



Answering the Call

Often in sermons I talk about how God calls us to ministry, how that ministry will often stretch us and will require commitment, and that no matter the call, God always equips us. I am excited to share with you two of our staff members who have recently responded to a call of God for their lives.

Chris Thornsberry, Minister of Adult Discipleship, and Matt Sherrill, Minister of Youth, have both begun following a call to ordination as Deacon in the UMC. The UMC ordains persons to one of two orders.

Deacon--The Deacon's call is to a lifetime of servanthood and therefore has opportunities to serve beyond a local church. Currently serving at CUMC is Rev. Jill Buckler, an ordained deacon whose call is to Christian counseling. Both Chris and Matt will live out their call through their current ministry areas. Deacons are not itinerant so they are not moved by the Bishop. Deacons must find their own places to serve. Deacons are not called sacramentally so they do not baptize nor bless communion, though they may support an elder in both. "The Deacon has made a faithful response of the mission of the Church, meeting the emerging needs of the future" (Book of Discipline, page 246).

Elder--The Elder's call is to a lifetime commitment to the Word, Sacrament, Order and Service. They are authorized to preach, teach, provide pastoral care, to administer sacraments of baptism and Holy Communion. The Elder is itinerant and under the appointment system so is appointed and moved according to Bishop's decisions. Congratulate and be a supporter and encourager of both Chris and Matt as they complete a master's degree and enter into the candidacy process. Also keep them in your prayers.

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

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phone: 317-844-7275
e-mail: 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:

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- ⇒ STEPHEN MINISTRY
- ⇒ STEWARDSHIP UPDATE
- ⇒ ENDOWMENT RESULTS

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.

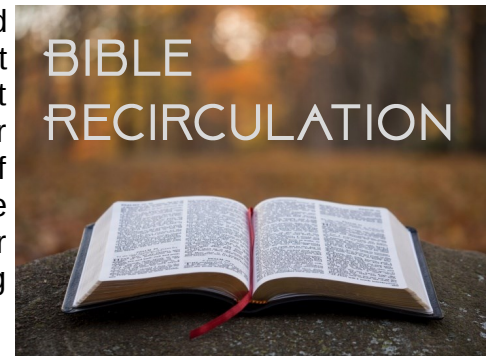


Births... Grace Catherine Holden was born January 18th to Trey and Lauren Holden. She was welcomed by brothers Andrew and Jack.

.Deaths...

- Carl D. Lewis, who is the grandfather of Christine Keith, passed away on Dec. 25th.
- Dee Long, who is the husband of Mary Lou Long, passed away on Jan. 10th.
- George Donaldson, who is the grandfather of Joe Donaldson, passed away on Jan. 23rd.

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.



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 or call the church office at 317-844-7275 to receive more information.

Have You Taken
the 3 Hour
Challenge?





**2019 SPECIAL SESSION
OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE**

On February 21-23, there will be a special General Council session held to address the stance of The United Methodist Church on same sex union and ordination of homosexuals. A group of clergy and lay persons have been studying and praying since their appointment to this task at General Conference 2016. What is being presented for a vote is basically three plans or choices which have been titled The One Church Plan, the Connectional Plan and the Traditional Plan. You may read more about

those plans on the United Methodist website or pick up hard copies of explanations at the Welcome Center in the Gathering Place.

I will also be holding two sessions at the church as a time for clarification about the plans and discussion of what this means for the local church.

**February 6th
at
1:00pm & 6:00pm**

The sessions are not intended to be a theological exploration of the sexuality issues but instead consideration of how the church may remain united despite differences.

Most of all, I am asking for prayers for those who sit on that special council that they are seeking God's wisdom beyond their own agendas for this work. I am also praying that God's will be done.

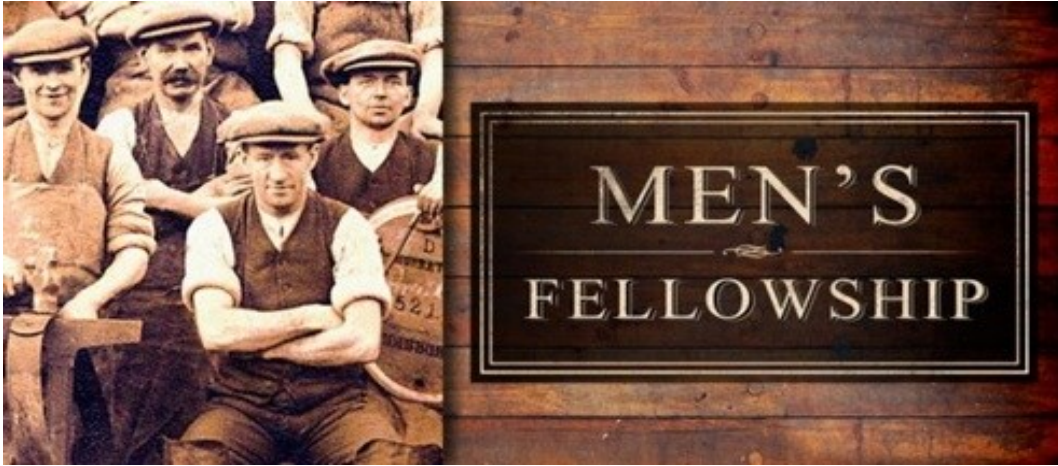
Blessings, Patti

All Church Breakfast

Feb 3rd @ 10am

(between services in the FLC)

**Bring a sweet or savory
breakfast casserole to "pitch-in"
(but not required to attend!)**



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

February 6th • Cancun Mexican Grill • 6:30PM

Join us this month for our Men's Fellowship at Cancun Mexican Grill (about a block north of the church). All men are welcome to attend this time of fellowship and good conversation. For more information, email Chris at cthornsberry@carmelumc.org.



NEW GROW GROUP STARTING!

Every Tuesday-beginning March 12th •
10:00AM • CUMC

Join us every Tuesday for this new grow group experience that will focus on a deeper understanding of the Bible, worldview, history, and context. This new group will

launch Tuesday, March 12th with Adam Hamilton's 6 week series on Christianity and World Religions. ALL are welcome to join! Childcare is provided. If you're interested in joining us, email Chris Thornsberry at cthornsberry@carmelumc.org.



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.



**“IN THE FOOTSTEPS
OF JESUS”**

ISRAEL TRIP INFORMATION SESSION

Sunday, February 24th • 10-10:20am • Library/
Conference Rm

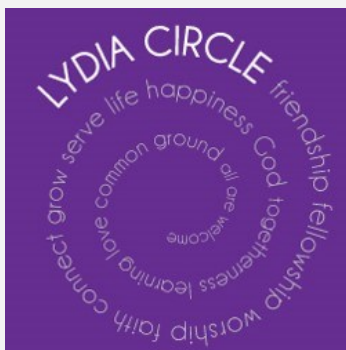
Join Chris Thornsberry, Minister of Adult Discipleship, and others as we journey to the Holy Land, Israel, in February of 2020. This is a **ONCE IN A LIFETIME** opportunity to go and see where Christ literally walked. Join us on February 24th for more information and a chance to ask questions. There is an Early Bird Discount for anyone who signs up before March of 2019. So come and learn more about this amazing trip!

SEARCHING FOR.....



NEW GROUP SEARCH

Are you a geek, gamer, nerd, sci-fi guru, comic buff or anything in between? We are looking to put together some opportunities for those of you who are interested in conversations, events, and con's (conventions) related to these kinds of topics and ideas. If you're interested in this and age 13+, please email Chris Thornsberry at cthornsberry@carmelumc.org.



LYDIA CIRCLE

February 5th • 6:30PM • Dooley O'Toole's

All ladies are invited to join Lydia's Circle for a dinner meeting on February 5th. Please RSVP to Gayle Webb at gayle.beyers.webb@gmail.com by Feb 3rd.



SOUL SISTERS

February 7th • 7:00PM • Nicole Todd's House

All ladies are welcome to join this new UMW Circle. We will focus on "tending our souls" by supporting each other with this community of women while having fun and fellowship. For more information and directions email Lisa Baker at ninakatine@yahoo.com.



CARMEL WINTER GAMES

At
The Ice at Center Green

February 23rd, 2019 • 12-5:00PM
Benefitting the Food Pantry



Carmel Winter Games builds real team spirit through on-ice, non-skating competitive games like human hungry hippo, human curling and an ice trike relay while supporting the Carmel United Methodist Church Food Pantry. In addition, we have a kids zone, skate with the Indy Fuel and cheer on your favorite Hometown Hero during competitive games between Carmel's finest, the Carmel Fire Department and Carmel Police Department. Bring your whole family and enjoy the fun!

LINK TO SIGN UP YOUR TEAM ON OUR WEBSITE UNDER EVENTS!

*Teams of 4-12, with 4 members per game required. Teams must commit to participate in all three games for the full duration. Winner trophies and participant medals will be presented at the end. Corporate registration fee is \$300 with 100% going to the Carmel United Methodist Church Food Pantry. Must be 18 or older to participate.



February 10th • 10-2:00PM

CUMC helps serve at Soup's On 4 times a year. In February, the youth will be serving lunch to the area's homeless at Roberts Park.



February 15th • 12-3:00PM

Gleaners will be here in the FLC. We are in need of volunteers. Contact Mike Podgorski 317-844-7275 x267 or mpodgorski@carmelumc.org.



February 22nd • 6:45-10:45AM

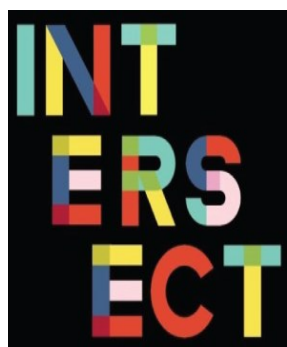
Have you found a place to serve this month? CUMC will be serving breakfast at Fletcher Place later this month. We are still in need of volunteers. Contact Richard at rcarriger@richardcarriger.com.



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



Last month the youth had their Annual Winter Retreat at Gull Lake. We had an amazing time with over 80 youth and adults. Thanks to all who attended and all the volunteers.



INTERSECT EVERY SUNDAY NIGHT

6-7:30PM • HUB

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.*



FAMILY SERVICE PROJECT

Beginning February 3rd

This month is a take home project to make Valentine crafts for our shut-ins. If you have art projects that your kids have created and you just can't throw them away, consider donating them to this important ministry. Pick them up on Sunday's beginning February 3rd.

Family Service



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2019

June 23-27th • 6-8:30PM

Save the date to travel to Mars and Beyond this summer for another amazing week of Vacation Bible School. Registration begins March 1st. For questions or to volunteer, contact Pastor Aj at ajmildenberg@carmelumc.org,



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY ADVISORY TEAM

Sunday, February 10th • 5:45PM

Calling all parents, grandparents and anyone else interested in learning where children's ministry is going and what events are in store. Learn what Pastor Aj experienced and discovered at the National Children's Pastors Conference. Childcare available!



STUDY THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Every Thursday • 9:15-10:30AM • Rm LL12

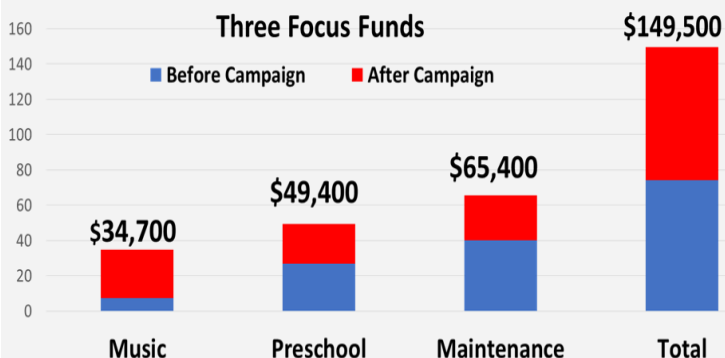
In the Gospel of Mark, author and speaker Francis Chan invites us to walk with him along the ancient ways of the Master. Tracing the steps of Jesus and the Twelve through Israel, Francis explores the major themes of the Gospel of Mark, and asks: Are we willing to take this journey to embrace discipleship? Childcare provided.



170th Anniversary Campaign Results

The 170th Anniversary Campaign raised \$76,700 including matching gifts. Our goal of using all the matching funds was achieved. The three focus funds together doubled in size. The Music Fund grew by almost five-fold from \$7,300 to \$34,700. The Mike Miller preschool Scholarship Fund almost doubled growing from \$26,500 to \$49,400 and the Maintenance Fund grew by 63% from \$40,100 to \$65,400. These gifts are very meaningful and will have a welcomed impact on the three ministries.

Seventeen additional engraved golden leaves will be placed on the Endowment Tree recognizing gifts to the Endowment. The Campaign was a resounding success exceeding all of the Endowment Committee's expectations. We are grateful for the generosity of those who made gifts to the Endowment Fund.



*full details will be found in the End of Year Report



"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest!" Matthew 11:28

CARMEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
COMMISSIONS NEW STEPHEN MINISTERS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2019

God never intended for us to go through difficult experiences alone. That's why God has brought us together as a congregation-and why we have Stephen Ministry. Stephen Ministers will meet with you privately and confidentially to listen, care, encourage, support, and reflect Christ's presence in your life.

The following individuals dedicated fifty hours from their busy lives to the Stephen Ministry training program. They will be commissioned in February and will begin an incredible journey of learning, caring, and sharing Christ's love.

Cheryl Bourgea, Whitney Carriger,

Mike Podgorski, and Nicole Todd

As we welcome these new Stephen Ministers, we ask that the congregation support Stephen Ministry by praying for our ministry, reaching out when you need support, telling others about the care we provide and recommending our ministry to those going through a difficult time.

If you'd like to learn more about Stephen Ministry for yourself or someone else (inside or outside our congregation), contact a pastor or Stephen Leader.

Referral Coordinator/ Leadership Coordinator

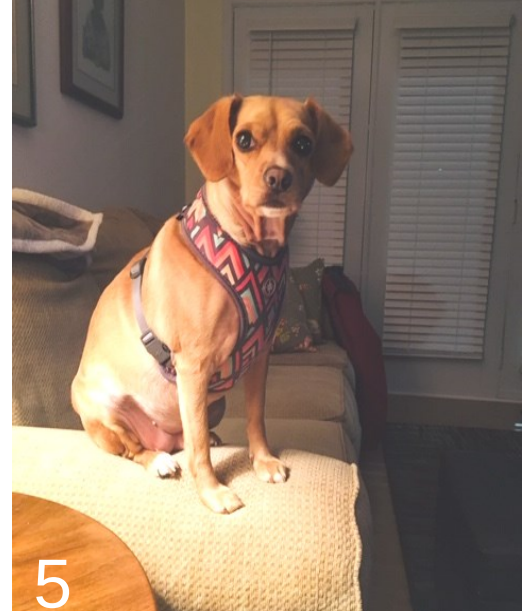
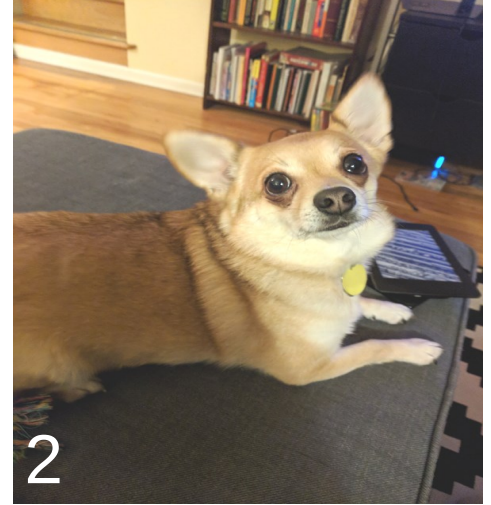
Debbie Carriger
(317) 844-7275
dcarriger@richardcarriger.com

Wayne Lerner
(317) 490-9850
waynewl5456@gmail.com

February 20th is National Love Your Pet Day!

We thought it would be fun to see if you could match the Pastoral Staff with their pets! How well do you know the staff?

Matt Sherrill
Rev. Adriane Curtis
David Morton
Ray Lahrman
Elizabeth Shiverdecker
Barbara Krueger
Rev. Aj Mildenberg
Rev. Patti Napier



ANSWERS: 1. Elizabeth Shiverdecker 2. Rev. Aj Mildenberg 3. Rev. Patti Napier 4. Ray Lahrman 5. Barbara Krueger 6. Matt Sherrill 7. David Morton 8. Rev. Adriane Curtis



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

CONTACT

FEBRUARY 2019

UPCOMING EVENTS

- * *All Church Brunch/Combined Services- February 3rd*
- * *Lydia Circle- February 5th*
- * *Bishop Follow-up Sessions- February 6th*
- * *Carmel Winter Games benefitting the Food Pantry- February 23rd*
- * *VBS Registration-March 1st*