMCOR responds to increasingly-frequent and destructive storms—sharing 100% of donated funds with those in need! Together, may we continue to reveal the love of God for men, women, and children of all ethnic, racial, cultural, and national backgrounds and to demonstrate genuine love for our neighbors. —Thomas G. Kemper & Roland Fernandes

Dear Calvary United Methodist Church, The Riley Cheer Guild is a volunteer auxiliary that provides comfort and cheer to patients and caregivers at Riley Hospital for Children at IU Health and IU Health adult hospitals....Our mission is to support hospital programs that enhance the experience of a hospital stay for patients and their caregivers while at one of the hospitals they serve. Thank you so much for your kind donation of \$24 for patients and families at Riley Hospital for children and Simon Cancer Center at IU Health. The money was collected at your Vacation Bible School this past summer. We are so appreciative of your congregation's wonderful spirit of kindness and caring. Your gift will help to support the Riley Cheer Guild Toy Room, which provides up to 14,000 items to patients and families each month. This donation will help to stock items from our Toy room wish list, including art/craft supplies....Thank you again for providing financial support to help meet the needs of our patients and families. You make our hospitals a warm and welcoming place for those in need of our services. — Ann Hannan, MT-BC, Director



NEWS FROM OUR SCOUTS

Cub Scout Pack 3115

Hello from all the cubs and leaders. We were happy to be with you on Scout Sunday. We thought more were planning on attending but the flu bug kept several at home.

We had fun doing the noisy offering for the 2-16 food drive. Thank you for all your change.

We cut out our pinewood derby cars two weeks ago. One of the leaders brought a bandsaw and we had sandpaper and sanders to get our cars like we wanted them to look. Now we have them at home getting painted and weights. Some of the leaders and brothers and sisters are going to make cars to race in their own race. This race will be February 22 at 9:00 am. If you want to watch the races please feel free to attend.

We did not go to the Klondike Derby. It had rained that week, then had snow with ice on top. The pack decided not to attend due to the weather. Larry said some units attended but left after lunch because it was really bad trying to get around with the ice and snow.

Cubs are getting close to completing the requirements for our badges. Lions, Wolf, Bear, Webelos and Arrow of Light. The cubs in the Arrow of Light will move on to Scouts BSA boys. We have been working hard with the help of our leaders and parents to complete all of the requirements. Do you know what WEBLOS stands for? It is short for WE BE LOYALSCOUTS.

We are looking forward to going to the Spring Camporee in the first weekend of May. This is always fun. Some of the families camp and some just attend the Saturday program. It will be at Camp Chief Little Turtle.

Thanks for being our sponsor.

Scouts BSA Boy Troop 115

Greetings for all the scouts and leaders of the troop. We have grown by a couple of scouts since the last newsletter. The scouts keep asking their friends to join and it works.

Scouts are working on their rank requirements. The ranks are: Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life and Eagle. We have scouts working on all levels of rank at this time. A new scout will be working on Scout, which has these requirements. Know and understand the Scout Oath and Scout Laws. Understand the patrol method and work with your patrol leader and adult leaders to complete these requirements.

We did not attend the Klondike Derby due to weather. The leaders felt the risk was too great to attend. That was the weekend of rain, snow and ice. Hopefully we can go next year.

We will be looking forward to attending the Spring Camporee. The last camporee was developed by scouts wanting to do the scouting things that they wanted. It did so well that the Spring Camporee will also be developed by the scouts. Leader input for safe practices and to make sure that things will be able to work helps.

We are hoping to do more service projects and more outings this spring. Thank you for sponsoring our unit.



METHODIST LINGO

P R E V E N I E N T J O H Q S
 C N W E S L E Y S O C I C U O
 O A L H O L I N E S S C R A C
 N R E E D B O O K O F R O D I
 N E S O L U T I O S N S S R A
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 A S T H O L Y C L Y U B A A I
 L G R A C E H Y M I N O M L P
 D Y S O C I E T I N E S E C L
 J U S T I F Y I N G L A S S E

Book of **DISCIPLINE**: The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church is a document that includes the doctrine (what we believe), the polity (how we are organized); and the theology (what we think about God) of our denomination. It also offers ways for us to live out our faith.

CONNECTIONAL: In The United Methodist Church, each local congregation is connected. Through our connections (local church, district, conference, etc.), we work together. Being connectional allows us to have a greater outreach and impact upon the needs of the world.

CROSS AND FLAME: The cross and flame form the symbol of The United Methodist Church. The cross reminds us of Christ, who loves us and calls us to serve in his name. The flame represents the coming of the Holy Spirit. Having two parts that make up the flame is a reminder of the coming together of two great traditions: The Methodist Church and The Evangelical United Brethren Church

JUSTIFYING: Justifying Grace is the grace of forgiveness that makes us “right” with God.

PREVENIENT: Prevenient Grace is the grace that “comes before”—God at work in our lives before we are aware of or acknowledge that presence.

QUADRALATERAL: When Methodists make decisions, they hold four things in balance: Scripture, Tradition, Reason, and Experience. This is called the “Wesleyan Quadrilateral”

SANCTIFYING: Sanctifying Grace refers to God’s continued work in our lives as He molds us into the people he calls us to be.

Scriptural **HOLINESS**: John Wesley said that the essence of Methodism was holiness of heart and life. He also said that the love of God was the root of holiness, that holiness comes from our relationship with God. This is where the church becomes important for us: Being a part of a church helps us learn to live a holy life.

SOCIAL PRINCIPLES: The Social Principles are the church’s official document concerning social issues. Only General Conference can speak for the church and update those principles.

Singing our Faith

“And Are We Yet Alive”

By Charles Wesley, 1749

UMH #553

Charles Wesley originally wrote this text in 1749 with four 8-line stanzas as a way of teaching the Methodists the Wesleyan Way of Salvation—The first stanza reminds us that God’s prevenient grace has been present with us, preserving and protecting us even in our absence from one another; the second that God’s justifying grace has saved us from sin and imputed to us his righteousness. In the third stanza, we see that God’s redeeming grace has saved us and starts the work of regeneration in us. The final (omitted) stanza reminds us that God’s sanctifying grace continues to work in us until the day we finally meet Christ, moving us from our imperfect state to entire sanctification. When John Wesley added this hymn to the *Collection of Hymns for the Use of the People Called Methodist* in 1780, he adapted it for use at Christian Conferencing meetings. This version, the version printed in our hymnal, has been sung annually at nearly every Methodist Conference around the world since 1780, with the third and fourth stanzas taking on particularly stark meaning during times of turmoil in the church.

And are we yet alive, and see each other’s face? Glory and thanks to Jesus give for his almighty grace!

Preserved by power divine to full salvation here, again in Jesus’ praise we join, and in his sight appear.

What troubles have we seen, what mighty conflicts past, fightings without, and fears within, since we assembled last.

Yet out of all the Lord that brought us by his love; and still he doth his help afford, and hides our life above.

Then let us make our boast of his redeeming power, which saves us to the uttermost, till we can sin no more.

Let us take up the cross till we the crown obtain, and gladly reckon all things loss so we may Jesus gain.

March 2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1 9am Worship 10am Sunday School	2 6:30pm District Conference @ Aldersgate UMC	3 9-11:30am Food Pantry 6:30-8pm Bible Study	4 11am Bible Study @ Sacred Heart 5:30 Trustees 6:30 Choir	5 6:30pm Scout Leaders Roundtable	6	7
8 9am Worship 10am Sunday School	9	10 9-11:30am Food Pantry 6:30-8pm Bible Study	11 11am Bible Study @ Sacred Heart 6:30 Choir	12 6:30pm Cub/Boy Scouts	13	14 1-4pm— Celebration of Gene Cogan's Life at American Legion Post 240
15 9am Worship 10am Sunday School	16	17 9-11:30am Food Pantry 6:30-8pm Bible Study	18 11am Bible Study @ Sacred Heart 6:30 Choir	19 6:30pm Cub/Boy Scouts	20	21 10:30am Shull Fellowship Hall Rental
22 9am Worship 10am Sunday School	23	24 9-11:30am Food Pantry 6:30-8pm Bible Study	25 11am Bible Study @ Sacred Heart NO CHOIR	26	27	28
29 9am Worship 10am Sunday School Deadline for or- dering Easter Flowers	30	31 9-11:30am Food Pantry 6:30-8pm Bible Study	<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 10px;">  <p style="text-align: center;">EASTER FLOWERS Order Deadline: Sunday, March 29th Choose Lilies, Tulips, or Hyacinths for \$12 each. Flowers will be on display in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday and will be yours to take home following the service. Order forms will be available in the narthex in March you may call the church to place your order.</p> </div>			

April 2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<p style="text-align: center;">RUMMAGE SALE Thursday, April 30 from 5-8 p.m. Friday, May 1 from 9 a.m.—5 p.m. Saturday, May 2 from 9 a.m.—12 p.m. You may begin dropping off items in the corner of the gym on Monday, April 13</p>			1	2	3	4
5 9am Worship 10am Sunday School Palm/Passion Sunday	6	7 9-11:30am Food Pantry 6:30-8pm Bible Study	8 11am Bible Study @ Sacred Heart 5:30pm Finance 6:30pm Choir	9 Maundy Thursday 6:30pm Cub/Boy Scouts 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Ser- vice	10 Good Friday 7pm Good Fri- day Service	11
12 9am Worship 10am Sunday School/Easter Egg Hunt Easter Sunday	13 Begin dropping off items for Rummage Sale	14 9-11:30am Food Pantry	15 11am Bible Study @ Sacred Heart 6:30pm Choir 7:00pm SPRC	16 6:30pm Cub/Boy Scouts	17	18 12pm Shull Fel- lowship Hall Rental
19 9am Worship 10am Sunday School	20	21 9-11:30am Food Pantry	22 11am Bible Study @ Sacred Heart 6:30pm Choir	23 6:30pm Blue & Gold Banquet	24	25 9am-3pm Camp Lakewood Work Day
26 9am Worship 10am Sunday School Native American Ministries Sunday Offering	27	28 9-11:30am Food Pantry	29 11am Bible Study @ Sacred Heart 6:30pm Ad Council	30 5-8pm Rum- mage Sale 6:30pm Cub/Boy Scouts		

May 2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSURES Monday, May 25: Memorial Day					1 9am-5pm Rummage Sale	2 9am-12pm Rummage Sale 9am-3pm Camp Lakewood Work Day
3 9am Worship 10am Sunday School UM General Con- ference Begins— May 3-15	4	5 9-11:30am Food Pantry	6 11am Bible Study @ Sacred Heart	7	8	9
10 9am Worship 10am Sunday School Mother's Day/ Festival of the Chris- tian Home	11 *June/July/ August Newslet- ter Items Due	12 9-11:30am Food Pantry	13 11am Bible Study @ Sacred Heart	14 UM General Conference Ends 6:30pm Cub/Boy Scouts	15	16
17 9am Worship 10am Sunday School	18	19 9-11:30am Food Pantry	20 11am Bible Study @ Sacred Heart	21 Ascension of the Lord 6:30pm Cub/Boy Scouts	22	23
24 9am Worship 10am Sunday School Ascension Sunday	25 Memorial Day Office Closed	26 9-11:30am Food Pantry	27 11am Bible Study @ Sacred Heart	28	29	30
31 9am Worship 10am Sunday School Day of Pentecost	<div style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">UNITED METHODIST GENERAL CONFERENCE</p> <p>The General Conference of the United Methodist Church, the only body of the church with the authority to change church doctrine and polity, will be meeting in Minneapolis May 3-15. Please keep this conference and its delegates in your prayers. For information on the conference and accurate up-to-date reports on legislation, go to https://www.umnews.org/en/category/general-conference.</p> </div>					

Calvary Comments

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MARCH-APRIL-MAY 2020

INSIDE THIS NEWSLETTER

- Information on General Conference 2020
- Easter Flower Order Deadline
- Holy Week Services
- Camp Lakewood Work Days
- 2019 Income & Expense Report
- Celebration of Life for Gene Cogan
- Mission Trip to Camp Moneto
- Impact 2818 Camp Registration



June-July-August **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

MONDAY, May 11

Leave your articles in the office, or e-mail your news to avillacalvaryumc@embarqmail.com

Calvary Comments

Sunday Worship 9:00 AM

Sunday School
all ages
10:10 AM

*“Caring for our
Community by
Sharing God’s Love”*

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Website: www.avillacalvaryumc.org

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday , 9 a.m. –12 p.m.



STAFF

- PastorPastor Shalimar Holderly
- Administrative Asst.....Adrienne Treesh
- Organist.....Rheta Igney
- Organist.....Mary Whonsetler
- Custodians.....Tony & Robert Gienger
- Prayer Chain.....Amy Barker
- Food Pantry.....Don & Karen Crawford
- Sound Technicians.....Brad Igney & Gary McKinley
- Media Technician.....Julie Becker & Jackie Wakeman