



# ACTON *in action*

2019 – A YEAR OF LOVING, LEARNING, SHARING & SERVING CHRIST JESUS

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**LOVE-LEARN-SHARE-SERVE**  
*with eternal purpose through  
faith in Jesus Christ*

**Sunday Worship**  
9:30a.m.

**Sunday School**  
10:35 a.m.

**5650 Senour Road**  
**Indianapolis, IN 46239**  
**317-862-2588**  
**aumc@actonumc.com**

**Pastor Matthew Stultz**  
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Follow us on   

## Something to Think About

We have been in 2020 for a couple weeks now and I'm still reflecting on all that happened in 2019.

To be honest, most of what took place was normal for us. We had a great garage sale and the Craft Fair and Advent Tea were wonderfully successful. There were kids that went to church camp and we had a team that went out for mission work.

We had some sadness as we said goodbye to some friends. We had joys and anticipate joys with new friends arriving. Where God really showed up in 2019 was by stirring our hearts for generosity. Our \$20,000+ raised for RIP Medical debt was a true testimony to the compassion and heart of this congregation. The check will go out in the next couple of days and by Easter, there will be letters in the hands of those you saved from medical debt and gave a second chance.

2020 will have its own joys and blessings as well as concerns and challenges, but for now, let's look through the pages of this special newsletter and remember how God showed up and how we showed up for one another this year.

In Christ,

Love  
Learn  
Share  
Serve

# Young Believers



**Youth serving a meal at the 10<sup>th</sup> Street UMC kitchen**



**Confirmands during class**



**Youth leading worship at Maple Hill**



**Mission Minded Kids packing up baby supplies for Better Indy Babies**

## Youth Group Shines

Thanks to Andy and Diane Crane, our faithful youth leaders! The youth are appreciative of the new Youth Room and continue to make it their own. The group met at the Crane's home over the summer and enjoyed the added bonus of swimming. They meet just about every Sunday for dinner, a lesson, games and fun!



## Summer Camp



We had **14 kids and youth attend church camps in 2019**. Thanks to the new annual chili cook-off, families were able to send their kids for free. Camp is a great opportunity for our kids and youth to grow in friendship with each other and in their relationship with Christ.

## Class of 2032

Our Preschool continues to prosper will full classes and great kids! In 2019 we graduated 23 4 year old students and had 15 kids in our 3 year old class. In 2019, we started school with a full 4 year old class of 32 and 15 in our 3 year old class. This ministry is blessing to our community!



## Welcome Confirmands

In 2019, 8 youth completed confirmation. They spent the spring in classes with Pastor Matthew and ended their program with a retreat to Red Bird Mission.





# Do a Good Turn Daily

## Scouting

We support scouting here at Acton. We have a BSA Cub Scout Pack, 2 BSA Troops, and 3 Girl Scout Troops. ***That's 170 kids and youth, and their families that we host each week.*** Take a moment to say hello if you run into them.



A group of youth from **BSA Troop 104** went to Philmont Scout Reservation this past summer. They hiked a total of 130 miles in 11 days. The group included Andy & Nick Crane and Chris & Wyatt Crowel.



## Girl Scouts



There are three **Girl Scout Troops** that meet during the year. They plant geraniums around the church each year and help with our mission collections. One troop donated playground benches from the plastic bottle caps we collected.



*Pack 104 Posting flags at Acton Cemetery*



*Troop 104 Widow Day of Service*



*Troop 219 Packing meals for local families*



*1,287 pounds for God's Bounty by both Troop 104 & 219*

## New BSA Scout Troop 219



Acton is proud to be one the first to support a new Scouts BSA Girl Troop. We welcomed Troop 219 at the start of 2019 and have enjoyed having the girls here. They helped us get ready for the Garage Sale and did a great job with the food tent. The troop continues to grow and is open to girls 11-18. See their wonderful leader Aimee Hulskotter if you're interested.

# Beyond the Stained Glass



## Brightwood Christmas

In 2019 our Angel Tree was full of gift tags for **2 Brightwood Community families**. We were able to purchase clothing and gifts as well as food for everyone in these families.



## Change in Action

Each Sunday our change and dollar bills are collected for Metro Ministry, including Brightwood Community, Vida Nueva, and Fletcher Place. **Nearly \$2,200 was collected in 2019 for Metro Ministry programs.**



## Hats for the Homeless

Thanks to Phyllis Taylor for making **1,000 hats** to give to the homeless. Wow!

## Compassion Center

Acton serves on the first Sunday of every month at the Compassion Center, a local soup kitchen. Thanks to the men's Bible Study, the Scouts, Youth Group, friends and all the folks of the church who helped in 2019. Thanks also to all who helped through meals, desserts, time, financial support, and prayers. **About 2,400 free meals were provided!**



## God's Bounty



Once a month at the local food pantry, we sort, bag, and hand out food to over 60 families. With our collections and the Scouting for Food, we provided over **2,100 pounds of food** in 2019. We also donated **\$2,000 to help with expenses**, as well as almost \$5,000 through the **Meijer Simply Give** program that will be matched to make **\$15,000**.

## Stamping Out Hunger

For the first time, we participated in the local Stamping Out Hunger food drive that the Post Office organizes. We had several folks from AUMC help sort and package food as it came in on the mail trucks. With our participation, **1,200 pounds of food was donated to God's Bounty.**



## Hands & Feet

Acton was active in **two mission trips** in 2019 to help in North Carolina for Hurricane Matthew recovery. There is a lot of work to do, so we have traveled there several times before.





## Helping our Neighbors

In September, Missions decided we would wipe out the medical debt in our neighborhood for Christmas. They set a goal to raise \$15,000 to wipe out \$1.5M in medical debt for zip codes 46239 (church) and 46259 (Acton).



Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, \$25,000 was raised. That's ***\$2.5M in medical debt gone for our neighbors and others in Indianapolis.*** Amazing!!

## SAWS

Our SAWS team (Servants at Work) was busy in 2019. They built **5 ramps** for persons who are trapped in their homes as a result of mobility issues and cannot afford to have a ramp built. They also repaired the ramp and steps at God's Bounty.



## East 10<sup>th</sup> Street



AUMC volunteers served over **200 meals** at East 10<sup>th</sup> Street UMC in 2019. The church provides a free meal to those in their neighborhood each Sunday evening. AUMC started helping this ministry in 2017.

## Feeding Campers

This past summer, Gayle Kerns, Sally Grau, and Barb Wiley headed south to Camp Indicoso to ***make and serve lunch*** for several AUMC youth and other campers. Camp staff always appreciates the help.



## MISSIONS BY THE NUMBERS \$2,535,562

\$2.5M - RIP Medical Debit  
\$2,150 - UMCOR Sunday  
\$615 - UMCOR U.S.  
\$414 - UMCOR International  
\$1,000 - UMCOR Hurricane Relief  
\$1,000 - UMCOR Cyclone Relief  
\$1,500 - UMCOR Tornado Relief  
\$14,646 - Meijer Simply Give  
\$1,500 - Crop Walk  
\$1,882 - God's Bounty  
\$689 - Brightwood Community  
\$819 - Fletcher Place  
\$581 - Vida Nueva  
\$600 - Brightwood Family Christmas  
\$1,000 - Wheeler Mission  
\$260 - FT Fast Track  
\$541 - Arlington Elem. Christmas  
\$1,000 - Kairos Prison Ministry  
\$2,500 - Habitat for Humanity  
\$500 - Operation Classroom  
\$400 - Lucille Raines  
\$802 - Matthew's Voices (not Pastor)  
\$143 - Better Indy Babies  
\$420 - World Vision  
\$100 - Sierra Leon Mission Trip  
\$200 - Friends on a UMission  
\$300 - Local family Christmas  
2 Brightwood Family Christmases  
1,000 Handmade Wool Hats  
120lbs of School Supplies  
2 Mission Trips  
60 Birthday Bags  
49 Shoeboxes  
15 Coats to the Homeless  
1,800 Kookies for Kairos  
46 Units of Blood - 138 lives saved  
5 Ramps  
3 Salvation Army Truckfuls  
Over 700 Free Meals Served  
2,192 Pounds of Food  
2 Habitat for Humanity Builds

LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS



## Taking Care of God's House

The Trustees took care of their "second home" in 2019. Thanks to everyone who helped.

- Developed new youth room including flooring, paint and furniture.
- Installed new UV system for our water supply.
- Installed LED lights to save money and electricity.
- Installed a second set of automatic doors at the main door with security for office and preschool.
- Sealed and restriped the parking lot.
- Updated lighting in the upstairs classrooms.
- Coordinated with local contractors for free driveway gravel and landscape around the shelter.

## God's House for Everyone

**Hospitality is one of our gifts. In 2019 we opened our doors to the community.** This past year, we had 35 kids at our week long **Vacation Bible School**, a yard full of kids at our annual **Egg Hunt**, and 100 kids at our third **Trunk or Treat**. Our annual **Garage Sale**, brings hundreds of families from around the area. Our **Preschool** continues to grow and serve the needs of our community with over 40 kids enrolled. We offer a **place to vote, to give blood, and get a flu shot**. Our United Methodist Women open our doors for their annual

**Advent Tea** and the **Craft Fair**. We host the **AA, BSA Scouts, Girl Scouts, Music Students, Robotic Teams**, and a **Franklin Township Support Group** for parents of special needs kids throughout the week. So many opportunities to continue to show hospitality.

ALL  
ARE  
WELCOME

## United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women's group host several of our **Wednesday Fellowship dinners** and **special events for members, friends, and family**. They craft **prayer blankets** for the sick, and pay forward **acts of kindness** through the **monthly bake sale**. The annual **Craft Fair and**



**Advent Tea** help show hospitality to our community as well as raise money for missions. In 2019, the women of Acton, provided almost **\$8,000 in mission support**.

## Blood Drive

Acton has two community blood drives each year, in May and October. Thanks to all that were able to participate in 2019. We had over 40 people donate blood which translates to **138 lives saved**.





# Smiles of Acton



Acton United Methodist Church  
5650 Senour Road  
Indianapolis, IN 46259

First Std  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
City, ST  
Permit # 000

**ACTON** *in action*

2019 – A year of loving, learning, sharing & serving Christ Jesus



## Special Edition

The format may look different. The focus is not the normal monthly information. But the content is fun and a great way to remember all that happened in 2019. We hope you enjoy this special edition of the *Acton in action* newsletter. ***It's a summary of all the fun we had in 2019 as we loved, learned, shared and served Jesus together as a church family.*** Thanks to everyone who provided information and great pictures throughout the year.

## Join Us

***If you want to be a part of what we are doing here, we would love to have you.*** Beyond worship on Sunday mornings at 9:30am, we play and serve throughout the week. Come when you can and serve where you are led. If you have any questions you can check us out at [actonumc.com](http://actonumc.com) or on Facebook. We would be happy to talk to you. Give us a call (317-862-2588). We look forward to getting to know you better.