

# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

## SOCIAL MEDIA ROUND UP

*Highlighting posts from the past month*



The "Monkeys" preschool class recently toured the pantry and brought food.



Please continue to pray for those who attended the Blue Christmas service and all those who are hurting. May they find strength and comfort in God's love during this holiday season.



Cornerstone Lutheran recently donated 2,113.6 pounds of food to The Come To Me Food Pantry!

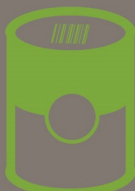


## Upcoming Events

- January 9**      **Fifty Plus**  
11:00am, Dining Room
- January 11**    **United Methodist Men**  
8:00am, Dining Room
- January 12**    **Covenant Class Starts**
- January 18-20** **Student Winter Retreat**
- January 26**    **Diaper Drive Starts**

## COMING IN FEBRUARY

- February 26**    **Ash Wednesday**



**FOOD PANTRY NEEDS**  
SOUPS OF ALL KINDS: CHUNK, CHOWDERS, CREAM OF CHICKEN, CREAM OF MUSHROOM, SPLIT PEA, VEGETABLE, TOMATO, CHICKEN NOODLE

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 NEW YEAR MESSAGE

## REVELATION 21:1-6 (NRSV)

### The New Heaven and the New Earth

*Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.*

As one year turns to the next, we naturally reflect on the passage of time. The seconds tick away and are gone. Each moment of our lives is finally temporary. The space between the future and the past is so thin that sometimes it threatens to disappear. So what is the point of another day, of today, of this new year?

Time is God's gift to us in two ways. Time's persistent prodding prevents us from fruitless nostalgia, from getting stuck in the past. With God's help, we check our watches, calendars and phones and then say to ourselves and each other "What's next?" The passage of time gives us a farther horizon and keeps our focus ahead of ourselves. Time also presents us with constant opportunities for a fresh start, a do-over, a chance to amend our ways and reconcile ourselves with those we may have hurt or offended. Time does heal wounds. Time reminds us how the mercies of the Lord "are new every morning" (Lamentations 3:32).

But there is still more. The Bible portrays for us how God encompasses even time. God is "The Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end." At the origin of all things, God was there, active and alert. At the end of time, God will still be there. God's creation will be renewed and transformed, and death and sorrow will be gone for good. The ending to the Bible's story of time is strikingly not about how we will finally go up to God, but how God will come down to us, to dwell among us. And every second that passes brings us nearer to that glorious day.

O Alpha and Omega, our rock of ages past and hope for years to come, make your home with us and dwell among your people throughout this coming year. Amen.

**THE UPPER ROOM  
DISCIPLINES 2018**



# **SAFETY AT FISHERS UMC**

**WHILE FISHERS UNITED METHODIST IS  
FIRST AND FOREMOST A CHURCH,**

We also have the privilege of being a preschool Monday through Friday. On any given weekday, we have over 100 young people entrusted to our staff's care. To ensure their safety at all times, we must work together to maintain a secure facility. It is for this reason that many of the inner doors are locked through the week. Please do not, for any reason, leave a locked door open or propped during the week!

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED VIGILANCE IN THIS MATTER**







**BECAUSE OF YOUR GENEROSITY, SEVERAL FISHERS UMC MINISTRIES HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE COMMUNITY! HERE ARE JUST TWO EXAMPLES:**

**THE COME TO ME FOOD PANTRY** raised \$15,870 from the recent Meijer Simply Give Campaign. In the three weeks we were open in November, we served 11,186 people from 226 families with almost 20,000 lbs. of food. Donations brought to the altar on November 24th totaled 4,692.4 lbs. And each month this fall, we gave away at least one Bible and had a special request for a large print version. Thank you for the donations, prayers and continued support!

Thanks to the support of the 2019 Fishers 4-H Fair food booth and also the Mac Reynolds Memorial Golf Tournament, the **UNITED METHODIST MEN** have so far donated proceeds to several outreach and mission organizations including UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief); The Navigators (IUPUI campus ministry); The Navigators (Ball State campus ministry district); Hamilton County Jail Ministry; Kairos Jail Ministry (Pendleton); Fishers UMC Vacation Bible School; and the Come to Me Food Pantry. More outreach and mission donations are coming up. Look for further information regarding the outreach being accomplished because of your kind support. Thanks.



# STUDENT MINISTRIES



## CHRISTMAS PARTY

Last month FIRE & WATER celebrated our last Sunday night of the year with our annual Christmas Party. We had all sorts of fun, turning people into snowmen (with toilet paper and carrots), getting gifts out of a huge ball of cling wrap, and our own personal Christmas miracle: we had Chick-Fil-A on a Sunday!

FIRE & WATER wishes to thank all of you who pray for and support our ministry. Thanks to you, students are growing in their faith in Jesus and inviting their friends who are not a part of this church to discover Jesus' love for them. Thank you from all of us here at FIRE & WATER!

And if you are resolving to find somewhere to serve Jesus in 2020, come talk to us, we'd love to sit down and see if this is where Christ is leading you!



## JANUARY FOR FIRE & WATER STUDENT MINISTRIES

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

- 1/5 Sunday School, Game Night @ 6:00p
- 1/12 Sunday School, Meal, Refinery, After Hours
- 1/16 Bingo at Hamilton Trace @ 3:15p
- 1/17 FIRE & WATER Night Out @ 7:00p
- 1/18-1/20 Seeing Clearly Winter Retreat
- 1/26 Sunday School, Meal, Refinery, After Hours

### WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sunday School @ 9:45a  
Meal @ 5:30p, Refinery @ 6:00p, After Hours @ 7:30p

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

- 1/5 Sunday School, Game Night @ 6:00p
- 1/9 Supermarket Sweeps @ 3:30p
- 1/12 Sunday School, Meal, Drink Deep, After Hours
- 1/16 Supermarket Sweeps @ 3:30p
- 1/17 FIRE & WATER Night Out @ 7:00p
- 1/18-1/20 Seeing Clearly Winter Retreat
- 1/23 Supermarket Sweeps @ 3:30p
- 1/26 Sunday School, Meal, Drink Deep, After Hours
- 1/30 Supermarket Sweeps @ 3:30p

### WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sunday School @ 9:45 am  
Meal @ 5:30p, Drink Deep @ 6:00p, After Hours @ 7:30p  
Home Bible Studies take place throughout the week

### NIGHT OUT

We will be going to an Indy Fuel hockey game. We leave promptly at 7p and we will return as close to 10p. FIRE & WATER will buy your ticket to the game, but if you would like souvenirs or snacks you will need to bring money for that. This event is open to anyone in grades 7-12; all you need to do is show up before 7p on Friday 1/17. Feel free to invite people to join us.

### WINTER RETREAT

What does it mean to see God more clearly? How do we do that? This is what we will be helping students discover at this year's Winter Retreat. Oh, and we'll be having fun in the snow tubing as well. Sign up online at [www.fumcfireandwater.com](http://www.fumcfireandwater.com) (we also have grants available if there are students who can't afford to go, we never want students to miss out because of money!)

### SUMMER MISSION TRIPS

Permission forms and information for the 2020 Summer Mission Trips will be available in January. For information please be checking [www.fumcfireandwater.com](http://www.fumcfireandwater.com).

CONNECT WITH US ON FACEBOOK, TWITTER AND INSTAGRAM BY SEARCHING FOR  
FIRE & WATER STUDENT MINISTRIES OR VISITING [FUMCFIREANDWATER.COM](http://FUMCFIREANDWATER.COM)

# ADULT OPPORTUNITIES

## UNITED METHODIST MEN



Fishers UMC has several men visiting incarcerated men, women, and youth in local jails and prisons. One organization which facilitates effective Christian visitation is Kairos Prison Ministry International. The UMM January 11 program explores Kairos in more depth--its impact, vision, mission, core values, training, and why one would want to get involved. Ed Englehart will share his personal experience as a Kairos volunteer and be available to answer questions regarding this life altering discipleship activity. Saturday, January 11, 8:00am in the Dining Room. A hot breakfast will be served. All men are invited to attend.

## FIFTY PLUS

Please join Fifty Plus Older Adult Ministries at 11:30am on Thursday January 9, 2020 in the church dining room. Because of Indiana's mercurial weather, we won't have a scheduled speaker, so please bring a small collection to present, or a few photos or poem or story to share, and join in the fun.

No reservations are necessary; please come, bring a friend and enjoy a fabulous luncheon and quality fellowship to celebrate the New Year. If you have any questions or need additional information, or in the event of inclement weather, please contact jenni at 317.849.1805 or at [jdebaun@fishersumc.org](mailto:jdebaun@fishersumc.org).

## COVENANT

### COVENANT



New Year – New commitment to connect with others, grow in your faith and learn about the Bible. If this is you – here is a great opportunity. Covenant centers on our relationships with God, with each other, and with the world, exploring different aspects of Covenant life – Creating, Living and Trusting. This

group, led by Mark Gallamore, will begin on January 12 and meet each Sunday morning at 9:45. So if you are looking for something new in 2019, we invite you to join us for this innovative new study. Sign up at [fishersumc.org/covenant](http://fishersumc.org/covenant), in the Fishers UMC App or in Connection Central. Contact Mark Gallamore for more information – [mgallamore@clifbar.com](mailto:mgallamore@clifbar.com).



# WAYS YOU CAN SERVE



## DIAPER DRIVE

Each year, millions of infants and toddlers living in low income and poor families are without clean, new diapers. Each year, 1 in 3 mothers struggle with the decision to feed or to diaper their children. What if you had to make that choice? Millions of families do it every day, but we can help make that decision easier for them! Donate diapers, pull-ups and wipes from January 26th through February 23rd. More info coming soon!






# CONNECT

Fishers United Methodist Church



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 [FISHERSUMC.ORG](http://FISHERSUMC.ORG)



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& INSTAGRAM



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YOUR APP STORE

## SUNDAYS

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

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MAKING DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD