



THE SPIRE

First United Methodist Church

JUNE 2025

Sue Monk Kidd shares a wonderful memory from her childhood. Her grandfather, who was a lawyer, judge and farmer would often spend his limited free time fishing. Sue enjoyed those moments with him.

But one day while they were fishing, she became bored. She set her pole down and began to picking dandelions, playing in the field, climbing trees. She made her way to her grandfather's truck and discovered that his fishing bait was still on the front seat. It dawned on her that her grandfather had been fishing for more than an hour without any bait! She grabbed the basket and went to the riverbank to deliver this forgotten bait. She asked him how he could fish for so long without any bait.

He replied, "Sometimes it's not the fish I'm after, it's the fishing."

I like that story. I am not a fisherman, but the thought of sitting quietly on a riverbank, perhaps enjoying the scenery, or reading a book or just listening to the wind blow through the leaves sounds very appealing. It is the need for quiet spaces. It is the gift that slowing down can offer to our weary lives.

I don't think such opportunities are limited to summer, although this is a great time to rest. Cold, wintery days when everything slows down can be great times to be still. Spring days with the return of warmer weather and the beauty of the blooming flowers invites us to slow down and notice what is happening around us. Fall days when the leaves are changing colors and the daylight begins to shorten speak a message of serenity. It is as if every season, in its own way, is calling us to be still.

Too often we feel guilty about such moments. We feel like we should be doing something. It feels wasteful. But within the still moments, there is something holy, something healing, something we all need. May your summer days bring such peaceful moments to our lives and may we dare to engage in the gift of quiet idleness.

Pace bene (peace and all good things,)

Howard

Annual Conference

Pastors Mackenzie and Howard will be in Indianapolis on June 4-7 for the annual gathering of United Methodists from throughout the state. Along with business items like voting on a budget and approving candidates for ordination, this is a great time to hear about the ministries supported and enabled by the United Methodist Church.

Coffee Connections

Please join us in the library after worship for a time of coffee & fellowship.

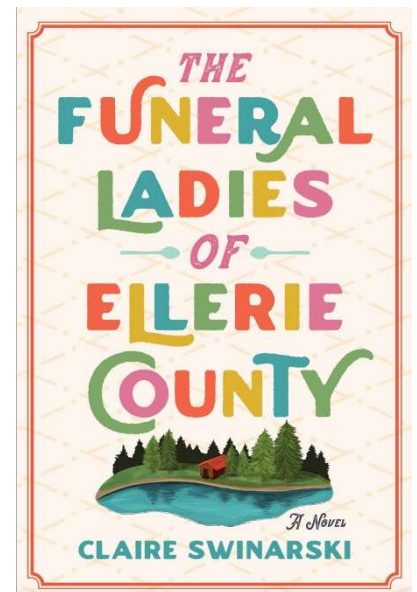
New Summer Office Hours

Monday-Thursday
9am-3pm

Book Club

The June Book Club selection is an upbeat novel by Claire Swinarski entitled, "The Funeral Ladies of Ellerie County." This book involves characters who refer to themselves as the "the funeral ladies" who believe that there is nothing that a warm casserole and a piece of cherry pie cannot fix. Follow these characters for some Northwoods kindness that is sure to bring pleasant memories. We will meet in the church library on Sunday June 15th at 6:00 p.m. for the discussion.

All are welcome!



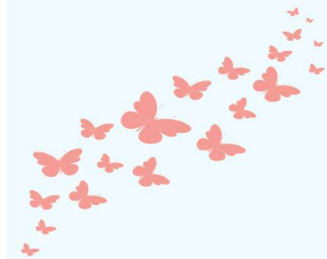


Upcoming Events & Announcements

**Interested in helping
with the gardening
group?**



Show up Thursday mornings!



The IT team wants you!



If you are interested in learning more about
joining the IT team, please reach out to the
church office or Tom Bailey.





Ugly Tie Sunday

It has become a tradition at First UMC to wear an ugly tie to church on Father's Day. We encourage you to dig deep in the closet and find that 1960's paisley tie or the one from the 1970's that matches the couch. Or you can make your own creation! Whatever you choose, men and women, we give you permission (even encourage you!) to wear your ugly tie to church on **June 15th**.

BROWN BAG LUNCH

JUNE 18TH, 2025
12PM



Join us for the next Brown Bag Luncheon. We meet in Room 116 for an informal time of lunch and conversation.



SIGN UP!

Sign up in Narthex
with Greg Woodworth



**Love
Chapel**

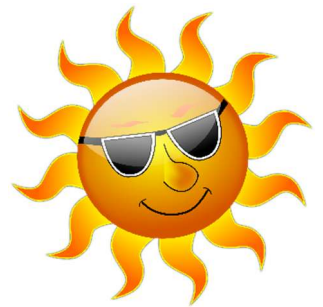
June 26th, 2025
Lunch Shift
(11am-4:45pm)



Children, Youth & Family News

Summer Schedule

Welcome to the summer schedule for children, youth and families. We will take the summer off for Sunday school. However, plan on attending service at 10 am and if you have a child going into 3rd grade and younger we invite them to join us for Kids Connect room 311 on the third floor. Please plan on an adult picking them up before you head to coffee time in the library.



Destination Unknown

Youth group will host Destination Unknowns for the months of June and July. Mark your calendar for June 8th from 12 – 2. 😊
Contact Shana for details about where to meet and what to bring.

Volunteer Opportunity

Are you interested in helping the education department clean out some closets? We are looking for some volunteers that can help sort and organize some of the areas that desperately need some attention! Hours and times are completely flexible. Just contact sdublan@fumccolumbus.org for more information.



Recruiting Teachers

Looking now for recruitment for teaching in the Fall. We will begin Sunday school soon and it's never too early to start planning for it. Are you interested in helping teach a class or talk about children and youth needs here and how best to meet them? If so please, contact Shana @ sdublan@fumccolumbus.org to discuss fall plans!



First United Methodist Church
618 Eighth Street
Columbus, IN 47201

Church Staff

Pastor, Howard Boles

Associate Pastor, Mackenzie Phillips

Director of Youth and Family Ministries, Shana Dublan

Business Administrator, Lora Miller

Administrative Assistant, Rachel Eddins

Maintenance Supervisor, Steve Heyerdahl

Music Director, Caio Lopes

Organist, Matthew Williamson

Handbell Choir Director, Joyce Crowder

Co-Directors of Learning Tree Preschool-

Gayle Kelley & Teresa Nickerson

Custodian, Damaris Muniz

Worship Services

Sunday Morning:

Sunday School- 9am

Worship- 10am

Live Stream via:

www.facebook.com/columbusfumc

http://www.youtube.com/@FUMC_Columbus

Articles for The Spire should be submitted to
Rachel Eddins at
[reddins@fumccolumbus.org](mailto:redskins@fumccolumbus.org)
by the **15th of the month.**