

## Mission Giving Sundays

January 13, 20, 27



\* Missions Giving is formally know as Faith Promises \*

“But he’s already made it plain how to live, what to do, what God is looking for in men and women. It’s quite simple: Do what is fair and just to your neighbor, be compassionate and loyal in your love, and don’t take yourself too seriously-- take God seriously.” -Micah 6:8 The Message (MSG)

“We face a choice to be worldly Christians or world Christians.”

-Paul Borthwick, A Mind for Missions

Missions aren’t just something we **DO**. Missions is **part of our DNA** as children of God. With each act of justice, service, kindness, and humility, we add a brick to God’s kingdom. In January, Carmel United Methodist Church (CUMC) will offer an “**above and beyond**” opportunity for people to specifically pledge towards the over-arching kingdom-building work that we are embarking upon together. We know that many of you have already pledged to give generously to CUMC in 2019. Will you prayerfully consider digging a little more deeply, to allow us to **dig even deeper into missions**? Is God calling you to partner with our ministries and missions more directly through your time, or ( continued on page 4)

At CUMC we are **CONNECTING** with God and others, **GROWING** in faith and love through Biblical learning, and **SERVING** our community and world, as followers of Jesus Christ.

Carmel United Methodist Church  
621 S. Range Line Rd.  
Carmel, IN 46032

Fax: 317-848-8790  
phone: 317-844-7275  
e-mail: [Caremail@carmelumc.org](mailto:Caremail@carmelumc.org)

## Leadership at CUMC:

### **Pastoral Staff**

Senior Pastor:

Rev. Patti Napier

Associate Pastor and

Director of Young Adult Ministry:

Rev. Adriane Curtis

Director of Music Ministry:

David Morton, Ed.S.

Director of Praise Team Ministry:

Steve Baker

Minister of Children & Families:

Rev. Aj Mildenberg

Director of Youth Ministry:

Matt Sherrill

Minister of Youth:

Kevin Andrews

Minister of Adult Discipleship:

Chris Thornsberry

Minister of Local Outreach:

Mike Podgorski

Minister of Shepherding & New Members:

Barbara Krueger

Minister of Visitation:

Jim Shirey

Retired Pastor in Residence:

Jack King

Pastor in Residence and Director of

Counseling Ministry:

Rev. Jill Buckler

Preschool Director:

Tiffany Lehman

### **Office Staff**

Church Administrator:

Kevin Sweeney

Office Manager:

Pat Morrison

Financial Secretary:

Elizabeth Shiverdecker

Communications & Media Specialist:

Jennifer Hampton

Membership Secretary:

Karen McTaggart

Preschool Administrative Coordinator:

Nicole Todd

Children's Ministry Assistant:

Amy Severson

Music Associate:

Ray Lahrman

KICK Kid's Choir Director:

Kristin Thornsberry

Cherub Choir Director:

Carol Getch

connect



grow



serve



## IN THIS ISSUE:

- ⇒ MISSIONS GIVING
- ⇒ YOUTH WINTER RETREAT
- ⇒ PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION
- ⇒ FINANCIAL PEACE CLASSES

To email any staff: first initial, last name @carmelumc.org  
(i.e. pnapier@carmelumc.org)

## Church Governing Council

The Church Governing Council meets each month. If you have any questions regarding these meetings please contact Pat Morrison.

A graphic with a dark, blurred background of a church interior. The text "CHURCH FAMILY UPDATE" is written in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters.

## CHURCH FAMILY UPDATE

**Births...** Maxwell Scott Corley born Oct. 30th to Matt and Courtney Corley. Proud grandparents are Bill and Angela Corley • Dean Charles Walton was born Dec. 12th to Michael & Aly Walton. Proud grandparents are Rich & Tammy Walton

**.Deaths...**

- Valera Wolf, who is the wife of Hugh Wolf, passed away on Dec. 1st.
- Karen Taff, who is the wife of Joe Taff, passed away on Dec. 8th.
- Don Lahrman, who is the father of Ray Lahrman, passed away on Dec. 9th.
- Marilyn Gregg who passed away on Dec. 4th.
- Matt English, who is the nephew of Jim Shirey, passed away on Dec. 10th.
- Mindy Earnhart who passed away on Nov. 29th.

A graphic featuring a close-up of an open Bible with its pages slightly aged and a red bookmark. The background is a soft-focus outdoor scene with warm, golden light. The text "BIBLE RECIRCULATION" is written in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters.

## BIBLE RECIRCULATION

**Do you have a Bible you are not using anymore?** Maybe your child has outgrown a children's or teen version. Maybe you are cleaning out your parents' books and find several Bibles that you do not need. Maybe you bought a new translation and you are not using your former Bible. We would like to maintain a library of Bibles so that if someone in our congregation needs one, we can give it to them. The Bibles would also be available if a pastor or mission team leader identifies someone who needs to have the word of God. Please bring them to the church office, and we will take it from there.

A graphic with a teal background and orange circular accents. It features silhouettes of hands raised in the air. The text "VOLUNTEERS NEEDED" is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

SIGN UP TODAY!

**HOSPITALITY VOLUNTEERS:** Are you interested in helping CUMC be one of the friendliest churches in Carmel? Do you have one Sunday morning a month that you can volunteer your time? We need **door greeters, Welcome Center hosts, ushers, parking lot greeters, and worship center greeters** to help make our Sunday morning worship experience more friendly for first time guests and those who are regular attenders as well.

If you're interested in volunteering, we can provide you training, all you need to do is contact Chris Thornsberry, Minister of Adult Discipleship at [cthornsberry@carmelumc.org](mailto:cthornsberry@carmelumc.org) or call the church office at 317-844-7275 to receive more information.





Cover story continued...

financial contribution? **All different kinds of partnership and support are needed!**

We have a team that will prayerfully direct our missional pledges towards the areas that are in the most dire need, while also aligning with where God is calling us. **100% of this mission pledge will go towards direct support of missions.** All persons who pledge will be given regular updates

on the places where your giving is making a difference. Our "Food Pantry" and the English as a Second Language (ESL) ministries are dependent entirely upon the support of the CUMC family. We also have **big impact partnerships** with non-profits that house homeless families (Interfaith Hospitality Network, or IHN), provide warm coats for families in need (Kid's Coats), and improve housing and education for low-income communities (Henderson Settlement and Habitat for Humanity). We are even making an impact **around the world** for education and improvement of poverty in Sierra Leone, Africa (Taia Academy) and Haiti (Nehemiah Vision Ministries). Please consider joining us in 2019 as we continue to live out God's calling for **impacting the world and spreading The Good News of Jesus Christ!**

Blessings,  
Pastor Adriane Curtis  
Associate Pastor





## Update on Special General Conference Meeting

Since the last General Conference, a special group of clergy and lay persons were appointed to dialogue, pray, discern and recommend the way forward as the denomination decides the way forward in dealing with issues of sexuality as they relate to marriage and ordination. This group has been meeting since May, 2016 and are preparing for the Special General conference to be held in St. Louis, Missouri on February 23-26 for the final vote to be taken.

Currently there are three main proposals for the way to go forward. I will very briefly outline here but please make note after my outline the multiple places you may search to become more informed.

1. The Traditional Model is for keeping the Discipline the same regarding human sexuality which does not allow same sex unions nor self-avowed homosexuals to be ordained. **Churches that do not agree with this stance would have the ability to vote to leave the denomination.**
2. The Connectional Conference Plan will replace current jurisdictions with three connectional conferences". Each conference would represent differing positions on human sexuality. **If a local church did not agree with the connectional conference chosen by their annual conference, they would have the ability to vote to join a different conference that matches their stance.**
3. The One Church Model will remove all language prohibiting the marriage of same sex couples and will allow for the ordination of LGBTQ candidates. **Local churches would have the ability to write their own wedding policies, which could exclude or allow same-sex marriage. Local churches would also be able to covenant with the Bishop on whether they would accept an LGBTQ pastor or not.**

This is a very brief explanation which I think simply raises more questions than answers them! To help with better understanding and to answer questions, we will be providing two informational sessions in January. Please know that these are not the same presentations. Bishop Coyner's presentation is an information session for our congregation with Q and A at the end. Bishop Trimble's presentation is for all churches in our district.

**Bishop Julius Trimble**  
Sunday, January 20, 2019  
3:00pm • Sanctuary

Presentation for the district. Representation from many churches will be present so a larger crowd is expected. There will be information shared, small group discussions and questions. Childcare provided.



**Former Bishop Michael Coyner**  
Sunday, January 6, 2019  
3:00pm • Sanctuary

Information for our congregation on the different plans followed by a Q & A session. Childcare provided.





## **Update on Special General Conference Meeting (cont.)**

### **In preparation for these sessions, I will be providing the following:**

1. There are handouts available which basically represent both the conservative and progressive explanations for the 3 plans. Hard copies of those are available at the Welcome Center starting January 1, 2019.
2. Please check our website where resources will be available.
3. When the information begins to spread, if there are concerns, I will hold smaller sessions. Those sessions will be scheduled and released at a later time.

### **Most of all what I hope that all of us will do are two things:**

1. First and foremost, pray for our denomination. Pray that each of us is seeking God's counsel and that we may lay aside our individual agendas for what is truly a very controversial issue in today's culture.
2. Pray specifically for the patience and love that is required for holy dialogue. Truly listening to one another and honestly communicating in a loving way with one another. Practicing holy dialogue will not only be the best way forward for our conference but certainly is the best practice of dialogue in all of our relationships.

Senior Pastor  
Rev. Patti Napier

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### **Resources for More Information**

#### **Bishop Swanson of Mississippi speaking at annual conference June 4, 2018**

you tube cubanker

[youtube.com/watch?v=ct7cFkKf81E](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ct7cFkKf81E)

#### **Mark Holland spoke at St. Luke's UMC, Indianapolis, IN**

<https://boxcast.tv/viewing-uniting-methodists-an-evening-with-mark-holland-rydihjz8blx7vni8b3rs>

Or on St. Luke's UMC Facebook

#### **United Methodist Church Website**

<http://www.umc.org/>

## Check out some of the ways to **GROW** in 2019!

### **Cornerstone** | Every Sunday • 9:15-10:30 • Room LL22 • All Ages Welcome!

Join us for great Bible study and fellowship as we journey together in the cornerstones of our faith. This class studies various topics, however each week is independent of the other weeks. So don't worry about missing anything. You'll have a chance to jump right each week to go deeper into God's Word.

### **Empty Nesters Class** | Every Sunday • 9:30-10:30 • Room 121 (beside the Chapel) • All retired and senior adults welcome!

Join our retired Pastor in Residence, Rev. Jack King, as he and others study God's Word together. Come for a time of worship, fellowship, and study. This is a great class for those who are retired and seasoned adults to come and go deeper into God's Word.

### **F.O.G. (Followers of God)** | Every Sunday • 9:30-10:30 • Room 124 • All Ages Welcome!

Our F.O.G. class enjoys studies by people like Andy Stanley and Bob Goff. Join other adults of all ages as we watch the teachings from great speakers, preachers, and theologians; then have great conversations afterwards. We also have a monthly fellowship, called "Yum Yum Sunday", that's a pitch-in and a great opportunity to come and get to know us. Join us for fantastic studies and great fellowship.

### **Wednesday Night Prayer Gathering** | Every Wednesday • 6:30-8:30pm • Chapel • All Ages Welcome!

Join others each Wednesday night in the Chapel for our weekly prayer gathering. No matter where you are in life or who you are; you are welcome to attend this gathering. Spend time in group prayer and quiet times of prayer as well. Join us as we pray for each other, our church, our community, and the world.

### **UMW** | Monthly

We have Circle Groups that meet once a month that offer opportunities to socialize and fellowship. For more information on Circles or how you can get involved with the UMW, please email Lisa Baker, President of the UMW at Carmel UMC, at [ninakatine@yahoo.com](mailto:ninakatine@yahoo.com).

### **Monday Morning Guys** | Monday's (1st, 3rd, and 5th) • 9-10:15am • Library • All Ages Welcome!

Join us as we dive deeper into studying God's Word and learn how it applies to our lives as men. Our group has a time of fellowship, study, and prayer each time we meet. Led by Chris Thornsberry, Minister of Adult Discipleship. All men are welcome!

### **Ironmen Bible Study** | Every Friday • 7:30-9:00 am • Library • All Ages Welcome!

Ironmen focus on studying the Bible together through book and DVD studies. We take time, each meeting, to pray and hold one another accountable. Class is led by Eric Stickford. For more information, email Eric at [eric\\_stickford@glic.com](mailto:eric_stickford@glic.com).

### **Men's Fellowship** | First Wednesday's • 7-8:30pm • Various Locations • All Men 18+ Welcome!

Join us the first Wednesday of every month from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at various locations in Carmel for fellowship, fun, and good food!!! This time is meant to catch up with friends, make new friends, and get some good laughs in!



## DISCIPLE I CLASS

Disciple I Fast Track Old Testament \*REGISTRATION NOW OPEN\*



Join us for an exploration of Gods Word in the Old Testament as we set out to journey together. In this condensed version of Disciple I, you'll have the opportunity to see Gods Word come alive through Old Testament study. We'll meet every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in room LL8 starting January 8th through March 26th. Class led by Janet Boyd and Lisa Williams. Cost of workbook is \$13. If you have any questions, email Chris at [cthornsberry@carmelumc.org](mailto:cthornsberry@carmelumc.org). Register online under EVENTS!

## EXPERIENCING GOD BIBLE STUDY

Every Sunday- January 20th- April 14th •  
Room LL8

10:30am-12:00PM

Want to go to spiritual depths that you've never been? Join us for Experiencing God in room LL8 Sunday's Jan. 20th - April 14th from 10:30 till Noon (childcare provided). Through the examination of biblical and contemporary illustrations, participants will understand and apply seven realities of experiencing God. Cost of workbook is \$16. Register under

EVENTS online TODAY!!! Class led by Chris Thornsberry, Minister of Adult Discipleship.



**English as a Second Language (ESL)** is continually working with adults who are immigrants in our community. This ministry couldn't happen without the volunteers who work with students and share the love of Christ through conversational English. At this point the program is no longer accepting students however we are in desperate need of tutors!

If you'd like to learn more about ESL @ Carmel UMC contact Jana Miller @ (317) 513-9656.





**FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY  
FLEX CLASS**

January 27th – March 31st (10 weeks)

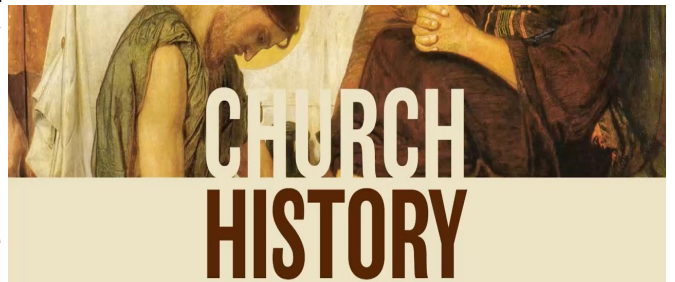
10:45-11:45 • Room 124/125

We're happy to be bringing FPU to Sunday mornings with our Flex option. Unlike the original FPU class option, with Flex you watch the videos on your own time during the week and then come prepared to discuss when we

meet. Cost of course is \$129. However, don't let this price scare you away. This will be one of the best investments you ever make! Class is led by Curtis and Shaina Murphy, veteran FPU facilitators. Childcare is provided. **ONLINE REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN UNDER EVENTS!**

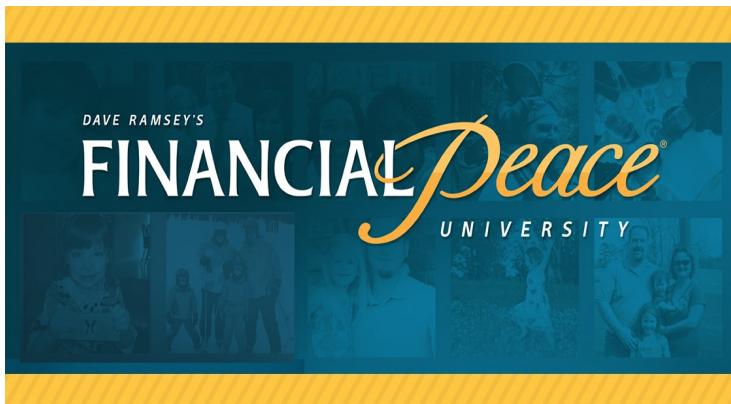
**SURVEY OF CHURCH HISTORY: THE REFORMATION**

January 15th – April 2nd (12 weeks) from 10:30 – 11:30am we will meet for video installments of the journey through church history. Dr. W. Robert Godfrey brings to life the stories of those who dedicated their lives to proclaiming the truth of God's Word in the Protestant Reformation. So join us for study and conversation. Course is led by Chris Thornsberry, Minister of Adult Discipleship. There is no cost for this course. We will meet in the Library/Conference room. Childcare is provided and are all welcome. Register online under events.



**FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY**

January 24th – March 28th • 6:30-8:30pm



Financial Peace University will help you take control of your money, plan for your future, and transform your life. Learn to master budgeting, save for emergencies, and **PAY OFF DEBT!!!** Take this opportunity to set yourself free from debt and move into the opportunity to serve without limitations. This class is led by Lauren Roberts and Tom Blessing, veteran FPU teachers and will meet in Rm 121. Cost of course is \$129, Register online under events!

## COULD YOU BE A



A HOST should have the following qualities and are able to do a few minor tasks:

- H** Heart for people
- O** Open your home to others
- S** Serve snacks
- T** Turn on a DVD player/TV

If you can do these things then you already know how to be a HOST for upcoming Grow Groups. We are looking for individuals or families who are interested in being **HOSTs for our upcoming sermon series**. We just need you to commit to 4 weeks of hosting and facilitating discussion in your home based on our Discipleship sermon series. If that's you, please contact Chris Thornsberry at [cthornsberry@carmelumc.org](mailto:cthornsberry@carmelumc.org).



## "IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS" ISRAEL TRIP INFORMATION SESSION

Sunday, January 13th • 10-10:45am • Library/  
Conference Rm

Join Chris Thornsberry, Minister of Adult Discipleship, and others as we journey to the Holy Land, Israel, in February of 2020. This is a **ONCE IN A LIFETIME** opportunity to go and see where Christ literally walked. Join us on January 13th for more information

and a chance to ask questions. There is an Early Bird Discount for anyone who signs up before March of 2019. So come and learn more about this amazing trip!

## GROW GROUP HOST HOMES (Different than the H.O.S.T. program)

Here at CUMC, most of our community, fellowship and discipleship takes place in Grow Groups. Grow Groups are groups of 8-12 people that get together once a week or every two weeks. We have groups of all ages, backgrounds and demographics. Plus, if you have kids, they are welcome to join

our groups, while some groups provide their own childcare. So why not take the next step and get to know others from CUMC better. If you are interested in joining, email Chris Thornsberry, Minister of Adult Discipleship at [cthornsberry@carmelumc.org](mailto:cthornsberry@carmelumc.org)





We want to say thank you to **Angelica Brown** for faithfully serving as President of UMW for the last four years. Under her guidance, we have seen so many wonderful opportunities for women in our congregation to connect socially as well as in practicing their faith. From their purse auction to baked goods, to many different circles and finally their Christmas dinner; Angelica has given solid and faithful service. We thank her for her faithful service to UMW and God's Kingdom these last four years. Thank you Angelica and may God bless you as you continue to serve His Kingdom in other ways in the future.

## New Year, New You!

This January take a few minutes to pray and answer the 3 questions below. Just see where the year takes you!







## SNOW DAY CAMP

January 3rd • 9-4PM

CUMC invites kids 4-11 years old to join us for a one day, fun day camp. We will be playing lots of indoor snow related activities, games and crafts! . This snow day camp will be filled with smiles, laughter and God's love. We will provide the same warm and caring environment your child has come to expect while playing with old friends and meeting new ones! There **must** be a minimum of 10 paid campers in order for

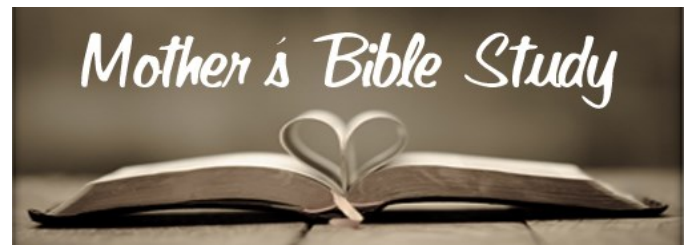
the camp to succeed. Registration will close on 1/1. First come, first served. Thank you for supporting Children's Ministry. Remember to bring your child's lunch! \$15 per child

You can register under events on our website or go to <https://carmelumc.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/190/responses/new>.



### Family Service Sunday

January 13th at 12:00pm, we will be disinfecting the church from viruses. We will wipe doorknobs, light switches, chairs, pews and tables. Let us help all the CUMC members and guests stay healthy. Kids and adults of all ages welcome!



### NEW YEAR, NEW STUDY

In this 11-part series on the Gospel of Mark, author and speaker Francis Chan invites us to walk with him along the ancient ways of the Master. Tracing the steps of Jesus and the twelve disciples through Israel, Francis explores the major themes of the Gospel of Mark, and asks: Are we willing to take this journey to embrace discipleship? This new series will begin January 10th in room LL12 from 9:15am to 10:30am. Childcare provided.



### DOES YOUR CHILD LOVE TO SING?

Cherub and KICK Choir will resume rehearsals on January 13th from 10:10-10:40. Cherub Choir (3's, 4's, and K) and KICK Choir (1-5th grade) will meet in Rm 116 between services.

Contact [kthornsberry@carmelumc.org](mailto:kthornsberry@carmelumc.org) or [caroljgetch@gmail.com](mailto:caroljgetch@gmail.com)





PRESCHOOL

# Registration Party!

JANUARY 16 ● 5:30PM

Come enjoy games, balloons, food and more while you sign up!

CARMEL UMC  
preschool

For more info or a tour call 317-844-1958 or [tlehman@carmelumc.org](mailto:tlehman@carmelumc.org)

The poster features a background of colorful crayons (purple, orange, white, brown, green, yellow) arranged in a row. A large pink diagonal banner covers the right side of the image, containing the text.

Don't miss out on this fun evening to sign up for the 2019-2020 Preschool Year.

Remember to have your form filled out in advance. Checks and Cash will be accepted-No Credit Cards.

Thank you to everyone that helped with our Preschool Christmas Program. We had a great turn out and the kids were very proud of their performance.





"Carmel UMC Youth Ministry creates authentic connections that bring glory to God."



This winter retreat is one of the highlights of the year and is planned for all students grades 6-12. We will head to Kalamazoo, MI during MLK weekend (January 19-21) and have a ton of fun while learning more of God's plans for us. #Wblast19 will feature new events and some of our old favorites like Airband, bowling, rock climbing, dodgeball & more. A guest speaker and amazing food will round out an incredible weekend of fun and help you trust God more. You won't want to miss this incredible time together! Register Now! Full registration is refundable until January 1, 2019.

Register online under events or go to....<https://carmelumc.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/181/responses/new>



**NASHVILLE SLAM**  
**Youth MISSION TRIP:**  
**June 10-15th**



**INTERSECT**  
**EVERY SUNDAY NIGHT- 2019 KICK OFF 1/6/19**

We invite all 6-12th graders every Sunday night to Intersect. Come check out our new format featuring Middle School and High School breakout groups, music and more. This is a relaxed setting and shorter time commitment, so bring your friends. *\*please note: snacks will be provided instead of a full meal.*

# DID YOU KNOW?

Here is an update on some things you might not be aware are happening here

- ♦ Did you know that our utility costs are more than \$90,000 per year?
- ♦ Did you know that we have repaired our parking lot, seal coated and restriped the entire lot in 2018?
- ♦ Did you know that we replaced the damaged, original FLC floor in 2018?
- ♦ Did you know that we just installed new carpeting and lighting in both elevators?
- ♦ Did you know that we provide more than \$145,000 to the Methodist Church in apportionments?
- ♦ Did you know that we will be removing the existing Carmel United Methodist sign at the corner of Rangeline and City Center and installing a brand new sign? This should be completed by the first week of February; weather permitting.
- ♦ Did you know that in 2018 we replaced all the cove lighting that borders the main sanctuary and replaced them with LED lighting?
- ♦ Did you know the results for the 170<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Recognition Campaign for our Endowments raised more than \$46,000 in donations and matching funds?
- ♦ **Did you know we are so blessed to have such a kind, caring and loving Pastoral Staff at CUMC? To them I would like to say:**
  - \* Thank you for going to God on our behalf and praying for us daily or more as needed.
  - \* Thank you for studying God's Word and sharing its truths to us in a compelling fashion.
  - \* Thank you for showing grace, love and patience when people question your intentions.
  - \* Thank you for putting in countless hours day after day.
  - \* Thank you for being men and women of unimpeachable character and integrity.
  - \* Thank you to your spouses and children for their willingness to share you with us.
  - \* Thank you for helping us discover our spiritual gifts.
  - \* Thank you for challenging and then helping us live a life of meaning and purpose.
  - \* Thank you for presiding over the milestone moments of our lives – baptisms, weddings and funerals and even accidents.
  - \* Thank you for telling us, "You're going to make it. It's going to be OK."
  - \* Thank you for allowing us to serve alongside you and make a difference.
  - \* Thank you for your great faith in what God can do.
  - \* Thank you for creating environments which help us raise Godly children.
  - \* Thank you for walking with us through tragedy, marital troubles, raising children and life's great challenges.

**"Thank You"** for your unrelenting spiritual care and guidance to the members of Carmel United Methodist Church!





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[www.carmelumc.org](http://www.carmelumc.org)

At Carmel UMC we are connecting with God and others, growing in faith and love through Biblical learning, and serving our community and world as followers of Jesus Christ.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

# CONTACT

**JANUARY 2019**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- \* *Snow Day Camp-January 3rd*
  - \* *Preschool Registration 2019-2020- January 16th*
  - \* *Winter Blast Retreat- January 19-21st*
  - \* *Visit from Former Bishop Michael Coyner- January 6th*
  - \* *Visit from Bishop Julius Trimble- January 20th*
-