

June/July 2019

The Observer



Clinton First *Ignited* Methodist Church



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Kairos: Miracles in a Prison!

This is a Must Read! Pastor Charlie Jackson writes about the Putnamville Prison and the power of the Holy Spirit!



God's Special Time

To the People of the Clinton First Ignited Methodist Church,

I want to thank everyone who made my weekend at the Putnamville #18 Kairos possible. It was an amazing experience and it happened only because loving, caring, committed

Christians like you made it possible. Kairos is a 4- day weekend within the prison helping 30 offenders find God and build a church inside the walls of their confinement. If you've ever been on a Walk to Emmaus weekend—Kairos is like that, but designed to bring the Holy Spirit to the incarcerated offenders.

I saw miracles happen this weekend....A man who had been imprisoned from the age of 19 until he was 43 knelt and gave his life to Jesus Christ. This man had been the leader of the Satanic coven within Putnamville, and after seeing the genuine love of Christ offered by the volunteers who came to the prison for Kairos weekend, he accepted the forgiveness of the Holy Spirit and asked Jesus to come into his heart. What makes this even more amazing is that Satan knew he was going to do this, and tried time and time again to interfere with the Kairos weekend. First, Satan sent a snowstorm.... I didn't go because the roads were too bad. Again and again, Satan attacked. By the 3rd meeting we had nearly 50 Christian men who said they wanted to help with Putnamville #18. But as the months progressed, man after man had to drop off.... From over 50, our numbers had dwindled to 27 men. Now, there is supposed to be an outside volunteer for each offender during Kairos. David, Easterday [the leader] after much prayer, decided to keep 5 tables of 6 offenders so we could possibly help 30 prisoners find Christ. David confided to us at the weekend, that if he had dropped another table—the one he would have dropped was the one to which the Satanist had been assigned!! What a miracle!! God won!! Satan lost, and because of the respect that particular offender has, it is possible that the entire Satanic coven at Putnamville might disband and its members turn to Christ! What an amazing God we serve!!

It is because of people like you that God can win spiritual battles like the one I was part of this past weekend. Kairos is much more than baking cookies and coloring place mats. It is **99.99% prayer!** I thank you all for your prayers. The offenders were shown prayer chains that symbolized the



Happy 4th of July!



hundreds of Christians on the outside who praying for them. The offenders were humbled that people, people who did not even know them, would take time to pray for them, and to tell them that God loved them.

The Cookie Miracle Many of you did make cookies. I'll call it the cookie miracle.

As you might know, every single person at Putnamville got a bag of 6 chocolate chip cookies—the 2,000 offenders, the correction officers, the administrative staff, the teachers, nurses, everyone. And believe me, the 30 offenders who were part of Kairos loved those cookies!! On Saturday, we talked about the importance of forgiveness. We stressed that until we forgive those who we are angry with; our heart hasn't got space for the Holy Spirit to come into. Each offender and each of us too, wrote on a piece of rice paper the names of everyone we could think of that we might hold animosity toward. We then had a ceremony where we put our rice paper with the names into a bowl of water and prayed that the Holy Spirit would start the process of helping us forgive everyone on the list. As the paper dissolved in the water, we told them that God now was working to help them forgive these people who had hurt them.

At the end of the day, each offender was given two bags of chocolate chip cookies. One bag was for the offender, the other bag was to be given to the person in the prison, that that offender needed most to forgive.

On Sunday we had a time for any offender who wished, to tell what the weekend meant to them. One young man, came to the mike and confessed how hard, Saturday night had been. He said he took the bag of cookies and dropped it on the bunk of a man who he had struggled with since his first day at Putnamville. He said he told the man, "These are for you." He said the man replied, "I don't want your damn cookies." But the Kairos participant just kept on walking over to his bunk. After a couple of minutes, he looked up, and the man who hated him was on his bunk eating the cookies. John went over to him and said, "I'm sorry for whatever I did to make you angry with me. I'd like to start over if you want to." The man said he thought that would be a good idea! Praise God! You might not think that was a miracle but I did.



The cookie miracle in action

Another offender that same night came with his cookie story. Now, this man was 6 feet, 8 inches tall if he was an inch and weighed no less than 400 pounds. He was highly respected (naturally?) by everyone at the Kairos and within the compound. His name was Billy Jr. Billy came to the mike and said that when he got to the dorm with his two bags of cookies—he put both of them in his box.

That got a big laugh, until he said why he did it. "We were told to give that second bag of cookies to the man we most needed to forgive. That's why I gave that bag to me. I needed to forgive myself. Now that I have done that, I can forgive others!" Wow! Talk about understanding the importance of forgiveness. We can never fully forgive others until we ask God to forgive us, and then forgive ourselves.

Time after time I saw Christ working during this weekend. Hard men, men who couldn't trust anyone, slowly let their guard down, tore down the walls they had built up thinking that having walls was the only way to survive in prison—they felt our love, they felt **your love**. You made a difference this week in the lives of 30 men at Putnamville. For that I thank you, and I know God thanks you too.

Again, in whatever way you helped: cookies, prayer, meal tickets, monetary contributions—without you this weekend would not have been possible. I will be returning to Putnamville in a week for a follow-up training session, and then will return once a month to stay in touch with the Kairos church (there are over 170 men at Putnamville who have been through this Kairos experience.). Please continue to pray for me and for this work that God has started. If you would like to learn more about Kairos and how you can get more involved, contact me and I will be glad to tell you about how God can use you in an amazing ministry.

Love you all,
Charlie Jackson
Bono United Methodist Church

Upcoming Events!



4-H Livestock Auction on June 28

Your Donation Will Help Food Pantry

The Livestock auction will be June 28. Anyone wishing to donate money toward the purchase of animals may do so through the church or contact Ed Shew. The meat from the animals will be used at the local food pantry. **All money should be donated by June 25.** Checks can be written to the church (note for auction) or Vermillion Co. 4-H.



Fifth Sunday Dinner, Noon June 30

Please mark your calendars for the next Fifth Sunday Dinner. We never tire of them! Please plan to be there for fellowship and the delicious offerings of some great cooks! The main courses and drinks will be provided, but salads, vegetables and, of course, desserts, are needed.

Do You Like to Play Games?..and Help with Games?

The City of Clinton has invited the local churches to participate in the Fourth of July Festival at Sportland Park this year by organizing a game booth. The festival is to begin at 4:00 with opening ceremonies. If you'd like to help out with this project, please see Pastor Tom.



CAMA Quarterly Gathering--Free Meal & Service

Sunday, July 14--Meal at 6:00 pm Service at 7:00 pm



If you were able to attend the first Quarterly Meeting on Good Friday, you were in for a treat! You were met with a packed church and good ol' home cookin' and an inspiring service. Approximately 180 people attended that event. This one on Sunday, July 14, promises to be just as

fulfilling (in both senses of the word)! The location has yet to be determined. **Our church is responsible for donating salads.** Hope you can attend!



Grand Prix FREE Cookout, Saturday, July 20

It's almost Grand Prix time! The FREE cookout will be held on Saturday, July 20. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be ready, along with chips and a drink. This event is open to the community. Both eaters and volunteers are welcome! More details coming.



More Upcoming Events!



Emmaus Gathering at our church

Friday, July 19 at 6:15 pm

Our church is host!--CFUMC is hosting the El Shaddai Emmaus Community gathering. Even if you haven't attended a Walk, you're welcome to come and fellowship and worship and be updated with the latest news in the community. It begins with finger foods at 6:15 and 7:00 is worship. Some help is needed with parking,

outside greeting, and inside greeting. Some folks are needed to sit in the back to start the two communion aisles and form the circle. Child care is provided.

Please come and meet your local community. More details will be available later.



Mostaccioli Time Coming!--Aug. 31-Sept. 1

Come, eat, and volunteer! Plans are underway for the annual **Mostaccioli Dinner** and is being sponsored by the Cluster. It will be Saturday & Sunday, August 31 & Sept 1. Please be ready to help when cook days and work days are announced! **Sally Harris and Jury Vaira** are co-chairing the event again this year. Please support this important project. Funds are used for the Cluster Youth.



Alzheimer's, Sat, Sept. 14

9:00 am, Fairbanks Park Amphitheater

Please put the date above on your calendar!
Once again, our church will have a team!
Peggy Strobel will be providing more details later.

CAMA Revival-Three days! September 27-29

Two Sessions Will be at Clinton First!

Dan Caldwell from Evansville will be the speaker. The first two sessions on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 27 & 28, will be in the evening at Clinton First. On Sunday, Sept. 29 the revival service will be at 10:00 am at the LIFT stage. Hog roast will follow!

Congratulations to Brent Hoover!

On April 26, Senior Trooper Brent Hoover was honored for his extraordinary conduct in a lifesaving effort on Feb. 21. He applied an automated external defibrillator (AED) and CPR to an unconscious man in a car accident. The man regained consciousness and survived his injuries.





A New Baby Girl!!

Announcing the birth of
Jaskiran Mary Kaur Bains (Jas-keer-wren)

April 12 4:18 pm, 7 lbs 13 ozs., 20 ½ "
Daughter of Christine Haraburda and Gurtej Bains
Granddaughter of Tom & Kathy Davis,
Great granddaughter of Milton & Mary Ten Have



Promotion Sunday Was May 26!

Congratulations to the following boys!

Promoted to High School: Chris Bridgewater, Brayden Shannon, Mark Davis

Promoted into Middle School: Landon Downs



Esther Circle members & Charlie Jackson gather to bless cookies.

Esther Circle

April/May

Next Meeting: June 18-Margie Lapworth's

No meetings: July & August

The Esther Circle met in the church fellowship hall April 16. Karen Hartman hosted the meeting. Members attending were Martha Rutan, Margie Lapworth, Mary Ten Have, Kathy Davis, Lou Ann Andis, Peggy Strobel, Karen Carlson, Ruth Hollingsworth, and Audrey Lientz. The minutes were read and the treasurer's report was given. Saturday, April 13 a luncheon was served to the ladies of Delta Kappa Gamma.

Pastor Charlie Jackson of Bono Methodist Church came to pick up the 80 dozen cookies that had been prepared for the upcoming Kairos Prison ministry at Putnamville Correctional Institute in April. He explained about the ministry and his involvement in this project.

Plans were made for the Parke/Vermillion Retired Teachers luncheon that will be served by the circle May 13.

The Esther Circle met in the church fellowship hall May 21. Phyllis Marsolf and Katharine Marsolf hosted the meeting. Members attending were Lou Ann Andis, Karen Hartman, Karen Carlson, Ruth Hollingsworth, Peggy Strobel, Martha Rutan, and Audrey Lientz. The minutes of the April meeting were read and the treasurer's report was given. The luncheon served to the Parke/Vermillion Retired Teachers May 13 was enjoyed, and Joni Weeks entertained the group with a wonderful picture presentation of her trip to Europe and an organ recital. June 13 the Circle will serve a luncheon to the Town and Country Garden Club. A donation will be given to the Vermillion County Fair 4H auction to help purchase a pig. Donations will also be given to the Back Pack Program, Wayside Methodist Church Bible School, and the general fund of First United Methodist Church. On June 18, Margie Lapworth will host the circle meeting at her home, and Lou Ann will give the lesson.

Congratulations to All the Graduates!



Katie Marie Shew

Katie is the daughter of Mark & Lori Shew, granddaughter of Stan & Vera Shew, and niece of Ed & Elizabeth Shew. Katie graduated from Indiana State in 2015 and received a BS in Exercise Science with a minor in Massage Therapy. She then attended the University of Indianapolis for Physical Therapy and has also earned the title of Provisional Certified Brain Injury Specialist. Katie graduated on May 3, 2019 as a Doctor of Physical Therapy and will take board exams this summer. She and her finance plan to marry this June. Planning to begin her career in an acute care or inpatient rehabilitation setting, she also hopes to specialize in the traumatic brain injury population.

Kierstin Roberts

Kierstin is the daughter of Nicole & Mike McDowell and John & Debbie Roberts. She is the granddaughter of Dean & Sally Harris. She graduated from Indiana University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Liberal Studies with a minor in English. Kierstin is employed at Charles Schwab and plans to pursue a career with this company in Indianapolis as a Financial Specialist.



Michael A. Giordano

Michael is the son of Vic and Tammy Giordano. He is the grandson of Audrey Lientz. Michael graduated from Ivy Tech Community College and received a Certification from the Plumbers & Pipefitters Association. In addition, he received an Associate of Applied Science Technical Certification

Elizabeth Grace Shew

Elizabeth is the daughter of David & Susan Shew, granddaughter of Stan & Vera Shew, and niece of Ed & Elizabeth Shew. Elizabeth is a 2019 high school graduate. She has been to all fifty states and four different countries. She has been on several mission trips with her church. She plans to study photography and business at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, AZ. Her dream is to travel the world and become a portrait photographer.



Brandon Alexander

Brandon is the son of Bob & Brenda Alexander and grandson of Howard and Carol Drollinger. Brandon received an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice (through the military) and Drafting and Design, specializing in architecture at St. Pete College in Florida.

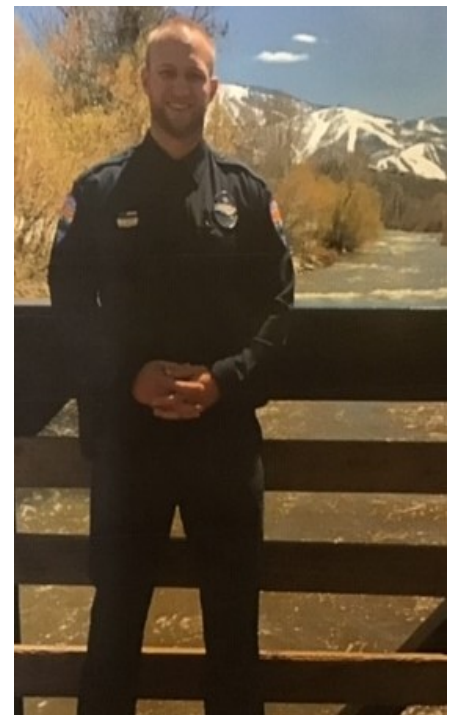


David James

David is the son of John and Deanna James. He is a 2019 graduate of Riverton Parke High School. David plans to attend Vincennes University in the fall.

Christian Barnett

Christian is the son of Pastor Tom and Lori Barnett. He graduated in May from Colorado Law Enforcement Academy. Graduation honors included Outstanding Student Award, Leadership Award, Top Stun Award (for arrest techniques), and Community Involvement Award (participation in a build for a Habitat for Humanity Home). Christian was sponsored by the Police Department in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, and has been sworn in as a police officer there. He is now serving three months of FTO (Field Training Ops) and becoming acquainted with the department and community.



Breakfast with the Easter Bunny & Easter Egg Hunt Was Fun For All!

Ashley Downs chaired the event on April 6 and shared that there were approximately 60 kids who attended the egg hunt, ranging from ages 0-12. Including parents, roughly 150-200 people attended!

She wrote, “The prizes this year were amazing. We gave away 4 bicycles, a Walmart gift card, basketballs, Pokémon cards, numerous Easter baskets filled with goodies, chalk, bubbles, Nerf guns, make up bags, crayons and coloring books and the list goes on. We had over 2,000 eggs! Everyone in the church was so generous with their donations!!”



Catching Up with Trinity, Jocelyn & Grandma Joyce



Spring was a busy season for Joyce Harvey and her granddaughters, Trinity & Jocelyn Rector. In April, Jocelyn played a munchkin in *The Wizard of Oz*. In early May, they all attended the Riley Hospital prom and were provided everything they needed to make it a magical evening. Then, Trinity received three awards in the Darlier Art Show in Veedersburg. One was a cash award! The best possible news, though, is that Trinity had a good report about her cancer and will not have to return for a checkup for three months.

“Ford Drive” Helps “Drive” Backpack Program



On Saturday, May 11, Clinton Ford sponsored a “Ford Drive.” For each person who took a spin in a new Ford, the company donated \$20. Seventy five people drove.

\$1,500 was raised to benefit children at the South Vermillion School Corporation.

JUNE, 2019			
Day(s)	Date	Time	Event
Mon-Weds	June 3-5	9:15a-12:00p	Blast Off VBS at Wayside
Tuesday	June 18	7:00 pm	Esther Circle meeting at Margie Lapworth's
Tuesday	June 25	-----	Deadline to donate for 4-H Auction for Food Pantry
Sunday	June 30	Noon	Fifth Sunday Dinner
JULY, 2019			
Thursday	July 4	4:00-Dusk	Game Booth at July Fourth Festivities
Sunday	July 14	6:00p Dinner 7:00p Service	CAMA Quarterly Gathering-Location TBA
Friday	July 19	6:15 pm	Emmaus Gathering at Clinton First
Saturday	July 20	TBA	Grand Prix Free Cookout
SEPTEMBER, 2019			
Sat-Sun	Aug 31- Sept 1	TBA	Mostaccioli Dinner
Saturday	Sept. 14	9:00 am	Walk to End Alzheimer's
Fri-Sun	Sept. 27-29	TBA	CAMA Revival at Clinton First & LIFT stage

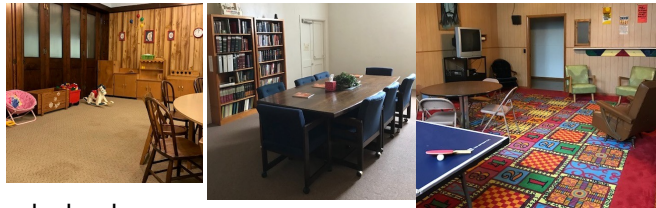


Prayer Concerns

*Telecare Prayer Chain: If you have a prayer request or concern, email at clintonfirst@gmail.com

Work Day at Church, a Success!

Ten people participated in the Work Day on May 18. Musical rooms were played, and three rooms now have new roles. The nursery is on the main floor. The youth room and the library are in the basement. They all look refreshed and spruced up! Chef Brent Hoover served up a tasty lunch for all.



Sorry, guys, for this tug-of-war, you didn't have a solid foundation. The kids did, though! Wax paper can be a bit difficult to stand on. Pastor Tom made his point, to the delight of the kids and the rest of the congregation.

Build a House on a Rock, Not Wax Paper!



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June, July 2019

Clinton First *Ignited* Methodist Church

Upcoming Events & Activities:

June 30 Fifth Sunday Dinner 12:00 pm

July 4 Fourth of July game booth 4:00 pm

July 14 CAMA Quarterly Gathering 6:00 pm Meal, 7:00 pm Service

July 19 Emmaus Gathering 6:15 pm

July 20 Grand Prix Cookout

Regular Events Calendar

Sunday 9:30 am	Worship service
	Communion 1st Sunday
11:00 am	Sunday school for all ages
Thurs. 3:00 pm	Prayer Team