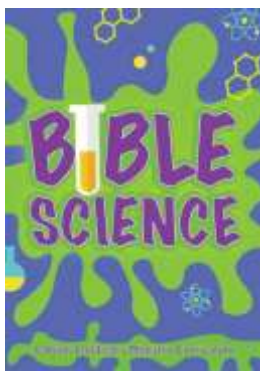


Bethel United Church of Christ
3029 N Green River Road
Evansville IN 47715

JUNE RECORD/NEWSLETTER

JUNE RECORD/NEWSLETTER



Vacation Bible School

June 16 – 20

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Faith and Reason belong together.
Scientific facts and Biblical truths inform
each other. Join us as we explore!



OUR VISION IS TO BE **UNITED** IN SEEKING GOD'S WILL
AND SERVING ALL PEOPLE.

June 2019 – *Bethel Record*
Newsletter of Bethel United Church of Christ
812-473-0135 www.bethelucc.org.

FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR . . . Rev. Dr. Stephanie Weiner

In prepping for the recent Roundtable on mental health, I read an article by Laura Greenstein on, “The Mental Health Benefits of Religion and Spirituality.” Our current context tends to divide them. Some people even take sides for one or the other. At Bethel, our “take on the faith” makes a good case for both, as does Ms. Greenstein. You can go to the webpage of the National Association for Mental Illness, www.nami.org, to read the whole article. Here is a quick summation:

Religion gives people something to believe in, provides a sense of structure and offers a group of people with whom to connect. Research suggests that it reduces suicide rates, alcoholism and drug use. It provides:

Community with social connections, a sense of belonging, and a safe and trustworthy social environment;

Ritual which helps us cope with difficult life situations, provides structure, regularity and predictability, and allows time for rest as well as holidays and seasonal emphases;

Learning by providing guidelines to live by, compassion, forgiveness and gratitude, and life lessons, even in challenging situations.

Spirituality is a sense of connection to something larger than ourselves. It helps us look within and understand ourselves while also figuring out how we fit in with the rest of the world. It incorporates healthy practices for the mind and body which positively influence mental health and emotional wellbeing. Among its benefits:

Individuality which enhances a person’s sense of self-empowerment; focuses on personal growth, and accepts any person, whether they are part of a religion or not;

Mindfulness which encourages mediation and self-reflection, leading to a meaningful life philosophy and prompting expression through activities like art, poetry, music, and more.

Unity with surroundings which renews a sense of belonging in the world and inspires appreciation and awareness of our interaction with all around us.

So grateful that Bethel is a both/and church, religious AND spiritual,

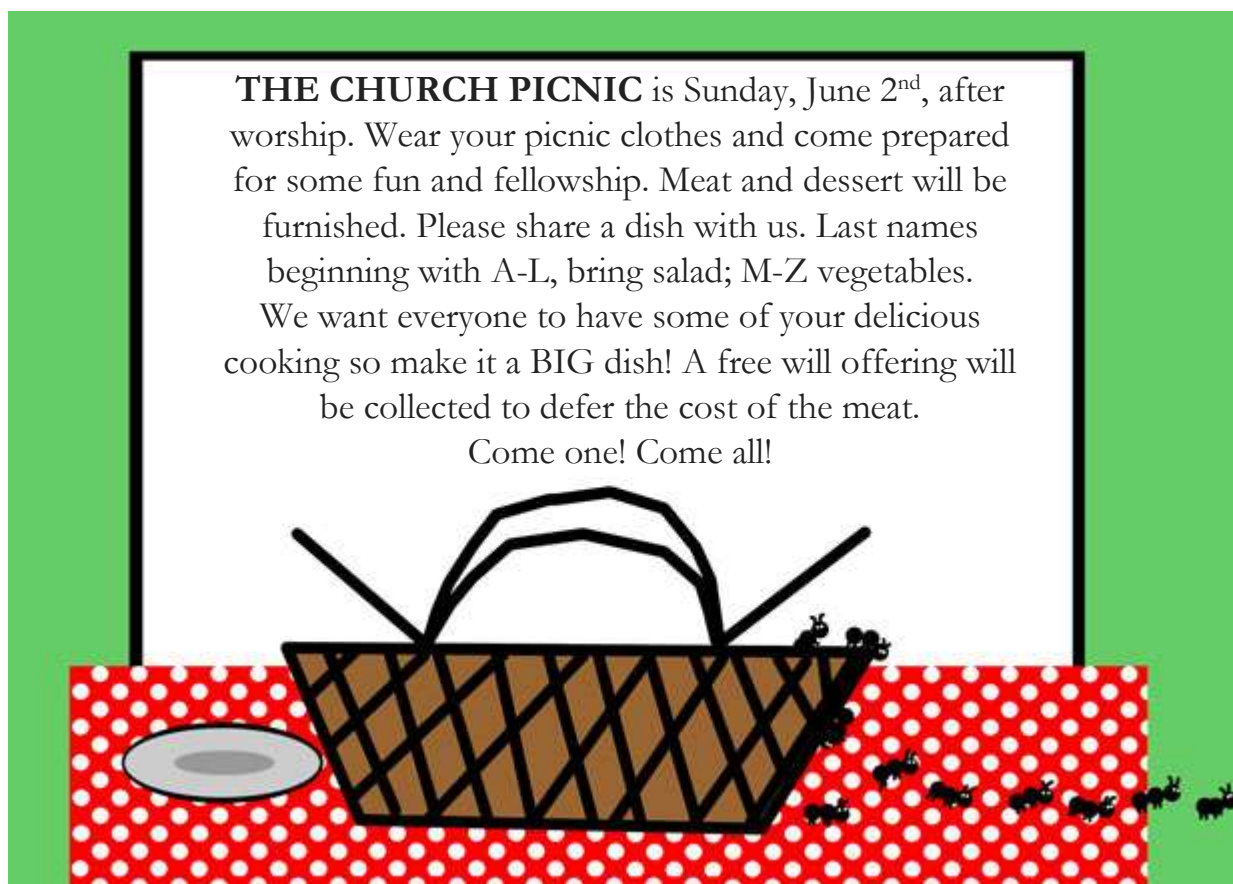
Grace and peace, *Stephanie*

FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT . . . Debbie Wilson

News from our May meeting: Leesa Scales, the chair of the search committee, met with us. The committee is working diligently. They've had a number of good candidates and are in the process of insuring that we make the right match with the Spirit's guidance. We will keep you informed. We assure the committee of our support and ask that you keep them in your prayers.

Stephanie's interim contract concludes at the end of June with the month of July as vacation from the year just completed. She has agreed to continue month to month until the end of May 2020. She and we believe we will have a settled pastor long before then. However, if not, she will conclude her ministry May 31, 2020 and we will go to plan B. This is best for her and for us. Stephanie will take the vacation earned during the coming year by taking six weeks off, during the year. The usual contract is four weeks, plus two weeks continuing education, plus we negotiated an extra two weeks in the original contract

As an added part of the contract, given that we are saving money between her contract and the amount we have budgeted for a called pastor, the council approved using the savings for program and promotion of our ministry. Questions? Concerns? Please direct them to any member of the council, particularly the officers: Deb Wilson, president; Jo Haller, vice-president; Carolyn Bennett, secretary; Cathy Johnson, treasurer.



WORSHIP IN JUNE

June 2: This is a Sunday you won't want to miss. The Rev. Georgia Chambers, chaplain at St. Vincent's, is the preacher. The sermon, "Singing for Our Lives: Freedom," will be based on Psalm 97 and Acts 16:16-34. We will commission those going on the Appalachian Service Project. We'll recognize those who have led our faith formation ministry. And then, we'll enjoy the annual church picnic! Have you made your reservation? Now is the best time!



June 9: Hope you don't want to miss this one, either! The Feast of Pentecost, the third in the church's trifacta (Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost). The Worship Team has been working to make this service even more celebrative. The sermon, "Filled to Overflowing," will be based on Acts 2:1-21, and John 14:8-17 and 25-27. We'll celebrate communion. Plan to stay for the Second Hour, and our birthday party in recognition of the birth of the church, with ice cream cones all around.

This will be a bittersweet day as we bid farewell to Bob Britt. Bob, and his late wife Jerry, have been mainstays of Bethel. Bob, a pharmacist by profession, and our church photographer by avocation, is moving to be near his daughters. Please join us as we toast him with our ice cream cones!

June 16: It is Father's Day, the perfect time to worship as a family. We welcome back the ASP crew and will hear their stories as we worship at 10:15. No Roundtable after worship; instead, join us for the VBS kick off at 6:00 p.m. for dinner, live music, games, and vespers.

June 23: We return to our journey through Luke with the sermon, "So we go," based on Luke 8:26-39. In keeping with our monthly mission focus on retirement homes, Chaplain Tara Powell of Good Samaritan will be with us for conversation at 9:00 a.m. and a brief moment for mission during worship.

June 30: "Look Both Ways," is the sermon based on Luke 9:51-62. We don't get many fifth Sundays. Let's enjoy this one!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BETHEL CHURCH! Formed in 1904, Bethel is 115 years old! Not a big birthday, but any and every reason to celebrate. Since the St. Louis World's Fair was also in 1904, and either introduced the ice cream cone or made it famous, we will have ice cream cones at our Second Sunday Celebration on Pentecost, June 9th.



LET'S GET TOGETHER!

First Friday Friends: Our initial meeting in May was a hit with lots of good ideas. So here's the deal: We gather at 11:00 each first Friday, bringing a brown bag lunch/brunch; whatever you want to eat. Beverages and desserts will be provided. We'll share the meal and then have conversation, games, videos, whatever. Come and go as your schedule allows. Invite your friends! Deal the cards!

Yoga: Women and men are welcome. Chair Yoga is on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Children's Church (no cost). Regular Yoga is on Thursdays at 7:45 a.m. in the Children's Church (fee charged).

Iron Men continue to meet on Wednesdays at 7:30 a.m. at Friendship Diner.

Second Sunday Celebrations on a Third Sunday!

The Celebrations for May were overwhelming and special. We celebrated on the third Sunday because of Mother's Day on the second Sunday. Carlos

Haskins not only celebrated his May birthday, but that of his daughter Rachel, his granddaughter Keira, and his grandson Michael. Wow! And Patti and Larry Coleman gave him a run for his May celebrations, with the 30th birthday of their grandson Logan Howell; the 18th birthdays of their twin granddaughters in California, Anna and Hallie; and the twins high school graduations! We are getting close to that \$5,000 for a full Ark of animals for the Heifer Project! Pastor Stephanie helped considerably with a donation to celebrate her birthday, (45 years?) or maybe more.



Other celebrations included Maureen and Dr. Harshad Parmar's anniversary, as well as Suzanne and Robert Farney's anniversary. Congratulations! Linda Garrett Cannon celebrated her May 1st birthday and still remembers doing the May Pole Dance at school on her birthday! Laurel Vaughn gave a donation in celebration of what would have been her father's, (Dippy Vaughn) 110th birthday! We also celebrated with Sharon Greubel as she remembered and celebrated what would have been her and Jerry's 55th wedding anniversary in May. One other celebration came from Joan Meyers, who was glad to be getting a chance for a visit to family and friends in Texas!

We have a great time at the celebrations and like hearing each person's story. And we are also helping in a very worthwhile project with the Heifer Project. Providing an animal to a family/ community is like giving someone a small business, providing wool, milk, eggs, and more. Animal donations can provide families a hand up, increasing access to medicine, school, food, and a sustainable livelihood. Thanks for everyone's support!



Take us out to the ball game – save these dates:

July 12: “The House the Otters Built.” The Otters are celebrating their 25th anniversary by building a house for Habitat. Come, help us represent Habitat for Humanity. Get a free ticket and free T-shirt. All you have to do is sing the national anthem and “take me out to the ball game at the 7th inning stretch – or stand and lip-sync with the rest of us.

July 26: It’s Relay for Life with the Otters. Thanks to the Condis, we have free tickets, available now, at the welcome center in the narthex.

MISSIONS TEAM:

New! Isaiah 117: Youth and children have been a passion for me. I was at a conference recently and saw a flyer regarding an Isaiah 117 house. I did not know what this was about but was interested. God nudged me to go to an informational meeting. A lady discussed her concerns with the most vulnerable population today, children in foster care.

Children may be removed from their homes or schools. Case workers may need to take them to the office until a placement or foster family is identified. Sometimes this may take hours or days until a safe place is identified for that child or sibling group. It is a crisis situation where the child/youth may not know where they are going, how long they will be there, and who will be with them. Many children are taken from the home without clothes, belongings, and familiar safe objects.

Isaiah 117 house is a safe place for transition for these children. It is a home setting where clean, fresh clothes may be available. It is a home with a kitchen for meals or snacks, a bathroom to take a shower, a bedroom or two to rest, and living room to spend time with support people and have activities.

Isaiah 117 started in Tennessee, and someone in the Evansville area was moved, as well, by God to “check in to this to help my hurting children.” I want the congregation to be aware and add to your prayer list, this endeavor. We can get more information and ask for someone to speak to us if this is a “nudge from God” as we continue to “Seek and Serve God's will.” God’s Grace is new each day. (Kim Stevens)

NEWS FROM THE GREEN TEAM

We meet the last Sunday of the month at 9:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room (June 30th). We welcome anyone and everyone. We had a good meeting with Building and Grounds and are grateful for that team’s support. We are thinking about ways that Bethel, both as a congregation and as individual members, can become greener. Stay tuned.





Continuing! Habitat for Humanity: We have a family for the fully-funded UCC/DOC/Goins Family home at 114 East Oregon Avenue. Find out more about Jennifer and her family at https://evansvillehabitat.org/homeowner_stories/jennifer-m/.

The build starts Saturday, June 1, with work on the crawlspace and floor system. If all goes well, the house will be done August 10. The work dates are posted at the church, or go to www.evansvillehabitat.org.

We have committed to providing the snacks on the nine days of the build, something simple like popsicles when it is hot and donuts when it is not. Please consider doing this! The church will reimburse the cost, if that helps get you to the site! Sign up electronically to volunteer. Check the dates. They are fluid, with no building in the rain (pun intended).

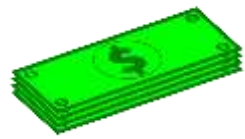
Ongoing! The Helping Hand Fund: Someone recently asked how the fund is supported. It enables us to help members of our congregation, and the community, with extraordinary expenses. Answer: through gifts in memory or honor of someone or something, special offerings, and special appeals. This is one of the latter. As of May 1 we have expended \$793.61: \$566.30-Vectren; \$147.08-water; \$50.00-food; \$30.23-gas/transportation.

We always verify the need. We always pay directly, never in cash to the person. The utility help is higher – because, well, utility bills are higher. We’ve also helped stave off cut-offs since it is REALLY expensive to have service restored. All contributions are gratefully accepted.

June Mission Focus: The UCC and our predecessor denominations, The Evangelical, and then Evangelical and Reformed Churches, have always had a place in our hearts for those on the edges of society – and life. We began orphanages that are now homes for youth; settlement houses that are now community ministries; homes for unwed mothers that are now for victims of abuse; and retirement/assisted living/nursing homes. Bethel has been instrumental in two such homes in Evansville. With other Evangelical churches, we helped start The Protestant Home in the 1920’s. While it is not directly related to the church anymore, it continues as a not-for-profit. More Bethel members reside there than at any other facility.

Dr. and Mrs. Henry Weiss, of our congregation, birthed the idea of Good Samaritan Home. Their pictures are in the entry way, and windows from “old Bethel” are in the assembly area. The Evansville Tri-state, Lincolnland and Wabash Valley Associations of the UCC actually own Good Sam. It is not-for-profit and, to our knowledge, is the only such facility with a full-time chaplain. We have historically supported Good Sam through our benevolence budget; hence it is our special offering of the month.

We are also having a drive for shirts with dignity. These are large or extra-large men’s shirts that are reconfigured to provide a dignified shield from food as opposed to the more common bibs. Have some extra shirts? Bring them! Both facilities always welcome volunteers.



CENTS AND SENSIBILITY.

May Special Offering for the Church World Service Blanket Appeal, donations were given in honor or memory of these mothers:

In memory

Bernardine Gallivan, by Maureen Parmar
Bonnie Harris & Leola Roberts, by Jo Ann & Joe Harris
Masel Kallenbach, by Linda Garrett
Chandrakala Parmar, by Harshad Parmar
Dorothy Rowley, by Claire Rowley
Pat Weiner
Bertha Welty, by Dave & Ruth Willis
Ivy White, by Nancy Noland
Elsa Willis, by Dave & Ruth Willis

In honor

Gail Olson
Kathy Olson
Pam Weiner

CROP Walk Scarf: We edged out Presbies. We were the third stop on the CROP Walk Scarf's travel around town. The Chandler Cumberland Presbyterian Church passed it on to us, having raised \$114. We are passing it on, having raised \$115.

ASP Scrip: Don't forget to order your scrip cards in support of ASP (Appalachia Service Project). Orders can be placed online, in the church office, or by contacting Tamara at tpic20@hotmail.com or at 812-760-7680. A percentage of your card purchase is returned to Bethel for the ASP program.

Schnuck's Give Back Cards: Perhaps you are a part of the rewards system at Schnucks. An alternative is to participate in Schnuck's community organization support. We have budgeted \$1000 toward the 2019 budget. As of April 30, we have received \$191.46. Eat up!

RENOVATION CONTINUES: We are so proud of the renovation, now almost two years old. At that time, a major gift was made for technology improvements. We've been slow to use it, trying to find the best way. Now, we're on the move! A large screen monitor has been installed in the Fellowship Hall. It will be great for Celebrations, Roundtables, Retreats, PowerPoints for meetings, and other programming! Next: The Sanctuary! Thank you, anonymous donor!



FAITH FORMATION

Good News! We have a wide range of ages of children and youth. Given our numbers, they are often together. Sometimes this is appropriate, sometimes not. Parents, the Faith Formation Team, and all interested members will meet June 3 at 6:30 p.m. This is a crucial meeting as we envision our ministry with children and youth going forward.

Vacation Bible School: June 16-20 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Kick-off Night is June 16, at 6:00 p.m. Join us for barbecue, live music, and games – on the parking lot and lawn.

CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT TEAM:

Next Door Neighbors: A number of churches share their activities and events via Nextdoor Neighbors. If you are a part of this internet program, please let any member of the Congregational Development Team know, especially Linda Absher or Linda Hape.

Bethel 101: Are you interested in knowing more about Bethel? Considering what it might mean to join our merry band of those seeking to follow Jesus? Join us for conversations about “our take” on the faith, June 9 and 16, from 9:00 – 10:00 a.m., with a potential class for new members on June 30.

BETHEL BUDDIES: If you are aware of someone in your family, neighborhood, or workplace who really needs an extra hug, please take them one of the Bethel Buddies located in the pews. If you have any new/like-new stuffed animals to donate, contact Carmen Mazick or bring them to the church office.



IN THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE

Classic Car Cruise-in: Sponsored by St. Peter’s UCC for Soldier Dogs for Independence, at Central High School, Lower Lot, June 1. Registration is from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Awards program begins at 12:30 p.m. For more information contact Tom Ryder 812-760-2082 or Joe Coffman 812-457-8922.

St. Lucas UCC Rummage Sale: Friday, June 21, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and Saturday, June 22, 8:00 a.m. to noon, at St. Lucas UCC, (33 W. Virginia Street), with proceeds to benefit the mission and ministry of St. Lucas’ 635 initiative. It’s a great way to support our sister church!

JOYS AND CONCERNS: Since this is a composite of joys and concerns since the last newsletter, many of the health issues have been overcome. So, whether a joy or concern, we pray for the following people and events.

Delbert Clements and her family (friend of Cindy Schnapf)

Don Dixon (friend of Perigo/English families)

Arlin McRae

Sharon Norman

Joan Roth

Frank Schultheis

Dave Willis’ sister

Debbie Wilson’s sister

Joys: Congratulations to Amy Michel, Mary Lee Korb's granddaughter who has been named Indiana PTA Teacher of the year. Amy teaches math at North Jr. High.

We celebrate the birth of Athea Georgette Hao Paniamogan, the first child of Neneng and Elmer Paniamogan's youngest son. Athea was born May 8 in Montreal Canada. She is a bit jaundiced but is making good progress and Neneng and Elmer are thrilled.

Graduations! Kalia Garvey from Stockwell, with honors; Micah Pricher and Heaven Basham from North; Colin Burleigh from Reitz; Ryan Langford from New Tech Institute; Gracie Schmidt; grandchildren of Patti and Larry Coleman, and Louella and Ed Komuves; great-grandchild of Delores Padgett – and we are sure more! Tell us who we missed!

We give thanks for the lives of:

Jerry Greubel (husband of Sharon) who died May 9;

Eloise Buente, who died May 12;

Tony Ouellette (brother of Bob Ouellette) who died May 14;

Larry Allen James, (friend of Larry Appman) whose funeral was last week.

Family and Friends Serving in the Active Military - We hold in our prayers:

- Scott and Will Kirk, both in the Air Force and grandsons of Carmen Mazick.
- Jacob Swanson, Army stationed in Germany, grandson of Ruth Willis.
(Do you know of others? Please contact the church office.)

**Thank
You**

To Bethel United Church of Christ: It is with a grateful heart that I write to you and express personal thanks from the board of directors, staff, and clients of **Albion Fellows Bacon Center** for your recent contribution. We believe our community connects at a deeper level when individuals have the opportunity to feel safe, seen, and heard. Many thanks. ~ Mallorie Cloum, Community Engagement Director

MEMORIALS

Contributions were made in memory of Dorothy Moore to the memorial fund from: Sharon & Tom Ellis; German American Bank; Laurel Vaughn; Ronda Waldroup; and Weed & Seed Garden Club.

Contributions were made in memory of Jerry Greubel to the Ironmen Group from: Sandra Altheide; Joan & Bruce Roth; and Carolyn Stephens.

OUR MINISTRY IS EXTENDED THROUGH:

Children's Church:

2	Leader: Julie Vogel	Helper: Carol Garvey
9	Leader: Sharon Lawson	Helper: Julie Vogel
16	Leader: Jamessa Potts	Helper: Carol Garvey
23	Leader: Joan English	Helper: Leesa Scales
30	Leader: Debra Niswonger	Helper: Kyle Ingram

Greeter:

2	Patti Coleman	23	Debbie Wilson
9	Carlos Haskins	30	Doris Rohlfer
16	Sandra Altheide		

Liturgists:

2	Bob Bennett	23	TBD from VBS
9	Jo Haller	30	Mike Vannatter
16	ASP Sunday (no liturgist)		

Ushers: (The head usher for June is Richard Condi.)

2	Lori & John Glaser; Jennifer & Chad Winger
9	Patti & Larry Coleman; Richard Condi; Frank Schultheis
16	Don Carrell; Bruce Lawson; Nancy & Jerry Noland
23	Jamessa Potts; Mike Roth
30	Amy Carey; Joe Harris; Gale Neidig; Debbie Wilson

Happy Anniversary to June Celebrants:

2	Jo & Charlie Haller	11	Nancy & Jerry Noland (53)
3	Kelly & Kevin Greubel	14	Linda & Clark Absher (62)
8	Marianna & Jim Vogel (67)	18	Deb & Mike Vannatter

Happy Birthday to June Celebrants:

2	David Vanhooser	10	Mary Oswald	22	Stuart Perigo
4	Marianna Vogel	11	Jay Perigo	25	Kolton Schuff
5	Jo Ann Harris		Arline Taylor	26	Dalton Finney
6	Tim Hartig	12	Ron Baggerly	29	Harriet Anderson
7	June Bretz	15	Linda Forshee		Matthew Perigo
	Jerry Dills	16	Kainen Schmitt		Jeanette Plane
8	Dylan Whiteley	19	Keslee English		Bruce Roth
	Eislin Whiteley	19	Wanda Spain	30	Leesa Scales
9	Dan Patterson	20	Heartlee Potts		
	Brenda Perigo		Nita Voorhees		

Apologies to Chad Burleigh for leaving him off the April Birthday list. Happy belated birthday, Chad!



Pentecost

June 9

BETHEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST STAFF (812) 473-0135

Rev. Dr. Stephanie Weiner, Interim Minister	sweiner@bethelucc.org
Cynthia Grassman, Director of Music	cgrassman@bethelucc.org
Debra Niswonger, Program Associate	dniswonger@bethelucc.org
Ruth Saalweachter, Church Secretary	ruths@bethelucc.org
John Stevens, Financial Secretary	jstevens@bethelucc.org
Sue Layman, Accompanist	Geri Lovelace, Childcare Attendant
Harold Golday, Custodian	Joyce Johnson, Custodian
David Willis, Night Caretaker	Rev. Donald Bernhardt, Pastor Emeritus



June 16

Nursing/Rehab/Retirement Home/Homebound

Atria Assisted Living 618-9685

5311 Rosebud Ln., Newburgh, IN 47630

Georgia & Arlin McRae (Apt. 313)

(812)568-6119

Barbara Schmitt

Core of Nursing Rehabilitation

P O Box 325, 510 W Medcalf St., Dale IN 47523

Jana Bonifer (812)937-7073

Cypress Grove 853-2993

4255 Medwell Dr., Newburgh, IN 47630

Gene DeForrest

Good Samaritan Home 476-4912

601 N Boeke Rd., Evansville IN 47711

Betty Gustafson (South 549-1)

Marion Nauert (541)

Hamilton Point 858-5300

3833 Eli Pl., Newburgh IN 47630

Gerald & Barbara Griepenstroh (209)

Darlene Neidig (107)

Heritage Center 429-0700

1201 W Buena Vista Rd., Evansville IN 47710

Victor Luhring (149)

Mt. Vernon Nursing & Rehab

1415 Country Club Rd., Mt. Vernon IN 47620

David Emery

North Park Nursing Center 425-5243

650 Fairway Dr., Evansville IN 47710

Nancy Westbo (159)

Oasis 303-3310

4301 Washington Ave., Evansville, IN 47714

Pat Perigo (412)

Protestant Home 476-3360

3701 Washington Ave., Evansville IN 47714

Jeanne Carter (Apt. 29 S)

Barbara Krick (S Rehab #7 A & B)

Warren McCullough (4-ABN)

River Pointe 475-2822

3001 Galaxy Dr., Evansville IN 47715

B. J. Caldemeyer (330-B)

Walnut Creek 420-1540

525 Bente West Court, Evansville IN 47715

Betty Hawkins (7)

Doris Lamkin (22)

Sylvia Stamm

2501 Lexington Rd., Evansville IN 47720