

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

SOCIAL MEDIA ROUND UP

Highlighting posts from the past month



Kelly Majors and her Kindercare collected 435 pounds for the pantry! Thank You!



What if...instead of having a #VerseOfTheDay, we had a Verse for the Year? What if we - personally and collectively - made a conscious choice: to seek FIRST the Kingdom of God this year?



Confirmation 2019 kicked off with students, mentors, and families gathering for dinner and opening worship. Will you join us in praying for the 14 students as they travel this confirmation journey?



Upcoming Events

- February 1** Parent Night Out 6:00-9:00pm
- February 3** Information Session On The Way Forward 3:00pm, Room 273
- February 9** United Methodist Men 8:00am, Library
- February 10** 5/6th Grade Ministries 4:00pm, Dining Room
- February 17** Information Session On The Way Forward 3:00pm, Room 273

COMING IN MARCH

- March 1** Parent Night Out
- March 6** Ash Wednesday
- March 10** Blood Drive
- March 17** Celtic Sunday



FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

CANNED DICED TOMATOES, CANNED TOMATO SAUCE, RAMEN NOODLES, MAC AND CHEESE, JIFFY CORN MUFFIN MIX

Donations may be dropped off in the pantry boxes located inside Doors 1 & 4 or at the Food Pantry on Wednesdays between 9:30am and 7:00pm

A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Have you ever aspired to be famous? Ever dreamed of being a VIP or a celebrity whose very presence is enough to draw a crowd of adoring fans? Jesus and the apostle Paul both cautioned against our natural desire to see ourselves as more important than others and to be served rather than serve others. Even Jesus' disciples didn't understand this. James and John asked Jesus to grant them the privileged status of sitting at his right and left sides when He came into the Kingdom of Heaven. On another occasion Jesus interrupted them as they argued on the road over who among them was greatest. He told them that if anyone wanted to be the greatest he would have to become the least – to serve the needs of others. If Jesus' own inner circle couldn't get it right, what hope do we have?

Along these lines of self-importance and personal power, someone sent the following quiz to me. I invite you to spend a few moments and answer the questions the best you can. Don't worry about your "test anxiety." There is no pass or fail here – just a revealing truth that we may too easily pass over. Let me know how well you did?

Take this quiz:

- *Name the 10 wealthiest people in the world
- *Name the last 10 Heisman Trophy winners.
- *Name the last 10 winners of the Miss America contest.
- *Name 10 people who have won the Nobel or Pulitzer Prize.
- *Name the last 10 Academy Award winners for best picture.
- *Name the last 10 winners of the World Series.

How did you do? I didn't do so well either. With the exception of trivia hounds, few of us remember the headliners of yesterday very well. Surprising how quickly we forget, isn't it? And what I've mentioned above are no second rate achievements. These are the best in their fields. But applause dies; awards tarnish; achievements are forgotten; accolades and certificates are buried with their owners.

Now take another quiz. See if you do any better on this one:

- *Think of 3 people you enjoy spending time with.
- *Name 10 people who have taught you something worthwhile.
- *Name 5 friends who have helped you in a difficult time.

*List 3 teachers who have aided your journey through school.

*Name 6 heroes whose stories have inspired you.

Easier this time? It was for me, too.

The lesson? The people who make a difference are not the ones with the credentials, but the ones with the concern – concern for us. Now, one more question for you. Who would list you as one of their answers on their quiz? What Jesus was trying to say to the disciples [and to us] in the stories I mentioned at the beginning of this article was "For God's sake, make a difference!" Maybe these quizzes are saying the same thing – we aren't remembered for our credentials. We are remembered for our concern. Dare I say it? For God's sake, let's make our lives make a difference in the lives of those around us.

**FOR THE ONLY
CAUSE THAT
MATTERS,**

Pastor Kevin

Stephen Ministers: The After People

People often ask, “What exactly is a Stephen Minister?” One way to put it is that Stephen Ministers are the *After People*.

Stephen Ministers are there:

- ... *after* the phone call you hoped you'd never get.
- ... *after* the funeral, when everyone has left and the emotions you've held at bay come crashing in on you.
- ... *after* the relationship falls apart and the bottom falls out of your life.
- ... *after* the doctor says, “I'm sorry, but there's nothing more we can do.”
- ... *after* the nursing home director shakes your hand and says, “Welcome to your new home.”
- ... *after* the last child honks the horn, waves, and drives away—and the house suddenly seems empty.
- ... *after* the gavel comes down, the handcuffs go on, and your loved one is led away.
- ... *after* the baby arrives, demanding more of you than you ever dreamed possible.
- ... *after* you find a pink slip with your final paycheck.
- ... *after* your family and friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it out.

Stephen Ministers are the After People. They are ready to come alongside you—or your friends, neighbors, coworkers, or relatives—and provide comfort and support for as long *after* as needed.

www.stephenministries.org

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For more information about Stephen Ministry, please email stephenministry@fishersumc.org or call the church office at 317.849.1805. All inquiries are kept completely confidential.

ADULT OPPORTUNITIES

UNITED METHODIST MEN



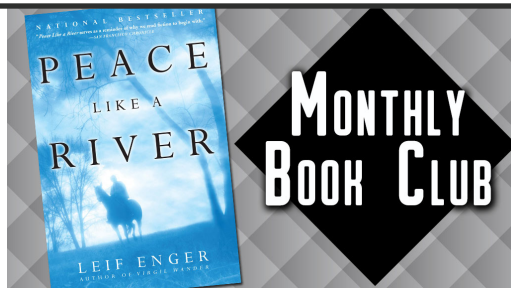
The February United Methodist Men's breakfast will feature a probing exploration of how we treat relationships these days--including our relationship with God. Ralph Tennant has some thought provoking observations regarding the aftermath of being immersed in electronic devices. The program promises to be informative, interesting, and fun.

All men of the congregation are welcome to attend on Saturday, February 9, 8:00am in the Library. A hot breakfast will be available.

FIFTY PLUS

Please join Fifty Plus Older Adult Ministries on Valentine's Day, Thursday February 14th. After devotions and lunch, local entertainer Nicole Bridgens will perform a new program titled A Romance Variety Show. All are welcome; please come, bring a friend and have a marvelous time with friends. The event will be held in Connection Central, just inside door #3 (east of the usual entrance at door #4). Please contact jenni debaun in the church office if you have questions or need additional information.

MONTHLY BOOK CLUB



Join the Monthly Book Club in February as they read and discuss *Peace Like a River* by Leif Enger. This is the story of eleven-year-old Reuben Land, an asthmatic boy who has reason to believe in miracles. Along with his sister and father, Reuben finds himself on a cross-country search for his outlaw older brother who has been controversially charged with murder. Their journey is touched by serendipity and the kindness of strangers, and its remarkable conclusion shows how family, love, and faith can stand up to the most terrifying of enemies and the most tragic of fates.

If you are looking for a way to combine your love of reading and books with a small group atmosphere of fellowship, this is the place for you! The Book Club meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month in the Library at 7:00pm. This month they will meet on February 26. If you are interested or need more information, contact Kim Arnott at 317-797-8612 or kimarnott@mac.com.

ORIENTATION



Whether you are new to our congregation or have been attending many years, we invite you to join us for a 3-week class as we learn more about our church, our denomination, our ministries and ourselves. Some topics covered will be John Wesley, United Methodist History and Organization, the Story of Fishers United Methodist Church, Identifying Spiritual Gifts, and exploring the many ministries and discipleship opportunities our church has to offer. This will be a great way to get to know OR re-acquaint yourself with Fishers United Methodist Church.

If you are interested in church membership, this would be your first step. Led by Kim Arnott, Orientation will be held on 3 Sunday mornings (February 17, 24 and March 3) at 9:45 in the Library, just off the narthex. Sign-up is available in Connection Central, outside of Contemporary worship, at fishersumc.org/orientation or in the Fishers UMC app. Contact Kim Arnott kimarnott@mac.com for more information or with questions.

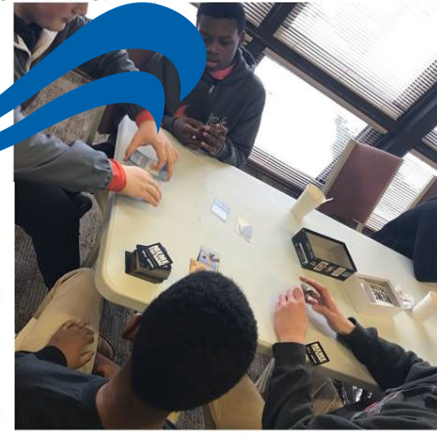
STUDENT MINISTRIES



Fire &
Water
student ministries

WINTER RETREAT

In January FIRE & WATER students participated in the "Game On" Winter Retreat. Throughout the weekend they had the chance to relax and have some winter fun. In addition, board games were a big part of the weekend. They participated in life size versions of board games like Hungry, Hungry Hippos and Guess Who, but they also looked at the spiritual lessons of board games. They took time to look at things like the importance of understanding the purpose of the game and how life is not all about Perfection. 25 students and adults took the time to get away, recharge, and spend some time with Jesus. If you are interested in being a part of great events like this please contact Liz (lsimmonds@fishersumc.org) or Troy (trichards@fishersumc.org) to learn ways to be involved with these awesome students.



FEBRUARY FOR FIRE & WATER STUDENT MINISTRIES

F.I.R.E. (JUNIOR HIGH)

February 3	Sunday School, Football Party @ 6:00p
February 10	Sunday School, Refinery, After Hours
February 15	Fire & Water Night Out @ 7:00p
February 17	Sunday School
February 21	Bingo at Hamilton Trace @ 3:15p
February 24	Sunday School, Refinery, After Hours

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sunday School @ 9:45 am
Refinery @ 6:00 pm, After Hours @ 7:30 pm
Bible Study @ 7:00 pm

W.A.T.E.R (SENIOR HIGH)

February 3	Sunday School, Football Party @ 6:00p
February 7	Supermarket Sweeps @ 3:30p
February 10	Sunday School, Drink Deep, After Hours
February 14	Supermarket Sweeps @ 3:30p
February 15	Fire & Water Night Out @ 7:00p
February 17	Sunday School
February 21	Supermarket Sweeps @ 3:30p
February 24	Sunday School, Drink Deep, After Hours
February 28	Supermarket Sweeps @ 3:30p

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sunday School @ 9:45 am
Drink Deep @ 6:00 pm, After Hours @ 7:30 pm
Home Bible Studies take place throughout the week

UPWARD CONCESSIONS

During the Upwards season students can make money for their account by working a two hour shift selling concessions on Saturdays. To sign up please visit <http://signup.com/go/xjBcpeA>, and please make sure there is an adult signed up with you.

FIRE & WATER NIGHT OUT!

This month we will be playing knockerball and archery tag (it's exactly what it sounds like, dodgeball with bows and arrows). We will leave the church at 7:00pm and be back by 10:00pm. There is no cost but we need to know if you are coming by 2/12, so email trichards@fishersumc.org if you, your student and/or their friends want to be a part.

30 HOUR FAMINE

Next month WATER (sr. high) students will be going without food for 30 hours to raise money for those around the world who truly don't have food. If you would like to donate to their cause, please click the link on the FIRE & WATER webpage at www.fumcfireandwater.com.

CONNECT WITH US ON FACEBOOK, TWITTER AND INSTAGRAM BY SEARCHING FOR
FIRE & WATER STUDENT MINISTRIES OR VISITING FUMCFIREANDWATER.COM

WAY TO SERVE

In the book of Acts, the apostle Luke writes about community – a place where people love each other and take care of each other because Jesus showed them true love.

Part of the joy of living in community is knowing that there's always someone you can count on, someone who'll be there for you. In our community here at Fishers UMC, one of the ways we do this is by setting up Meal Trains for people during times when a home cooked meal makes the difference between eating something nutritious or having toast for dinner.

Right now, we have several families for whom we've established meal trains. If you're willing to make a meal and extend Christ's love, please go to

<https://mealtrain.com/002vz9>

and

<https://mealtrain.com/94nw65>

for all the details.

May God richly bless you for your kindness!



UPCOMING EVENTS

BLOOD DRIVE

Give the Gift of Life by Donating Blood! The next Fishers UMC blood drive will be Sunday, March 10th from 8:00am-12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Sign Up In Connection Central or online at donorpoint.org



PARENT NIGHT OUT

Parent Night Out is back! Drop off your infant-5th graders on Friday March 1st or May 3rd from 6-9pm. They will play games, do crafts, watch a movie and eat a snack! Pre-Register at fishersumc.org/parentnightout or in the Church app.



DIAPER DRIVE

Each year, millions of infants and toddlers living in low income families are without clean, new diapers. Each year, 1 in 3 mothers struggle with the decision to feed or to diaper their children. Millions of families make that choice every day, but we can help make that decision easier for them! Donate diapers, pull-ups and wipes through February 24th. You will be providing a necessity to children right here in our city and the surrounding communities through the Come to Me Food Pantry.

Donation sites are located inside Doors 3 and 4, or order through our Amazon wish list. Visit fishersumc.org/diapers for information. Can you help us reach our goal of 10,000 diapers?



C O N N E C T

Fishers United Methodist Church



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S U N D A Y S

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP 8:30 & 9:45am
CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP 11:00am
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 & 11:00am

