For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:8-10 (NIV)

One of the things that I have learned since answering my call to ministry is that God does equip and provide for each of the circumstances I have been in. I have been asked to do things that I didn’t think I could handle, such as baptizing a still born child and later speaking at her funeral; or the time I answered the phone at 2:00 am and responded to a mother who had just learned her stepson was killed in action in Iraq. I knew when I answered the call to ministry that I would experience things that others wouldn’t have the opportunity to, such as presiding at weddings and celebrating baptism, but there are times when I think that I am not wired to respond in pastoral ways to what is happening around me. In those moments, God reminds me that it is through God’s grace that I am not only saved, but called to respond pastorally. It is not about me, but the God I serve. God has created me to do the good works God prepared for me in advance.

The thing is, that is true of all of us, not just pastors. Each one of us has been created to do what God has prepared for us to do. That is part of our salvation in Christ and our sanctification in the Spirit. When we accept the salvation God offers, then we accept that we play a role in bringing the Kingdom to Earth. Whether we are in full-time ministry or not, we each are called to the good works God has prepared for us, and it is ours to respond to because we are uniquely crafted by God, designed differently with different SHAPEs, so we can be a part of bringing transformation to the world. What experiences have you had that can help others experience healing? What about your personality makes you able to share the Good News of Jesus with a hurting world? What abilities has God given to you that will help you show others the depth of God’s love? Can you teach? Can you put together a budget? Can you build something or bake something from scratch? God can use these abilities to transform the lives of others if you respond to God’s claim on your life. What has God given to you that can be used for service in the Kingdom? Every aspect of our lives is to be offered to God in gratitude for all God has done for us. What is the shape of the ministry God is calling you to?

This month in worship and in our discipleship groups, we will talk about our SHAPE for ministry. What are the Spiritual gifts, the Heart or passion, the Abilities, the Personality, the Experiences that are uniquely ours that make us able to serve and live in the way God created us? We each have our own shape for ministry, and we will discover what the shape is. I pray you will join us on this journey of discovery. I am excited to learn more about who you are and how you feel God calling you!

See you Sunday,

Pastor Amy
Loft schedule change starting June 7th

Loft meeting times are changing on Sunday June 7th. The Jr. High will meet from 4:00pm – 5:30pm. The Sr. High will meet from 5:00pm to 6:30pm. We will continue this schedule through the summer.

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<tr>
<th>Jr. High Schedule</th>
<th>Sr. High Schedule</th>
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<tr>
<td>4:00-5:00 programming and games</td>
<td>5:00-5:30 snack supper and games with Jr. Hi</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00-5:30 snack supper and games with Sr. Hi</td>
<td>5:30-6:30 programming and games</td>
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If you are going to be a freshman or above for the 2015-2016 school year, you will attend the Sr. High meetings. If you were a senior for 2014-2015 school year you will also attend the Sr. High meetings.

If you are going in to 6th, 7th, or 8th grade for the 2015-2016 school year you will attend the Jr. High meetings. Please let me know if you have any questions.
Administrative Council Meeting

May 19, 2015

Present: Chairperson Mike Pettibone, Pastor Amy Covington, Jerry Kline, Scott Porter, Christopher Covington, Frank Montgomery, Helen Walters, Beverly Stuck

1. Devotion and Prayer in Chapel Pastor Amy devotion from “Cultivating Fruitfulness” by Robert Schnase Radical Hospitality Day 7, What are the three behaviors that you would want everyone in your church to practice? Communion was served with prayer. Adjourn to Family Life Center

2. Minutes of previous meeting: Approved.

3. Treasurer’s Report: No report. Looked over Balance Sheet Mike stated, “No surprises, story the same.” Brief discussion on accountability, as to how we get the money in the right spots to do God’s work?


5. Evangelism Team Report: No report. Scott stated, plans for community involvement with local Kekionga Festival similar to Spotlight on Decatur.

6. Missions Team Report: Pastor Amy shared 8 Adams County Methodist Churches will be coming together to meet, discuss missions, coordinate, and how we can better serve those in our county. Attending the meeting will be the 8 ministers and their lay leaders.

7. Worship Team Report: Pastor Amy will be putting together a team, much like Easter for planning the next three months. June- S.H.A.P.E. discipleship studies, July -Expand VBS, August -First Church at The Movies. Mike stated needing to stay on track with Worship would possible like some feedback in July.


9. Other: Feasibility Study Mike will meet with Karen Stahl, and Frank as to how we best organize our church facility. Study will be 1. Need, 2. In order, 3. Finance.

Security: Frank stated January Endowment Grant received will put new cameras at 5th Street, Kid’s First, and Portico entrance. Also larger viewing screen for offices of Janet and Tana along with wiring. Hope is to have done in June.

Church grounds: Frank mentioned Penny Hinsky met with Trustees and received approval for new plantings and removal of some aged trees/bushes that are not looking so good. Also the possibility of church memorial engraved pavers to outline the Rose Garden and other church areas.

Leadership Board: Pastor Amy’s action plan explain to congregation with mailing, Town Hall open meetings, Charge Conference with the D. S. with a vote on new 14 members structure. This would consolidate current Ad Council structure into Connect, Grow, Serve, Staff and Facility teams, thus more workable in providing for our church.

C.S.C. (Career Service Coalition): Faith based group who hope to meet with today’s youth, helping them prepare then for college and life careers that will enable them to serve others. Mike Pettibone registered First UMC as a member.

Submitted by: Beverly Stuck absence of Nancy Thompson
All Children age 3 - grade 5 are welcome to join the fun at VBS!
Sunday, July 19th - Thursday, July 23rd from 6-8pm

Registration forms are available at the Connection Center or church office or register online at http://2015.cokesburyvbs.com/firstumcdecatur

Interested in having a blast serving at VBS?

Please sign-up on the board in the narthex or contact Annette at 724-6067 or gowercrew@gmail.com.

The month of May wrapped up the MOPS year. The first meeting we spent time hearing a quick devotion from Annette Gower. Then we spent the rest of the meeting visiting and crafting! Everyone finished up their growth charts to mark their kids heights as they grow. Then some ladies started working on knotted blankets for Project Linus a mission that gives blankets to children in need. Blankets are collected locally in Ft. Wayne and distributed to children in hospitals, shelters, social service agencies, or anywhere that a child might be in need of a big hug.

Our very last meeting was a big fun gathering with the moms and kids together. It included breakfast, games and lots of social time. Summer will be spent enjoying a few playdates and the steering team will take time to plan for the new year.
Thank You Notes...
To our church family,
Thank you for sending food and cards. Some days are long and rough. Thanks to Pastor Harold for the phone calls and visits.
Eldon & Carolyn Habegger

I am so thankful for the FUMC family! You have been such an encouragement to me. It is a gift from God to have you all as partners in this ministry. Your prayers and support keep me able to serve in this incredible ministry to reach the world for Christ.
Until all have heard,
Jennifer Sims

Thank you so much for all you do for the children and families of Adams County. We appreciate all that you do and support your efforts. Your support was greatly appreciated! The prevention week activities were a positive influence for our children.
The SAFE Council Members

June Birthdays
1 Phyllis Seitz
2 Caleb Boyd
   Taylor Knaub
3 Beverly Ehram
   Megan Seitz
4 Cleo Burgin
   Vernon Clark
   Chase Witte
   Seth Witte
6 Mark Stahl
7 Charlie Frey
   Doug Hinsky
   Jarred Stuckey
9 Bobbie Arnold
   Deb Heyerly
10 Becky Baumer
   Amy Gutierrez
12 Rod Hawkins
   Julie Pettibone
13 Jenifer Covington
   London Gower
14 Susan Lockhart - G.M.
   Connie Said
15 Jude Rash
17 Dusty Gase
18 Sarah Johnson
   Matt Mayer
20 Sherie Noble
   Karen Stahl
21 Mike Pettibone
22 Marlene Habegger
   Julie Heimann
23 Roger Lee
28 Duke Bollinger
   Nancy Laucks
   Ava Rash
   Amy Witte
29 Kris Porter
   Neil Taylor
G.M. - Golden Meadows

June Anniversaries
1 Vic & Kris Porter
2 Jeremy & Jessica Jones
   Hank & Coni Mayer
4 Rich & Nancy Collier
5 Jeff & Janice Brosman
6 Charlie & Jean Brune
   Richard & Jeanne Raver
8 Charlie & Cloe Frey
9 Bryce & Esther Miller
   Ryan & Sarah Wolfe
13 Juan & Amy Gutierrez
14 Brian & Megan Jewell
   Jordan & Brittaney Smith
16 Jim & Cindy Heimann
   Ivan & Sandy Howe
   Rob & Julie Pettibone
18 Loren & Janine Felabom
20 Craig & Phyllis Seitz
25 Ryan & Melissa Dotson
28 Clint & Brandy Knaub
29 Tom & Dusty Gase
30 Bob & Bev Stuck
Join in Celebration on June 14  
for the Ministry of Rev. Dave Michel
You are invited to the retirement party for District Superintendent Rev. Dave Michel.  
Open House: 4:00-6:00 pm. Drop in and give thanks to Dave for the way his ministry has touched you and your church. Finger foods, pie, and punch will be available.  
Program: 4:00 pm. The program will include a time for open sharing, singing and celebrating Dave’s ministry. Bring your stories to share.  
Place: Covenant UMC, 10001 Coldwater Rd. Fort Wayne, IN 46825  
Questions: Call 260-489-1888 or the district office at 260-482-8494  
His master said to him, “Well done, good and faithful servant.” Matthew 25:21

Congratulations to Our Graduates
Congratulations to the following graduates:  
College  
Morgan Briede - Ivy Tech  
Nathan Brune - Ohio Northern University  
Ryan Brune - PhD from Ohio State University  
High School  
Amberly Gutierrez - Bellmont  
Karra Irwin - Bellmont  
Kiersten Knaub - Adams Central  
Adam McCollough - Cleveland, Oklahoma  
Leah Noble - Northrop

Update from  
Decatur Operation Help Food Pantry
July is our month to serve at Decatur Operation Help Food Pantry. We need two persons for each Tuesday in July, from 1 to 3 pm, to fill boxes with food and hygiene items for those in need in our community.  
There is a signup calendar on the bulletin board by the Rose Garden. If you have questions and/or would like to serve, please feel free to call Shelley Porter at 223-1903.  
Our church family has been faithful through the years in donating non-food items such as soap, toilet paper and other hygiene items. We are implementing a change to this support in June, 2015. The food pantry is able to purchase many items at greatly reduced prices (often as low as $0.19 per pound) and has established a standard list of items they stock. It is more beneficial for Operation Help to receive support from our church family as donations of money, than as donations of miscellaneous food and non-food items. Effective June 2015, we will no longer request donations of food and non-food items for the food pantry, and will instead welcome and be very grateful for your monetary donations. You may mark your check or envelope “Decatur Operation Help”.  
At any time throughout the year, you are welcome to visit and/or help at the food pantry. We are currently looking for persons willing to serve on the board and volunteer at the front desk, registering the clients. Please contact Shelley Porter if you are interested in learning more.  
Thank you for giving in the name of Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Wisdom People
The Wisdom People will be gathering at the Galley on Tuesday, June 16 at 12:00 noon to fellowship with one another. Krista Miller will be speaking on the job she does.

Grace Fellowship Church presents  
“Potter & Clay”  
Rebecca Friedlander  
LIVE Potter’s Wheel  
based on Jeremiah 18.

A Women’s (and Little Women’s)  
Mini Retreat  
*Includes refreshments and fellowship

Saturday, June 6 ~ 1:00 p.m.  
Grace Fellowship Church  
316 North 7th Street, Decatur, Indiana

This is a FREE event ~ but must have a ticket!  
To get your tickets please contact  
Becky Hirschy, Amanda Schaefer, or  
Pamela Schaefer (260-592-7653)
THE HOPE CHEST
THE LITTLE SHOP WITH A BIG HEART
FRIEND US ON FACE BOOK

FLEETWOOD RV
NATIONAL RALLY
65th ANNIVERSARY
June 4th-7th

The Hope Chest will also be open
Saturday, June 6th
10 am – 3 pm join us
For store specials.

FATHER'S DAY
JUNE 19TH
APPRECIATION DAY FOR ALL
THE GREAT DADS

Join us for coffee and snacks.

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

HOPE CHEST STAFF
**TANA’S COLORFUL WORDS!**

**Be Careful Little Eyes What You See**

"Oh things are different today, not like it used to be." In some ways that's true. However, over my years as Director at Kid’s First, I’ve made the following observation. When children wear T-shirts with pictures of their TV superheroes, they behave differently. I started reading studies on children watching TV. The studies show that if children watch TV with killings, cartoon characters fighting, being bullies, or name calling, this can result in children mimicking the same negative behavior.

Be careful little eyes what you see, while viewing videos or TV. Some characters can become role models to children and even some adults.

As parents, we can arrive home from work tired, and it’s so easy to turn on television or pop in a video that becomes a “babysitter” while we are preparing dinner. It might be better if your child was involved in helping with dinner preparations. But if television is needed, select a non-violent but good educational program to watch. Yep in today’s world some adults get involved in Reality TV!

**Prove** no your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Ephesians 6:4

**Until they come out again!**

---

**THAT’S A FACT!!**

**A Dad Is...**

A dad is a person who's loving and kind. He often knows what you have on your mind. He's someone who listens, suggests and defends. A dad can be one of your very best friends! He's proud of your triumphs. But when things go wrong, a dad can be patient, helpful and strong. In all that you do a dad's love plays a big part. There's always a place for him deep in your heart. And each year that passes, you're even more glad, more grateful and proud to just call him your dad!

**Proverbs**

3:11 My child, don’t reject the Lord's discipline and don’t be upset when he corrects you.
3:12 For the Lord corrects those he loves, just as a father corrects a child in whom he delights.
23:22 Listen to your father, who gave you life, and don’t despise your mother when she is old.
23:24 The father of godly children has cause for joy. What a pleasure to have children who are wise.

1 Timothy

3:4 He must manage his own family well, having children who respect and obey him.

---

**JUNE RIDDLE**

How’s the baby bird like it's dad?

It's a chirp off the old block.
Paving Memories

Honor and Remember

your family, loved ones or an event
with a brick that will pave the sitting area
of our beautiful rose garden or frame the flag pole.

4” x 8” brick $25.00

Max. 3 lines of 14 letters or spaces

8” x 8” brick $75.00

Max. 6 lines of 14 letters or spaces

Commemorate:

Baptism
Confirmation
Wedding
Family
Those passed
Military service
Paving Memories Order Form

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8” x 8” brick

Total $____

Turn in completed form and payment into the church office or with your offering.
women of faith 2015 tour

loved

you are seen
you are known
you are free

FORT WAYNE, IN

JULY 31-AUGUST 1, 2015

ALLEN COUNTY WAR MEMORIAL CENTER
FRIDAY 7-10PM | SATURDAY 9AM-5PM

CONTACT NAME: Annette Gower ***No later than June 14th!!

CONTACT INFO: 724-6067 or gowercrew@gmail.com

AMOUNT: $106 including boxed lunch (scholarships available)

WOMENOFFAITH.COM 1.888.49FAITH (1.888.493.2484)
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<td>8:15 &amp; 9:30-Worship</td>
<td>Newsletter Deadline</td>
<td>12 pm-Wisdom People at the Galley</td>
<td>5:6 pm-Community Meal</td>
<td>7 pm-FCJ, Discipleship &amp; Worship Teams</td>
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<td>4:6 pm-Retirement Party for DS Dave Michel, Covenant UMC, Fort Wayne</td>
<td>7 pm-A.A.</td>
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<td>Father's Day</td>
<td>2 pm-Bible Study</td>
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First United Methodist Church
502 W. Monroe Street
Decatur, IN 46733

Phone:
260-724-3158

Web Site:
www.firstumcdecatur.org

Email:
office@firstumcdecatur.org

Senior Pastor:
Amy Covington

Visitation Pastor:
Harold Kinker

Youth Director:
Chris Covington

Children’s Ministry:
Annette Gower

Administrative Assistant:
Janet Frauhiger

Music Coordinator:
Judy Martin

Small Group Coordinator:
Mike Snyder

Kid’s First Child Care Director:
Tana Sheets

Hope Chest Manager:
Dot Vanhorn

Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world
Connect - Grow - Serve

June 7-28
Discovering Your
SHAPE

God’s Unique Design for Ministry

For we are God’s workmanship
Created in Christ Jesus to do good works,
Which God prepared in advance for us to do.
Ephesians 2:10

June 21

FATHER’S DAY