FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK

TRANSITIONS

Life is curious. In order for one thing to begin, another thing needs to end. Thus the quiet flow of life and death and life. It is the way God planned for things to happen. Sometimes we like the flow, especially when we are anxiously awaiting for the "new" to arrive; other times we dislike the flow, especially when we like the "present status."

United Methodist are well familiar with this transitional flow in regard to their pastoral appointments. Pastors transition from one church to another. Sometimes the church laity likes the transition; sometimes not. Yet with each transition some things die and other things are born anew. Frustrations, disappointments, angers, and miss-deeds are quietly left behind; while visions, hopes, desires and new possibilities are born anew.

Pam and I thank all of you for your gracious send off this past Sunday. We sat and read the notes and cards you gave to us with fondness. Together we have brought a difficult time in the life of the church family to a close. But now you are ready to gather Pastor Mac and family into your faith family. Now you are ready to dream anew. Now you are ready to press on in the name of Christ to witness to the world! Now you are ready to have another garage sale experience!

Have a great time as you transition into the NEW!

WELCOME PASTOR MAC!

Love and blessings,

Pastor Rick
UPCOMING AUMC EVENTS
MARK YOUR CALENDARS — EVERYONE IS WELCOME

CHURCH GARAGE SALE – JULY 28th
This year’s annual garage sale is on July 28th. Work has already started and donations are coming in. Help is always needed and appreciated in this annual endeavor. If you would like to volunteer to sort donations, cook a meal, pickup donations, be a cashier, or park cars, please see Stephanie Schemenauer or Barbara Thompson. Donations can be dropped off in Fellowship Hall and big items can be put in the container in the parking lot. Make sure to stop by the week before the sale to help with pricing and sorting and to share a meal each evening.

FELLOWSHIP DINNER – SEPTEMBER 19th
There will be no fellowship dinner held in July or August. Looking forward to a great meal served by the women of UMW, on September 19th.

READING CIRCLE – AUGUST 20th
The Women’s Reading Circle will meet at the home of Mary Ann Puckett at 6:00pm on August 20th. We will be discussing The Poisonwood Bible by Barbara Kingsolver. The Poisonwood Bible is a story told by the wife and four daughters of Nathan Price, a fierce, evangelical Baptist who takes his family and mission to the Belgian Congo in 1959. They carry with them everything they believe they will need from home, but soon find that all of it—from garden seeds to Scripture—is calamitously transformed on African soil. What follows is a suspenseful epic of one family’s tragic undoing and remarkable reconstruction over the course of three decades in postcolonial Africa. This is an older book and may be available in Half Price Books. If you like Anne Meyer can obtain one for you for $10.99 from Amazon. It is available on kindle for $11.99. We will have a pitch-in supper before the discussion. If you would like to car pool from the church, meet at the church no later than 5:15. For more information, contact Anne Meyer or Mary Ann Puckett.

HYSSONG GOSPEL CONCERT – SEPTEMBER 6th
Mark your calendars! On Thursday evening, September 6th we will once again present the Hyssong Singers. The Hyssongs travel full-time sharing the Gospel through the powerful medium of music. Dell, Susan, & Richard Hyssong encourage and delight audiences wherever they appear with their family vocal harmony, lively energetic style, humor, and brass instruments (trumpet & trombone). The award winning trio consistently has top 40 songs on the radio charts. They perform more than 250 times each year in churches, auditoriums, gospel cruises, (as well as television and radio). During the last two years, they have sung more than 12 times at Dollywood and have been featured in the Singing News. They travel throughout the United States and Canada; and during 2010, they had the privilege of going to El Salvador, Central America with Compassion International. The Hyssongs record on the Sanctuary label at the Chapel Valley Studio in Sharps Chapel, TN. God has truly blessed their ministry as they continue to sing and praise the wonderful name of our Lord and Savior.

THANKS to Our VBS Volunteers!
FELLOWSHIP AND FUN TIMES
THE SMILES OF AUMC
CONGREGATIONAL CARE
PLEASE PRAY FOR YOUR CHURCH FAMILY

HEALING STRENGTH: Dick Moore, Ann Howell, Bev Aldous (Barb Wiley’s sister), Pete Wiggins (Mary Jo Ensch’s brother), Linda Hicks, Ruth “Crickett” Thacker (friend of Marvin Kolp’s), Toby Ross (Ken & Sandy Grubb’s son-in-law), Marian Wessler, Michele Schmeler

SYMPATHY: Family of Alice Whitecotton (Floyd Selke’s cousin)

OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS: Ruth Crider, Mary Hicks, Mary Schmidt, Joann Young

MILITARY PERSONNEL: Lieutenant Adam Walters (Newport, RI), CPL Lucas Lamkin (Cherry Point, NC), PFC Adam Clark (Camp Atterbury), Jake Alcala, Forward Scout Ranger (Afghanistan)

EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY
SHARE THE BLESSINGS YOU HAVE RECEIVED

VBS RAISES MONEY FOR HENRYVILLE
As part of the Vacation Bible School mission project change was collected for Henryville UMC to help out with their VBS and Children’s Ministry. The kids collected $144 and signed a big card. Both were delivered to Henryville along with our left over snacks and they were very appreciative.

FAST TRACK 2012 COLLECTION IN JULY
Fast Track began the summer of 2008 to provide support to Franklin Township families who are facing hardships as they prepare to start another school year. AUMC along with other churches and organizations in Franklin Township are collecting items through July 15th. Monetary donations are also accepted and can be made to FTCSC (Franklin Township Community School Corporation). Distribution of the items will be Saturday, July 21st at Middle School West. If you can volunteer for this day or have questions, please contact Margie Townsend. See list of needed items in the narthex display.

GARDEN SURPLUS
As summer begins and our gardens grow, make sure to bring in your surplus on Sunday mornings and contribute to the display in the narthex for Food Resource Bank. This organization assists in improving world food production to alleviate hunger. A free will offering will be accepted for the produce. The funds generated will be used to support a designated FRB farm project. In essence, local gardeners will be helping to improve world food production. WATCH FOR THE FOOD RESOURCE BANK DISPLAY IN THE NARTHEX.

Food Pantry Collections
July - Brightwood
Please drop off donations at the display in the narthex.
Community Support

COMPASSION CENTER
Thanks to Mary Jo Ensch and members of the Grubb family including Jeanne Lamkin, Terry Grubb, Chris Osborn and Joe Grubb and family for providing and preparing the food for the Compassion Center meal in June. Around 100 meals of Sloppy Joes or pork barbecue sandwiches, green beans and potato casserole were served. Mark Wolfe led the service with music by Debi Harrison. Thanks to all for the many desserts.

This AUMC ministry provides a meal and worship service for persons in the Garfield Park area the first Sunday of every month. If you wish to help, contact Bruce or Suzie McKay or sign-up in the Nursery hallway.

FOOD PANTRIES
AUMC works at God’s Bounty the second Thursday of every month. Help is always appreciated to sort, distribute and purchase food. Contact Mary Jo Ensch if you can help.

Both God’s Bounty and Brightwood Community Center are struggling to keep up with the need. Added donations are always appreciated.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
The United Methodist Brightwood Habitat for Humanity Build is on schedule. Rita Parker and her two sons will be moving in, hopefully on August 4th. To date, AUMC has assisted with funding for this project and on-site framing of the house. A crew from AUMC will be assisting with interior and exterior finishing work on July 19th. Remember the Parker family in your prayers.

Mission Trips

SOUTH DAKOTA MISSION TRIP
Mark and Susan French returned safely from their vacation/mission trip to South Dakota on Sunday June 17. They spent one week enjoying the Black Hills and several national and state parks and then joined a group on the Rosebud Indian Reservation in Mission South Dakota for the second week. The group included folks from Good Shepherd UMC here in Indianapolis as well as many others from the Crystal Lake Illinois area. A total of 18 different churches have been involved in this mission. A total of 26 people were there including 9 youths who did the Vacation Bible School.

Mark and Susan worked on two Habitat for Humanity houses which are nearly complete. Susan also worked on the Habitat storage building. There was a lot of measuring (twice), hammering, sawing, staining, sweeping up, etc going on. They even dug a couple of post holes. Susan also worked at the Vacation Bible School one day. Attendance was lower this year as another group was putting on a VBS down the street in the same small town.

This is a wonderful experience and Mark and Susan will be happy to provide more information to anyone interested in going next year. The trip is already booked for the next two years, June 8 to 15, 2013. Watch for more recruiting information later as well as possible fund raising opportunities.
INTENTIONAL FAITH DEVELOPMENT
LEARN AND GROW IN YOUR FAITH — ALL ARE WELCOME

CURRENT SMALL GROUP STUDIES

WOMEN’S TUESDAY EVENING – Immersion Bible Studies, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians
Meets Tuesdays, 7:00-8:00 pm, church library, childcare provided, contact Diane Crane

MEN’S TUESDAY EVENINGS – A Disciple’s Path by James Harnish
Meets Tuesdays, 7:00-8:00 pm, church office, childcare provided, contact Andy Crane

WOMEN OF FAITH – He Chose the Nails, What God Did To Win Your Heart by Max Lucado
Meets Wednesdays, 10:00 am, Patriot’s Table, County Line Rd & Madison Ave, contact Becky Repass

THURSDAY EVENINGS – The Cross by John Stott
Meets Thursdays, 7:00 pm, at Ken & Sandy Grubb home, contact Ken Grubb

WOMEN’S FRIDAY MORNINGS – Ezra/Nehemiah
Meets Fridays, 9:30-11:00am, church kitchen, contact Anne Meyer

MEN’S SATURDAY MORNINGS – Corinthians
Meets Saturdays, 8:00 am, church kitchen, contact Dan Repass

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE STUDY – A Disciple’s Path by James Harnish
Meets Sundays, 10:15-11:00am, Kitchen, contact Ken Grubb

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT CLASS – FaithLink
Meets Sundays, 10:15-11:00am, Children’s Chapel, contact Cliff Lathrop

SUNDAY MORNING MIDDLE SCHOOL CLASS – Talk Sheets
Meets Sundays, 10:15-11:00am, trailer, contact Anne Meyer or Arlette Povolac

SUNDAY MORNING 1st-5th GRADE CLASS – Rock Solid
Meets Sundays, 10:15-11:00am, Beach Room, contact Terry Fansler

SUNDAY MORNING PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN CLASS – Rock Solid
Meets Sundays, 10:15-11:00am, Preschool Room, contact Terry Fansler

YOUTH GROUP – Join us for dinner, fun fellowship and faith building lessons
Meets Sundays, 5:30-7:00pm, Fellowship Hall, contact Andy or Diane Crane

The Upper Room Devotionals are now available on-line through the AUMC website (actonumc.com) or at devotionals.upperroom.org.
PASSIONATE WORSHIP
THE PRACTICE OF PASSIONATE WORSHIP

*Worship* describes those times we gather deliberately seeking to encounter God in Christ. God uses worship to transform lives, heal wounded souls, renew hope, shape decisions, provoke change, inspire compassion, and bind people to one another. The word *passionate* expresses an intense desire, an ardent spirit, strong feelings, and the sense of heightened importance. Congregations who practice Passionate Worship offer their utmost and highest; they expect worship to be the most important hour of the week.

Through the personal practice of *Passionate Worship*, we learn to love God in return. Followers of Christ develop patterns of listening to God, allowing God to shape our hearts and minds through prayer, personal devotion, and community worship. We love God. (Taken from *The Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*.)

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RADICAL HOSPITALITY
WELCOMING GUESTS WITH LOVE

On June 17th, Trudi Wolfe gave us a summary about the hospitality presentation from the Annual Conference. Trudi spoke about visiting a church from the visitor’s perspective and noted that visitors see how much we love each other and that they want a church where they can make friends. They will remember the hospitality, not the music or sermon.

She asked if we see first time people as visitors or as guests, stating that a visitor is someone who arrives unexpectedly and we wonder who they are and what they want. A guest is someone whom we expect to come, someone whom we prepare for, and whom we welcome into our midst.

At the conference, it was cited that visitors come to church because they are hurting and have a need they are looking to be fulfilled. The average person will give a church six Sundays. If no connections are made in this time, they will not come back.

Trudi also gave us some help on how to connect with our guests. She also explained the 5-10-Link Rule where 5 refers to the time in which we can use 5 minutes before and after the service to fellowship and meet someone whom we don’t know. The 10 refers to the space in which when someone you don’t know comes within 10 feet of you, reach out to them and invite them to join your group. Links refers to connecting so that when you meet someone new, immediately link them to someone else based upon something that they will have in common.

We are not all comfortable with meeting new people and sometimes a hindrance to hospitality is our fear of not being able to remember names. Don’t let this fear stop you. Ask people to help you with their name. Tell people that you are forgetful. Also, don’t say “Is this your first time?” It may or may not be. Just say, “We haven’t met yet.” And lastly, respect visitors who don’t want to be connected.

One of the presenters was from Southwest Airlines. She talked about their philosophies and how they have a Warrior Spirit in that they do whatever it takes to get things done. They also have Servant’s Hearts and the leaders allow others to go first – there is no competition within the company. The employees have a fun-loving attitude and the leaders believe that if you love your employees then they will love your customers. It is the same with us, if we love our fellow members then they will pass on the love to others.
GOOD TO KNOW
TIDBITS OF AUMC NEWS

SCRIPTURE FOR JULY
"And he (Jesus) said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you, go in peace." Luke 7:50

JULY SERMON SERIES
Love, Learn, Share, Serve a sermon series for July on the mission statement of Acton UMC. While everyone in the Acton congregation may understand it, Pastor Mac will preach this series to be sure he's on the same page with everyone else. Following the sermon, for those who may be interested, Pastor Mac will be around to take any questions, observations, etc. you may have on the sermon as we try to live out this challenging mission statement.

8th “Love: Singing the Lord's Song in an Alien Land” (Psalm 137:1-4)
15th “Learn: We Don't Need No Education” (Matthew 5:1-12)
29th “Serve: On Being Last in Line at a Pitch In” (Matthew 20:1-16)

PRAYER GROUP BEFORE SERVICE
Pastor Mac would like to pray with a small group before each of his Sunday services. On July 1st the Staff Parish Relations Committee will be praying with him before his first service. If you would like to pray with Pastor Mac before a service please email Lisa Ford with your request of three or four possible Sundays from now through December that would work best for you. SPRC committee will be arranging the prayer groups and would like to make sure everyone who is interested has the opportunity to participate.

MEET AND GREET WITH PASTOR MAC
Pastor Mac has asked to meet ALL church members in small "at home" gatherings. If you haven’t already done so, make sure you sign up in the Narthex for a time to meet and greet our new Pastor, Mac Hamon.

ACTONUMC.COM
Check out the latest news and happenings at actonumc.com. Our website is updated with new stories, pictures, and great information every week.

CRAFT FAIR DATE SET
The 2012 Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, November 3rd. Booth applications are available at actonumc.com. Pass it on!

AMAZING MISSION FUND UPDATE
“Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth” 1 John 3:18
Pledges totaling $7,005 for the Amazing Mission Fund have been received for 2012/2013 (AMF Pledge Year runs from June 1, 2012 through May 31, 2013). The Mission Team wishes to thank our entire church community for their support of missions through their donations, service and prayers. Those who have pledged need to remember to identify their donation as going to AMF when making their donation. A complete report will be provided at the end of the pledge year on the use of these funds to address individual needs throughout our community and world through the support of mission projects such as God’s Bounty Food Pantry in Wanamaker, Central Indiana Habitat for Humanity and Operation Classroom Scholarships in Africa.
STAFF PARISH RELATIONS

Special thanks to Arlette Povalac and Gayle Kerns for assisting Staff Parish with the Goodbye and Hello Receptions for our two Pastors.

The Staff Parish Committee has been hard at work for you. Staff Parish continues to work as a team in accomplishing our goals for the 2012 year.

- We have completed the Grievance Procedure for Conflict Resolution in May.
- We have supported our interim Pastor, Rick Bell, during his 3 months with us.
- We have successfully started the "Making a Good Move Transition" with our new Pastor, Mac Hamon, and we will begin discussion with him concerning Pastoral Time-Use and priorities for our church.
- We have advertised and received interest for our Choir Director position and will be interviewing in July.
- We have completed a new personnel handbook and will be seeking its approval from the Congregational Council soon.
- We have also updated all staff job descriptions and will be sharing those with our employees in the next two months.

Submitted by: Lisa Ford, SPRC Chairman

TRUSTEES

Our insurance company has completed their inspection to help make our church safer. There are several basic things that need to be addressed. Many are under way to being fixed. If you are able to help, please contact Ken Grubb.

We are closer to our goal for purchasing replacement flooring for the Fellowship Hall. Squares are available for purchase to help raise funds for replacement of the fellowship hall floor covering. See the display in the narthex if you can help and to see how close we are to our goal.

Submitted by: Ken Grubb, Trustee Chair

FINANCE

The second quarter giving statements will be mailed in July with a summary budget update. If you have any questions about your statement please see our Financial Secretary, Jeanne Lamkin. Questions on the budget can be directed to Finance Chair, Larry Suits or Treasurer, Felicia Crowel.

Submitted by: Larry Suits, Finance Chair

BUDGET UPDATE

As of May 31, 2012
Income ........ $75,189 ........ 41% of budget
Expenses ...... $78,644 ........ 40% of budget

Meeting minutes from Congregational Council, Finance, Trustees and Ministry Leadership are all available in the office. Copies of minutes from Congregational Council meetings are also available in the hallway outside the Nursery and include a summary report from all other committees.
BOY SCOUTS

500 FESTIVAL PARADE
Did you know – the Indy 500 Festival Parade is the 3rd largest parade in the nation, surpassed only by the Rose Parade in Pasadena, CA and Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade? Troop 104 was part of an army of scouts that set up over 30,000 chairs so visitors to our city could enjoy the parade.

JUNE ON THE WATER
19 scouts and 8 adult leaders enjoyed a weekend in their new tents at Raccoon Lake State Recreation Area. Even though the water levels were down so much that the beach was closed, the boys were able to enjoy tubing behind the Mueller’s boat and fishing. After a Saturday night feast of fresh fried fish, chicken, steak, and roasted corn, the boys ended a great weekend with a Scouts Own Service on Sunday morning.

TROOP ELECTIONS
Troop 104 has selected their new boy leaders which include our own Jared Schemenaur, as the Senior Patrol Leader (the highest ranking boy leadership position), and Wyatt Crowel as the troop quartermaster. Other leaders include Cullen Cook, Jacob Nichols, Cameron Brown, Sean Deely, Tony Wooten, Josh Goodsmann, and Jacob Roethler. Please join us in encouraging Jared, Wyatt and the other young men as they develop their leadership skills in this ministry to the community.

PRESCHOOL
The Preschool is on summer break, but putting plans in place to start another great school year in August. There are still a few spots available in our preschool program for this fall. Registration forms are available in the office or on-line.

When you are out this month and see school supplies on sale, pick up a few for the preschool. We would appreciate it as it helps keep our tuition costs down. Leave your donations in the office and please mark them preschool.

* Crayola crayons (24 count)  
* Pencils  
* Glue sticks  
* Kleenex  
* Paper towels  
* Napkins  
* Animal crackers or goldfish crackers  
* Baby wipes (hypo-allergenic)  
* Antibacterial hand sanitizer  
* Band-aids  
* Play-doh  
* Computer paper (drawing paper)
GARAGE SALE & KARL HINKLE – JULY 28th & 29th

Come one come all to one of, if not the, largest garage sale in the Indianapolis area. Doors open early at 7:00am on Saturday, July 28th. Breakfast and lunch will be available as well as bargains and treasures for all to find. Donations for the sale are being accepted. If you need help in getting your items to the church, please call the office. We will conclude this great weekend worshiping with Karl Hinkle. His message is always inspiring and full of beautiful music. All are invited to the service at 9:00am on Sunday, July 29th.