

May 2018 Harbinger



Preciously Loved

The God of love and peace will be with you. 2 Corinthians 13:11

It was simple in design. Five-inch yarn squares jointed together to make a soft coverlet. My mother wove each square on a small loom that fit in her hands. Up and over. Down and through. Line by line, she added yarn until the little loom was filled. Then, after carefully removing the finished square, Mom began again.

When all the yarn squares were completed, Mom placed them on the living room floor, arranging them in the way she thought looked best. Finally, she used variegated yarn to join the squares to make a small coverlet.

She called it her afghan, and it seems as if someone in the family used it every day! If we were feeling sick, Mom covered us with the afghan until we recovered. Several family members could fit under the afghan's warm embrace while watching television. It every made a pretty good imaginary "tent" when flung over a couple of dining room chairs.

Mom is in heaven now, and I'm not sure what happened to her afghan. I remember it, though, and how wonderful it felt to be wrapped up in it on a cold winter's day. Just thinking about the simply woven cover reminds me of Mom's love, creativity, and care.

I'm reminded of the afghan, too, when I read today's Scripture verse. Mom's afghan serves as a simplified picture of God's love and peace – for me and for you! First, God's love is intentional. He knows us intimately and because he knows us, he knows what we need. Because of our sin, we desperately need to be forgiven, to be reconciled with a holy God. And that's where love comes in.

Love drove Jesus to his cross, and victoriously up from the grave. Because of all Jesus did, our Father's love now surrounds us with healing, comfort, and peace. His love for us, his precious children, is unfailing. Constant. Reliable. Because God is love, his love for us never fails or fades. He continually loves us and, through Jesus, extends grace to us in every circumstance.

From Devotions for Women by Gail Marsh

Thank you!

Church family,

I'm very proud to report that Grand Avenue raised \$613 by "ringing the bells" during the 2017 Red Kettle Campaign. The Community and the Salvation Army is very thankful for all your efforts. This money will be used by the Salvation Army to support our Lord's Table, a place where a person can receive a hot meal five days a week. We look forward to you supporting this worthwhile mission in 2018. Thank you from the Connersville Salvation Army Advisory Board,

Gus Harmeyer

Church family,

Thank you so much for the lovely note and gift cards! Finals are approaching and will be difficult, but I can do it! Your gift cards will definitely help give me a study break when I need a break.

Thank you again! Kirstin King

Piecemakers Quilters thank the anonymous donor for the cash given in our donation jar in the Volunteer Room of the church. We are grateful for your gift. Bless you.



May Birthdays

- 1st – Craig Stern
- 8th – Alice Eshelman
- 13th – Nicole Branson
- 15th – Carolyn Shedd
Mandy Mapes
- 16th – Peggy Mapes
- 19th – Bob Newton
- 21st – Barb Smith
- 24th – Mary Russell
- 26th – Sandy Hodson
- 31st – Nancy Harmeyer

Do you want to attend the Indiana Annual Conference meetings this year?

Have you ever wondered what the Indiana Annual Conference meeting is? If so, this might be the year for you check it out!

The Indiana Annual Conference is a regional body, an organizational unit, and a yearly meeting. Each year at the annual conference meeting in Indianapolis, an equal number of clergy members and lay members attend for worship, fellowship, and to conduct the business of the conference. This year, the conference is June 7-9 at the downtown Indianapolis Convention Center. These days include worship, learning, breakout sessions, reports of past and ongoing work of United Methodist churches in Indiana, adoption of future goals, programs and budget, ordination of clergy members as deacons and elders, and election of delegates to Jurisdictional and General Conferences (every 4 years). The bishop presides over these meetings.

We are looking for a layperson here at Grand Avenue to attend this year to represent our church and vote on important issues. The church offers parking and mileage reimbursement and will also pay for the registration. If you are interested in going as our church's representative, please let Pastor Kara know.



Our May Mission of the Month is the local homeless shelter.

If you are cleaning closets and getting ready for spring, please donate gently used clothing and other items to Mission Mart.



Mark your calendars for the Men's Golf Outing
June 22-24. If you have any questions, contact
Roger Mapes at rmapes@comcast.net

Just a little humor

A man went to see the doctor because his eyes had popped out of their sockets and his ears were ringing. The doctor's diagnosis was that the man needed to have his tonsils removed. That was done, but his condition did not improve. A second doctor told him that he needed to have his teeth pulled. That was done, but his condition did not improve. A third doctor proclaimed that the man had only six months to live.

So the man decided to live it up. He bought a sports car, hired a chauffeur, and had the best tailor in town make him three new suits and five new shirts. As the tailor was measuring him for the apparel, he recited, "A 34 sleeve, a 16 collar..."

"Wait a minute," the man interrupted. "I've always worn a 15 collar." "No, 16 collar," the tailor said as he measured again. "No, only a 15!" the man argued.

"Listen," the tailor said. "Keep on wearing a 15 collar and your eyes will pop out and your ears will ring!"

TRUSTEES MEETING June 4, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

Donna Miller will be out of town May 9-25 so if there is a trustee issue, please contact Bob Cox.

GRAND AVENUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
2017
Mission Mart Report

Checking account balance December 31, 2016 \$ 4,544.59

RECEIPTS:

Church donations	\$ 920.52	
Mission mart income	2,201.50	
United Way Fayette Co.	1,500.00	
Harrison Twp Trustees	2,500.00	
Alpine Christian Church	1,500.00	
Uncashed checks	250.00	
Gift Card Sales	<u>21.55</u>	
 Total Income:		 \$ 8,893.57
 Total Funds available		 \$13,438.16

DISBURSEMENTS:

Rent Assistance	\$ 3,850.00	
Duke Energy	3,811.71	
Ohio Valley Gas	655.00	
Connersville Utilities	705.04	
WWV Electric	50.00	
Pleasantview Electric	75.00	
Motel Rooms	367.00	
Pharmacy	75.00	
Phillip & Meyers Funeral Home	150.00	
Gladys Hignite	100.00	
Gas Cards and Gift cards	251.55	
Miscellaneous	<u>287.08</u>	
 Total Disbursements:		 <u>\$10,277.38</u>

Checking account balance, December 31, 2017 \$ 3,210.78

Note: Over 175 families were served during 2017.

Prepared by: Jerian Brandenburg, Treasurer

YOU'RE INVITED TO
EMMA LYU MARIE'S
2ND BIRTHDAY PARTY!

SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 2018
1:00 - 3:00 P.M.

GRAND AVENUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

RSVP BY MAY 26 TO PASTOR KARA
AT 502-291-8661 OR BUSSABARGER@HOTMAIL.COM



MISSION

NEW MISSION OPPORTUNITY

You may have seen some new “Blessing Boxes” around town. This is a new mission sponsored by Gortner Memorial Nazarene Church to provide Necessary dry food items to those in need.

This is a simple act that anyone can do. When you are grocery shopping, simply pick up an extra box or two of cereal, crackers, canned fruits, etc., and simply drop them off at one of the locations listed below.

If you don't feel that you can get food items to one of these boxes, simply bring them to church and we will see that they get into an appropriate “Blessing Box”.

Boxes are located at: 3672 Western Avenue
516 West 22nd Street
901 Meyer Street
227 North Eastern Avenue
1216 East 5th Street

Any questions, please contact Connie Robb at 698-6016.

Thank you from the Mission Team

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