

The Messenger

Pastor Russell Anderson

September 2023



Why would or should we read God's Word? Spiritual strength would be a good answer. It can be like measuring muscle mass or stepping on the scale. Are you not physically fit but spiritually fit? Reading and doing more than that, taking God's Word with you every day is a spiritual barometer. It determines whether we are thriving or dying.

Open a scripture. We must read this as God's truth—not a story told by generations that may be a fairy tale. It's not a good moral story that may or may not apply today. It is history proven to be accurate. The teaching of God the Father through Jesus Christ our Savior will lead us to salvation and eternal life. John 17:7 says, "Your Word is Truth." God's Word is Truth. When we read in a desire for growth in our Christian life we read for a foundation of Truth. Truth connects us to the person that is Truth, Jesus Christ.

John 8:31-32 says, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you will know the Truth, and the Truth will set you free." Reading God's Word is a strengthening process that progresses us in Christian life.

Scripture becomes a rod that you measure everything else. In the Old Testament, God gave prophets a pattern; a pattern of the Tabernacle or Temple. But when you see "the pattern" as the light of Christ. You can realize that God is revealing

our pattern of life to righteousness. God's Word is a standard, a measuring tape. It is an unmovable rock that never changes for a model of life.

Simply put, the Scriptures are essential to our growth and maturity as Christians. It should be our intimacy with Jesus that hinges on God's Word. It is HIS Word to you. A declaration from God of who he is, what he is like, and what he desires our life to look like. Spiritual growth and health are only as good as what feeds your soul. Chew on God's Word and be Spiritually Strong.

Blessings, Pastor Russell



Grandparents Day is Sept. 10. We'd like to create a slideshow of grandparents with their grandkids. Email your photos to: secretary@mccutchanvillecc.org. We will also place them on the FAMILY bulletin board outside the Sanctuary.

Church News



Global Methodist Church.org

In July, the Global Methodist Church celebrated that 3,100 local churches have joined the new denomination with more joining every week. We give thanks for those who have joined, and we continue to pray for those who are doing all they can to affiliate with us. We look forward to welcoming them.

Choosing to become part of the Global Methodist Church movement is a decision bathed in prayer, discussion, and discernment. It is also a time of great excitement as many local church members ask, "We've joined the Global Methodist Church, now what?"

This is a good time for local GM churches to reintroduce themselves to their communities, displaying, in word and deed, the warm and grace filled Methodist expression of the Christian faith.



Refresh, Renew and Worship

September 16, 2023

10:00am-3:00pm

Would you like to know more about Global Methodist Church?

Members of MCC are invited to attend this day of worship and getting to know more about

Global Methodist Church.

The cost of the day is \$12.00 which includes lunch. Please let Pastor Russell know if you are planning to attend.

Let's carpool!



Attendance & Giving

| Week Of | Attendance | Building Fund | Pledges & Plate | Internet Giving | Tuesday Meals | Missions | Memorials | Unity Class | Total Checking |
|---------|------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|----------|-----------|-------------|----------------|
| 6 | 69 | 1350.00 | \$3255.00 | 350.00 | | 90.00 | | | \$5045.00 |
| 13 | 61 | | \$1105.00 | | | | | 22.00 | \$1127.00 |
| 20 | 69 | | \$2244.50 | | | | 50.00 | | \$2294.5 |
| 27 | 67 | 20.00 | 1050.00 | | 10.00 | | | | |

Our Congregational Family & God's Kids

SEPTEMBER

Birthdays

| | |
|----------------|----|
| Ron Gross | 6 |
| Maren Hubble | 7 |
| Barb Siegert | 13 |
| Don Skelton | 13 |
| Teresa Davis | 24 |
| Alice Campbell | 25 |
| Cory Mills | 27 |
| Kyra Davis | 27 |
| Jane Bennett | 27 |
| Mary Moore | 28 |

Anniversaries

| | |
|------------------------|----|
| Kemper & Martha Lease | 10 |
| Roger & Alice Campbell | 13 |
| Ashley & Derek Tapp | 21 |




BACK to SCHOOL

**The Fall Semester
of God's Kids
has begun!**

With an enrollment of 75 children ages infant to preschool, they will be learning about themselves, God, and their ABC's. Let's pray they have a terrific year!

Tuesday

Meals

| | |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| September 5 | Chicken Noodle Soup |
| September 12 | BBQ Chicken Sandwich |
| September 19 | Chicken Salad/Fruit |
| September 26 | Cheesy Ham and Potato |

Oct 3

No Meal due to Fall Festival



Ready to put a little JOY in your heart?

For anyone interested in joining our fun-loving CHOIR or HANDBELL CHOIR, please join us for an information meeting at the Hornets Nest Restaurant. You may want to order Dinner-the food is great! RSVP as soon as possible (will reserve tables) Looking forward to see you all!



Handbell Choir

Our Missions



There is currently a sign-up sheet outside the church office for the McC's Fall Festival food booth. We are needing helpers daily with shifts open during the morning, afternoon and evening.

This is our largest fundraiser of the year ~ come join us!



The Mountain Mission Truck will be here in November. Items may be brought to the church and placed under the coat rack in the main hall.



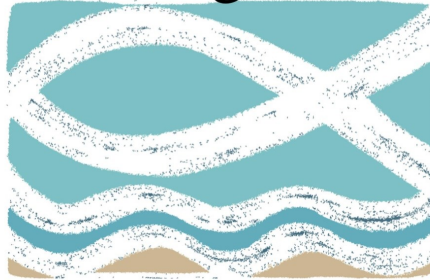
MCC continues to collect non-perishable foods for the food bank at Patchwork Central. The area food banks are in need of non-perishable items.

This month at MCC, it is ANYTHING GOES:

Peanut Butter & Jelly Soup & Pasta and all non-perishable items are welcome

Baskets are in the sanctuary and in the fellowship area. Thank you for your donations!

Message from



the Lay Leader

The worship, prayer and hospitality committee has had some very productive meetings this year. We'd like to share some ideas with you including one fund raising idea.

In each meeting we have felt these ideas were a priority

- We discussed the idea of a silent auction to give everyone an opportunity to purchase the overflow of dishes and glasses in the kitchen. As times have changed, we are no longer need all of them. A resounding theme is replacing the carpet in the fellowship hall. What's your thoughts on this idea?

- We also discussed the need for a digital sign in the front of the church. As we expand our programs, we want to be able to advertise them.
- Kathy Ellerbrook is continuing with UMYH Tuesday night. She may ask for desserts. Please help her.
- We would like for each of you to join in praying for Pastor to lead a bible study and fellowship for our teen and young adults. Please consider how you can help and let him know.
- Our children's ministry needs people to devote time through the year for seasonal activities.
- We are a loving caring congregation. I feel there are many who would love an invitation to join us. Let's be mindful in our daily activities to reach out and witness and invite.

Pastor Russell is very committed to increasing communication and would like to know your ideas.

Food Trucks Campus Tours Youth Art Door Prizes Games



BLOCK
party

September 22, 2023

UMYH Campus — 2521 N. Burkhardt Rd
Evansville, IN 47715

4pm - 7pm

Our Missions Cont.



Every year we LOVE giving our time to fill Operation Christmas Child boxes.

Start collecting today for needed items:

A WOW item (items that will surprise the child like a doll, soccer ball & pump, stuffed animal, or musical instrument.

Personal Care items (comb or brush, toothbrush, washcloth, fun adhesive bandages, reusable eating utensils)

Clothing (undergarments, flip flops or shoes, hats, sunglasses, hair accessories)

Crafts & activities (pencils & sharpener, pencil case, crayons, markers, pens, coloring books or pads, notebooks, glue stick, stickers, jump rope)

Toys (ball, slinky, etch a Sketch, building blocks) Please remember: no candy, gum, liquids, toothpaste, war-related items, seeds, food or medications can be included in your box.

Also, remember that you can contribute by offsetting the cost of each box that Operation Christmas Child mail. Make a donation today!

More News Coming SOON!

1-812-499-4172 or 1-812-479-7490

"Unto the Least of These"-Matthew 25:40

(Jesus speaking)

Ministry to the homeless and the working poor

Aldersgate UMC 1-812-477-7816

5130 Lincoln Ave. 47715

Hello everyone!

Hope all of you and your families are well!

This has been an interesting BUT sad week for me in some ways. I'll explain the "why" for the latter shortly.

Pat and I were able to get out on the streets with our people but I ran into a couple of situations on Friday which were quite distressing to me. As you know, we take our mission van out on the streets on Mondays and Thursdays. I generally go out in my car, Jesus and I, on 1-2 other days of the week.

There is a woman in her early 40's which we see occasionally anytime we are out (van or not). We generally see her over in the area of the United Caring Shelter. She sleeps on the streets so is very vulnerable to any danger that may appear.

Yesterday (Friday), when driving my car around town, I saw her sitting alone on a bench in the park behind the church on the corner of MLK and Lincoln. I stopped to see if I could be of assistance to her but when I approached her, I noticed that her face was quite swollen and she appeared somewhat immobile and quite sad. I offered her our healthy treat bags, bottles of water, and anything else she needed from the trunk of my car. I asked her what had happened that caused her injuries. She told me that her "boyfriend" had severely beat up on her a couple of days before, causing her injuries which were impairing her mobility. She didn't want any more help! She just wanted to sit there by herself and try to recover on her own. I did notify the EPD about this. They are very good about checking up on situations like this, so I am hoping they eventually came to see if they could help her. She definitely wanted to be ALONE! So, at least I was able to provide her with some nutrition and water. I will try to check up on her again this weekend. Otherwise, maybe we will see her again on Monday over at the UCS. Oh, Dear Father, please be with this dear woman. We pray for her health and her safety over the weekend. This was a VERY SAD situation for me.....Caring for people in need is the SOLE reason for this ministry we are engaged in. We are following Jesus' example AND instructions when He said in Matthew 25:40-"Unto the least of these....." I could sense His Presence right

there with us in this situation AND with this dear woman.....

Regarding other activities from this past week, Pat, Karen, and I had taken a child's bed mattress over to the Ozanam Shelter which was designed specifically for a portable bed which Jesus and I had taken to them a few days earlier. It seems like ALL of the local family shelters have been especially busy over the past several months, AND are currently. I might "throw in a pitch" here-we REALLY need clean bathing towels and washcloths so if you have some to spare, please drop them off at the church (AUMC-address at the end of this newsletter).

This last week, when we were over at the United Caring Shelter, we saw a car parked in that designated area across the street which had a sign on the edge of the street saying that "phone service available". It seemed like there was a constant line of our people talking with the driver of that car but no one appeared to be receiving any phone service. We finally got suspicious, wondering if perhaps this was one of the groups of drug dealers who seem to show up in this area at regular intervals. From what I have been told, this happens occasionally at this site as well as other parts of town where vulnerable people can be found. When we got down to the Mets Bus Station shortly thereafter, I reported this to the EPD officer on duty at that site (just 1-2 blocks away). Just as an FYI, he assured me he would follow up on this. I'm sure he did! I have had encounters with police officers several times over the past many years I have worked in the community. They have ALL been MOST helpful!

Probably one of our most active areas of mission service is at the Salvation Army-when our people come there over lunch. We are SO VERY GRATEFUL for ALL of the work that the S.A. does for Evansville, this region of SW Indiana, and for the homeless and underserved of our area. They provide MANY services-one of which is that of Spiritual Care to everyone in need. THANK YOU!!

Yesterday (Friday) when I was driving around town to check up on our people, I drove down by the Salvation Army. When I arrived (North Fulton), I noticed two different men sitting on the curb close to the street. They were sitting separately from each other. Each one had his own individual "grocery cart" with all of their worldly possessions packed in it. They were piled HIGH!! I pulled over to see if I could help them in any way. To my surprise and ANGUISH, one of these men had FOUR (4)!!!! small chihuawa (sp.?) pups inside his cart! We ordinarily carry dog and cat food with us in the van when we are out on the streets because we are seeing SO MANY MORE animals such as the above "piled" around other belongings OR out walking the streets with that particular individual. I asked this man if he had been feeding them and giving them water and he "assured" me that he had been. All of this, in addition to seeing humanity in need, literally makes me SICK!..... A friend of mine is going to start preparing some smaller size bags of dry dog and cat food to take with us because this will be easier for us to handle out

on the street with so many people AND more animals (NOW) around us!

Every other week, our team makes a stop at Patchwork Central to assist anyone there in need while they are eating breakfast or if they are stopping by to talk with the nurses available there. Another pleasant service we have found that our people enjoy there is MUSIC! They know I play the piano so some of the men always ask me to play some hymns for them on the piano at Patchwork. I LOVE TO DO THIS! In fact, I am HONORED to provide some music for them! So, I set into playing some songs they know or ARE their favorites. They are MOST appreciative of this service! AND Ol' Granny LOVES to do this! I am SO VERY THANKFUL for the opportunity!

To end this "Street Talk" on an additional positive note, I want to report again that the health clinic that our nurse practitioner, Jane Kratochvil, is developing and managing at the Salvation Army is moving along QUITE WELL! We will be having more medical, nursing, and social work students assisting in this area of our ministry shortly. Thank You, Father! ALSO, Sue Kincaid and her team will be starting the Bible Study group up again probably this coming week. We will keep you posted on all of these above activities over the next few weeks. Thank You, Father, for Your Direction and Your Wisdom in this ministry. We simply CANNOT do ANY of this without you!

And finally, we need to thank ALL of the local agencies and services that our community is providing and making available for the homeless and working poor of Evansville. I don't think I have ever been in a location that has provided the assistance for individuals and families in need such as this one does. It is a PLEASURE to work with ALL OF YOU!

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| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|-------------------|---|--|---|---|
|  | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 Holy Communion | 4 Labor Day Gym 1:30 pm Fellowship Hall 5:45 pm | 5 Gym 1:30 pm | 6 Gym 1:30 pm | 7 Gym 1:30 pm Fellowship Hall 5:45 pm | 8 | 9 |
| 10  | 11 Gym 1:30 pm Fellowship Hall 5:45 pm | 12 Gym 1:30 pm | 13 Gym 1:30 pm Testament Bible Study 6:00 pm | 14 Gym 1:30 pm Fellowship Hall 5:45 pm | 15 | 16 Refresh Troy, IL 10:00 am-3:00 pm |
| 17 Gym 3:30 pm | 18 Gym 1:30 pm Fellowship Hall 5:45 pm | 19 Gym 1:30 pm | 20 Gym 1:30 pm Testament Bible Study 6:00 pm | 21 Gym 1:30 pm Fellowship Hall 5:45 pm | 22  | 23 |
| 24 Gym 3:30 pm  | 25 Gym 1:30 pm Fellowship Hall 5:45 pm | 26 Gym 1:30 pm | 27 WPG 1:00 pm Gym 1:30 pm Testament Bible Study 6:00 pm | 28 Gym 1:30 pm Fellowship Hall 5:45 pm | 29 | 30 |