

The Observer

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



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PASTOR SUSAN'S CORNER



Signs of fall are all around us: Yellow, orange, brown, and red leaves; pumpkins; cooler temperatures; fields that have been harvested; and football, volleyball, cross country, and soccer sporting events. It's the time of year that we seem to get back into a routine. In the church we are preparing for our annual charge conference: the Lay Leadership team has been nominating leaders; finance committee has worked on a budget; and there are a lot of papers to be filled out to report on the ministry of our church.

“Without goals, we have nothing to aim for, nothing to work for; and if you aim for nothing, you are bound to hit it.”

We are also being asked to set some goals for our church.

1. Disciples in worship.
2. Disciples making new disciples-- confessions of faith
3. Number of small groups
4. Disciples engaged in mission and outreach
5. Amount of \$\$ given to mission

Goals are important in all facets of our life. Without goals, we have nothing to aim for; nothing to work for; and if you aim for nothing you are bound to hit it. Goals help us focus, they give us a way to measure our effectiveness and they help us determine what we need to be doing to attain our goal.

We've been enjoying the Barn Fests '11 too. When I was first introduced to Clinton First UMC back in March, I was asked, "What do you think about doing different or special services outside of the church?" My response was, "I'm all for it, and I went on to explain, "Throughout my youth at the Lena UMC, we would have a retreat at Raccoon Lake State Park every summer. The majority of the church would camp from Thursday night through Sunday morning, eating all

meals together; having nightly services with music groups and skits; baptisms at the beach and worship around the campfire on Sunday morning. This became a tradition that lasted for close to 30 years. At Leesburg, the church I just came from, we had a lake service every week from Memorial Day through Labor Day on Lake Tippecanoe. The pulpit was on a pontoon anchored in Patona Bay with a sound system and speakers that transmitted across the lake and onto the shore. 20-50 boats would anchor every Sunday filled with families and their dogs, and the shore was filled with 50-150 every week—it all varied depending on the weather. This was the 25th year for this exciting ministry of the Leesburg church; attendance at the lake was anywhere from 150-450, and for the rest of the year we had 40 attend. These are both examples of alternative places of worship that have created lasting memories in the lives of many people and helped draw them closer to God. I do not believe that worshiping God is to be confined to our church buildings, but as we step out of the box and provide other opportunities we will be able to reach more people for Jesus Christ.

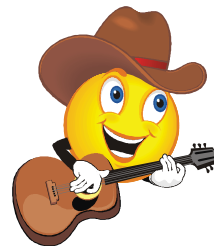
“The pulpit was on a pontoon [boat] anchored in Patona Bay with a sound system and speakers that transmitted across the lake and onto the shore.”

When the committee told me about “OUR BARN” and the “BARN FESTS” of the past; I started dreaming and thinking of Barn Fests. I was intrigued when I heard that it was a “Barn Fest” that drew some to this church. It is a great way for our community to “hear” and “see” what happens inside our building before they enter to find out. I hope you have enjoyed them as much as I have.

We have had three Barn Fests so far and they have allowed us to worship in a less formal atmosphere. We have only one more left, and you won’t want to miss it.



On Sunday October 9, our final Barn Fest’ I I will be “Cowboy Sunday” and feature “The Griders.” Everyone is encouraged to dress in their western attire.



Jonah Fish Fry: Thank you to everyone that helped with and ate at the Jonah Fish Fry. We cleared \$434.18 which will be split between the Backpack Program and the Capital Campaign fund.
Thanks, Ed (Shew)

Backpack McNight: Phyllis and Shelby Marsolf wish to thank all who ate, volunteered and/or donated at McDonald’s on September 13th. The evening added \$312 to the cause. Food is packed each Thursday from 2:00-3:10 pm. See Shelby or Phyllis if you would like to help.



Esther Circle: Three Food Events Planned!



Lou Ann Andis was hostess for the Esther Circle on Tuesday, Sept 20. She opened the meeting by sharing an article, "Thoughts on Thanks," and playing a song entitled "I'll Say Thanks."

Those attending were Karen Hartman, Martha Rutan, Margie Lapworth, Irene Howk, Ruth Hollingsworth, Karen Carlson, Phyllis Marsolf, Katharine Marsolf, Kathy Haraburda, Mary Ten Have, Pastor Susan Martin and Audrey Lientz.

Karen Hartman, president, conducted the business meeting. The minutes were read and approved, and the treasurer's report was given.

On Friday, October 7, at 6:00 pm a mostaccioli dinner will be served to Andis's camping friends, and a similar meal will be provided on Wednesday, October 12 at 6:00

for the Riverton Park football team at the school.

A lay leader workshop is planned for Saturday, Nov. 5, at the church. Breakfast, soup and salad for lunch, and an afternoon snack will be served by the Esther Circle.

A thank you was read from the Vermillion County Community Foundation, for the contribution in memory of Carol Shew, .

Irene will be hostess October 18, and Karen Carlson will give the program.

Katharine gave the program, sharing an article from a book entitled, *One Year Book of Hymns* and reading two poems she had written.

Next meeting:
Tues. Oct. 18 7:00 pm
Irene Howk's home

Appreciation from James Coleman for Terry Coleman

Dear Clinton First UMC Family and Friends,

Thank you for your continued prayers and support for Dad during these past 6 weeks; since his scooter accident. We appreciate your visits, cards, and the Love Offering. We are taking it one day at a time.

Thanks again,
James Coleman



Youth News: "Thank you" & Courageous

Tim Reardon thanked everyone for their help with the mostaccioli dinner. Profit was \$1,300 for youth ministries.

On September 25, Christian Rennick presented a check for \$130 to Shelby Marsolf for the Back Pack Program

All are invited! At this writing, the youth and all who wishing to attend are planning to see

the movie, *Courageous*, on Oct. 2 in Terre Haute.

The movie, rated PG-13, will show from Sept.30 through Oct. 6. It is about 4 dedicated law enforcement officers who face the fact that they may not be as successful as fathers. "When tragedy hits home, these men are left wrestling with their hopes, their fears, their faith, and their fathering." See Nicole Roberts for info.

Covington/Clinton UMC Wabash River Cabin Adventure!



Date: Sunday, Oct 9

Times: Gather: 2:00 Eat: 4:00

**Bring: Covered dish, chairs and card table (if you have one)
Drinks and meat provided**

Directions: Take Indiana 63 North to the intersection of US 136. Take the ramp to US 136 Covington (East) into Covington. After crossing the river bridge, take the Second Street (first left) -- Portland Arch Road (north) for approximately five miles. Look for the green "2018" sign along the left side of the road. This driveway looks like it belongs to the little white house, but it goes on beyond the house for a 1/4 of mile. There you will find the cabin.

Rain Location: Covington UMC Fellowship Hall

Contact: Sandee Frey

Walking to End Alzheimer's

We had a beautiful day at the 2011 Walk to End Alzheimer's. Thank you goes to the Clinton First United Methodist Church team for walking with me and to all those who donated so generously to the cause. Our team brought in around \$750 for Alzheimer's research/support.

We were each given a flower/pinwheel to carry and/or "plant" around the track. We chose our flower according to its color. Yellow represented those people w/Alz. being cared for. Purple represented those who have passed away w/Alz. There were also blue (for those who were walking... and have Alz.) and orange (for those who don't know anyone with Alz. but support the cause). We didn't see anyone with an orange flower which means everyone there knew someone w/Alz.

Donations can still be made online at http://walktoendalz.kintera.org/terrehaute/clintonfumc_peggy.

Peggy Strobel



L to R Peggy Strobel & Brenda Alexander with the team's "garden of flowers"



The team: in front-Addie Edmonson. L to r Brenda Starkey, Peggy Strobel, Michel Starkey & child, Brian Hutchinson, Gina & Carol Edmonson, Brenda Alexander & Stella Zucca

Family Game Night! Food & Fun!

Save the Date! Weds. Oct. 12, 5:30



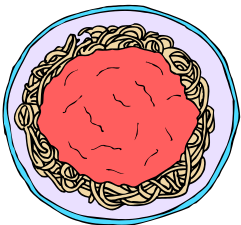
Bring your favorite family game and a good appetite and join us in the Fellowship Hall for an evening of food, fun and fellowship.

Starting at 5:30, we will serve supper (which is a free-will offering). At 6:30 to 8:30, we will divide up into game centers and have an evening of fun with numerous games provided, along with your favorites,

too!

Please feel free to invite your friends and family members. All we request is that you R.S.V.P. by Monday, Oct. 10 so we will have enough food for everyone. Call Susie Pierce at 832-9721 or Sandee Frey at 832-2533.

CAMA & Hillcrest News, News, News!



Benefit Spaghetti Dinner

Where: Hillcrest Community Center
When: Oct. 14 5-8 pm

Cost: \$6 adult, \$5 senior, \$3 child 12 & under

Desserts Needed: If you are able to donate a dessert, please contact Sara Nield.

New addiction program

An addiction program for ANY kind of addiction, such as food, tobacco, alcohol, or drugs will begin soon. This program has had an 85-90% success rate! The mentors are all ex-addicts who know what struggling with an addiction is like. The program is tentatively scheduled to begin on Friday, November 4, from 7:00-9:00 pm. Please call Hillcrest at 832-3582 for more info.



School Supplies Still Needed

CAMA is still collecting school supplies to donate them to Kid Care so they can distribute to individual students rather than donating them to single schools. Kid Care does all the research to figure out which students have specific needs. Please help if you are able!

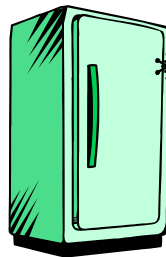
FREE Community THANKSGIVING Dinner at Hillcrest

When: Sat. Nov. 19 11:00-2:00

More than 650 meals are usually served during this three-hour period. There are no guidelines to attend. EVERYONE is welcome. The first planning meeting will be Monday, Oct. 3 at 7:00 pm at Hillcrest. Anyone interested in assisting with the planning may attend. This meal is made possible with the assistance of all the church, business and individual donations of food, time and money. (Speaking of food, donations of desserts are requested. See Sara Nield if you can help out.)



Freezer Needed!



The 21-cubic foot freezer at Hillcrest is no longer working. Maybe someone, or a group, would be willing to help fulfill the need to replace this much needed freezer. Pastor Jim even said he could use two freezers if they were available.

New is preferred, but a GOOD used one would be great also.

Cluster Thanksgiving Dinner at SVHS

Mark the date! Sun., Nov. 20 @ 1:00 pm



The Event: The second annual Cluster Thanksgiving Dinner for all seven Methodist Churches in the Wabash Valley 83 Cluster is on Sunday, Nov. 20 at 1:00 pm at the SV High School. Everyone is invited!

The Food! Turkey and ham, dressing, drinks, bread will be furnished. Please bring a covered

dish, table service and a canned food item for the Food Pantry. The food will be divided between the North & South Food Pantries.

The Entertainment: There will be entertainment, and a free-will offering will be taken. Organizers hope that they will have a bigger turn out this year since more people are now involved or know about the Cluster a little more.

Ramp Ministry Continues!

This week Gary Andis and his crew of dedicated volunteers built and installed the fourth ramp as part of the SAWs (Servants at Work) ministry. This one was for Virgil Andrews at 358 North 7th Street. His wife, Jill, has had to help Virgil down the stairs with his full weight on her. Now, he can go smoothly and SAFELY down the ramp in a wheelchair. (Think winter!) Jill says Virgil really enjoys getting out and the ramp has cut their time in half.

Mary Garaffa now has two ramps at her home at 1237 South 7th Street. Previously, her daughter had to use a portable ramp, putting it up and taking it down each time, they needed to leave.

She wasn't able to get to her backyard at all, which was where she had always enjoyed her flowers. Now, with ramps at both the front and back, she can easily exit both doors.

Next week the crew will install another ramp in Clinton. Contact Gary if you can help! Those who need a ramp built, can find information and sign up at <http://sawsramps.org>.

SAWs, is a non-profit, all volunteer ministry aimed at providing disabled persons with access to their world and allow them to remain in their homes. The ministry originated in Indianapolis. Funding is provided by many different sources.



The Andrews home at 358 N. 7th Street



The Garaffa home at 1237 S. 7th Street



Mission Team Supports Many Ministries

The **Byrum Trust fund** is being utilized by the missions team and can only be used for local missions. We discussed the use of this fund and how is it to be used.

We have decided to help **Hillcrest** on a continuing basis by initially giving them \$200 and then to give them \$150 quarterly. This is a local mission that does very much for the community. We hope other churches will give their support to this worthwhile mission. On communion Sunday, there will be an extra offering and those that can and want to, can give money to go towards Hillcrest . This will be in addition to the funds from the mission team.

We are supporting the **Backpack ministry** with this funding. However, there will need to be other venues of funding as this ministry grows. (The article in the Clintonian and the piece on channel 10 news were both great!) We are glad to help feed these children. At present, they are filling 111 backpacks and it could be as many as 300 from Central. If they were to add Ernie Pyle and Van Duyn, it would be another 300 possible.

Food Pantry-This project is one that we support. The first Sunday of each month is the Sunday to bring donations. The shelves have been bare some this year per Audrey Lientz. Audrey

will be happy to take any donations,-food or money, to help feed the hungry.

We are support for the **SAWs** project. Gary Andis is heading that up and reports to us what is going on. So far they have built 3 ramps and have 2 more in the works. All this project requires of our church is manpower/womanpower:)

He and Bruce Starkey are also in charge of the **CARE** program which does projects for those that ask.

We are supporting the **Wildcat Store**,[which provides donations of clothing, blankets, hygiene items & school supplies for South Vermillion HS students]. **Sandee** Frey is heading this up and is the contact person for Clinton First. There will be sign up sheets as they will need volunteers to iron, sort and set up and help that day. This is a project from the Cluster.

We discussed **assistance for the poor** and how we will handle any requests.

We donated \$50 to the Clinton Police for funding for **drug awareness programming**.

Missions outside of the local church: Gary Andis reported that there is talk of a mission trip and he will relay the details when he knows.

Janna Hogan



Wanted: Intentional Faith Development Chair and team members.

Responsibilities: To help oversee the educational program of our church. Work with Pastor to select curriculum for Sunday school, coordinate Faith Groups, and recruit VBS and SS Teachers. See Pastor Susan if interested!!



Angel Food Ministries Goes Out of Business

Angel Food Ministries is going out of business after 17 years of providing discounted groceries to needy families across the country, citing the economic downturn affecting many of the organization's customers as its downfall. according to a statement provided to The Associated Press.

The increased price of fuel and food, along with a growing number of customers who were unable to pay, contributed to a decline in sales, said spokesman Steve Savage. In the span of four years, organizers said Angel Food's orders decreased from about 550,000 boxes a month to about 125,000 boxes a month.



Two Unique Barn Fests!

September 18 and 25, 2011

From Pastor Susan: I hope everyone enjoyed "Barn Fest" as much as I did. Thanks to my support crew for making it a success. We had 2 birds, 1 cat, 1 bunny, and 10 dogs for the "Pet Blessing." They are a special part of our families and we are thankful for the unconditional love they give us. God blesses each of us so we can be a blessing to others.



Kathy Haraburda, her daughter Jessica and friend



Mother, Sally Harris and her daughter, Nicole, pose with their pets, Charlie (on leash) and Lilly. Both pets have a special place in their families.



Pastor Susan and Linda Behrendt, the speaker, hold some of the shoes donated for "Shoes for Orphan Souls."

"Shoes for Orphan Souls" Sept 25 Barn Fest

Linda Behrendt never had a desire to go on a mission trip, yet after hearing about it on WGBL, she HAD to go. And go she did, to Lima, Peru, in August of this year. She was part of a group of 25. who traveled by bus to two orphanages a day. Their "job" was to give children one-on-one time. One boy was continually throwing himself at the door—until Chelsea, one of the leaders, worked with him. He was a different kid! One of the orphanages was a home for boys. Many of them had been on drugs; but all came voluntarily. In another place, very young mothers were housed with their children. One orphanage had bars on the doors and windows because the neighborhood was so dangerous. Inside, the atmosphere was also very grim. But, everywhere, the visitors went, the Peruvians demonstrated their pride by having the children dance or sing their native songs in native dress.

The children were very grateful for the new shoes! In several cases, the children's toes were curled painfully inside the old shoes. They refused to wear their new shoes to play soccer, not wanting to scuff them.

The trip was life changing for Linda. She has established a relationship with a boy, Tony, who cried, heartbroken, when she had to leave. She plans to be the one constant person in his life. She thanked people for the shoe donations!



CALENDAR



OCTOBER UPCOMING EVENTS

| Day(s) | Date | Time | Event |
|-----------|-------|--------------|--|
| Wednesday | 10/5 | 6:00 pm | Missions Committee |
| Friday | 10/7 | 5:30 pm | Esther Circle serves dinner for camping club. |
| Sunday | 10/9 | 9:30 am | Barnfest-- Cowboy Service w/music from Marsha & Bob Grider Please dress in cowboy attire |
| Sunday | 10/9 | 2:00-?? | Covington/Clinton Church Carry in at Cabin (P.4) |
| Wednesday | 10/12 | 5:30-8:30 pm | Family Game Night w/meal (P.5) |
| Wednesday | 10/12 | 6:00 pm | Esther Circle--meal for Riverton Parke football team |
| Thursday | 10/13 | 7:15 pm | Church Council Meeting |
| Friday | 10/14 | 5:00-8:00 pm | Hillcrest Spaghetti Dinner (P. 5) |
| Tuesday | 10/18 | 7:00 pm | Esther Circle meeting at Irene Howk's |
| Sunday | 10/30 | Noon | Fifth Sunday dinner to honor Sunday school teachers |
| Sunday | 10/30 | 7:00 pm | Songfest at Presbyterian Church Special music planned! |

NOVEMBER UPCOMING EVENTS

| | | | |
|----------|--------|--------------|---|
| Friday | 11/4 | 7:00-9:00 pm | Addiction program at Hillcrest (tentative date) (P. 5) . |
| Saturday | 11/5 | TBA | Lay speaker Workshop at church Esther Circle serving meals |
| Sunday | 11/13 | 4:00 pm | Cluster Charge Conference at Wayside |
| Tuesday | 11/15 | 7:00 pm | Esther Circle at Joyce Taylor's |
| Saturday | 11/19 | 11:00a-2:00p | Free Thanksgiving Dinner at Hillcrest (P. 5) |
| Sunday | 11/20- | 1:00 pm | Cluster Thanksgiving Carry-in Dinner at SVHS (P. 6) |
| Sunday | 11/27 | 9:30 am | Hanging of the Greens during worship service |
| Sunday | 11/27 | 7:00 pm | CAMA "Advent Celebration" at CFUMC |

Joys and Concerns



*Telecare Prayer Chain: Contact Vera Shew if you have a prayer request or concern. Or, email church at clintonfirst@gmail.com



Our church is on Facebook!

Check us out at <http://www.facebook.com/clintonfirst>

**OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2011 CALENDAR
REGULAR EVENTS**

| | | |
|-----------|---|--|
| Sunday | 9:30 am After worship 11:00 am 6:00 pm | First Sunday of month is Communion Sunday & Food Pantry Sunday Worship KFC for Preschoolers-Grade 5 children (except on first Sunday of month & during Barn Fests) Coffee Time Sunday school for all ages nOvus Youth Group |
| Monday | 6:30 am | Men's Breakfast Faith Group Contact Tim Reardon or Ed Shew |
| Tuesday | 7:00 pm | Worship at Chateau |
| Wednesday | 7:15 pm | Choir Rehearsal |
| Thursday | 2:00-3:05 | Pack for Backpack Program |
| Thursday | 6:00 pm | Weight Watchers |



Food Pantry
October: Canned Fruit
November: soup
Please support the Food Pantry
The need is great!

