

Our Vision Statement:

**Following Christ through  
intentional prayer,  
unconditional love,  
compassionate service  
and sacrificial giving.**



# The Shepherd's Staff

Volume 20 Issue 2

March 2020

## *Ladies' Retreat* *Saturday, March 21st*

### *Please join us!*

*Event:* Spring Ladies' Day Retreat

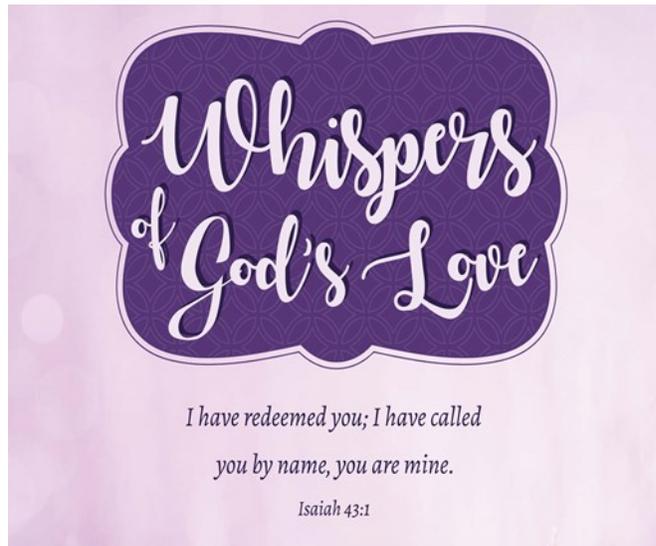
*Place:* Good Shepherd United Methodist Church  
2015 S. Arlington Ave  
Indianapolis, IN 46203

Please reserve your spot by contacting Sandy  
or the church office by Wednesday, March 4

*Date:* Saturday, March 21, 2020—Cost is \$20.00  
(Scholarship available)

8 a.m.—5 p.m.

*For more information:* Sandy Brock (219) 688-0479 or  
Sjbrock62@aol.com or  
Good Shepherd Office  
(317) 356-3787



This month we are Marching towards the remembrance and celebration of the days that fulfill God's promised covenant with the world.

- ✠ We are Marching towards the welcoming of Jesus into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday.
- ✠ We are Marching towards Christ's institution of Holy Communion as a remembrance of Him and God's offering of grace on Maundy Thursday.
- ✠ We are Marching towards the crucifixion of our Savior on Good Friday.
- ✠ We are Marching towards the miracle of the resurrection on Easter.
- ✠ We are Marching towards God's love for humanity!

Let us continue to prepare ourselves for this Lenten season March.

This really is a March towards grace, forgiveness and transformation.

Praise be to God.

*Pastor Mark*

## ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES – FEBRUARY 16, 2020

The meeting of the Administrative Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Kent Conger. Dick Nye led us in Prayer and devotion.

The Agenda was amended to add a discussion on purchasing a new computer for the business manager by Penny Bond under Committee Reports. It was moved, seconded and passed by vote to accept this amended Agenda.

It was moved, seconded and passed to accept the January 19, 2020, Minutes as provided.

**Financial Report:** Penny reported for Marilu Propps that our current General Fund Checking balance as of Thursday, February 14, 2020 was \$58,538.58. She reported that all payroll, tithing payments, tax payments, and tax reports are current. Penny added that the Year End Rollover on the books would be completed soon and the audit would begin shortly after. There being no questions, the Financial pages will be filed for audit.

**Director of Family Ministry's Report:** Susan Nyquist reported that the annual Spaghetti Dinner will be next Sunday, February 23rd, and thus far, they have sold approximately 60 tickets. The money earned from this event will be used toward youth spring/summer events. The youth group went bowling on Sunday, Feb. 16th and enjoyed it so much that they want to go again later in March or early April. Additionally, the youth would like to go hiking again at Ft. Harrison in late March/early April. The 2020 Confirmation class has started, and there are 4 youth and 1 adult who will be joining the church when Confirmation is completed in May. Storytime has been going strong and participants have enjoyed it so much that the start time is being moved from 11am to 10:30am. This will enable the group to have a full hour before getting children home for lunch.

### Committee Reports:

**Finance:** Penny Bond handed out information from the Finance Committee regarding upgrading the office software to a cloud storage solution, add an access tool for staff, leaders, member, or visitors, and add an electronic giving solutions which would allow contributions through text, mobile, or online. She said that once purchased it would take time to roll out and become usable by the congregation. Penny made the following motion: On behalf of the Finance Committee, I move that we purchase ACS OnDemand with a one-time set up fee not to exceed \$1,000 coming from Designated Checking – Technology Committee Fund (#80247) and the monthly fee for the ACS Preferred Client Program not to exceed a total of \$400 to come out of Administrative – Computer Program Upgrades (#50207). We also contract with VANCO to securely complete the transactions and their fees would come out of Finance – (new line item) VANCO fees. Motion was seconded and passed by vote.

Penny then shared information from the Narrative Budget team regarding the breakdown of the budget percentages and categories. They are Passionate Worship 35.6%, Discipleship Pathway 37.6%, Community Outreach 7.0%, Congregational Care 4.7%, and Risk-Taking Missions 15.2%. These percentages are based on the church's general fund budget and does not include, Faith Promise Missions or Little Lambs. The Narrative Budget team will be meeting to work on the next steps in preparing a Narrative Budget.

Penny shared that the Business Manager's computer is beginning to experience some problems and recommended that a new computer system be purchased. Penny made a motion to purchase a new computer system which would include Microsoft Office 365 not to exceed \$1000 and coming from Designated Checking – Technology Committee Fund (#80247). Motion was seconded and passed by vote.

### Old Business: None

**New Business:** Dick Nye proposed that we consider bringing our Vision Statement in line with our new Narrative Budget categories. He suggested for consideration and more discussion at next month's Ad Council meeting:

Fulfilling our mission through passionate worship, continual disciple development, caring community outreach, risk-taking missions, and compassionate congregational care.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Mark spoke on behalf of Marilu requesting that all committee calendars be turned in to her as soon as possible. Her also said that moving forward all committees will need to send a copy of their meeting minutes to Marilu for official record keeping. All committees, bible studies groups, etc. also need to turn in their attendance to Marilu following their meetings. Pastor Mark shared that Lent would be starting in a couple weeks and he asked that we all take it very seriously. He will look into having a congregational Lent study or reading. He stated that the Pastor Parish Relations committee will soon begin working on staff job descriptions and evaluation.

Kent Conger questioned if it was time for another quarterly health report?

Kent announced that the next Ad Council meeting would be on Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m.

There being no further business, it was duly moved, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 p.m. followed by Pastor Mark giving the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Penny Bond, Acting Secretary

Attendees: Dick Nye, Sue Nye, Doug Bullard, Julie Bullard, Cindy Coleman, Penny Bond, Ron Bond, Jon Albright, Jess Albright, Kathy Steward, David Rinehuls, Susan Nyquist, Pastor Mark, and Kent Conger

### All Church Pitch-In

**Sunday, March 31, 11 AM**

Join your church friends in Fellowship Hall for good fellowship and good food. Bring a dish to share..

### Open House

The family of Dolores Hull will be hosting an Open House for Dolores' 90th birthday on Saturday, March 28, from 2-6 p.m. at Good Shepherd UMC Fellowship Hall. They would love for her church family to join in this celebration.

# Children's Storytime

Our Thursday morning Storytime is "turning a page" and making a change!

In order to allow families more time to enjoy stories, songs, and crafts, as well as the opportunity for children and caregivers to socialize, beginning March 5<sup>th</sup>, the Thursday morning Storytime will be held from 10:30am to 11:30am. (Previously, the time was 11am to 11:30am.)

Benefits for the child attending a Storytime session include being exposed to a wide variety of authors and writing styles, interacting with other children, and engaging in a group setting which is helpful in learning vital school-readiness skills. Benefits for the adults attending Storytime include learning skills to support your child's learning, such as asking your child questions about what is happening in the story and what might come next.

However, beyond any great literacy benefits to our Storytime at GSUMC, it's simply a nice family experience where children and their favorite adults can gather to make new friends and strengthen existing relationships. Above all, those who attend have the opportunity to grow in their faith and knowledge of God and

## YOUTH GROUP SCOOP

Youth who are in the 6th-12th grade are encouraged to join us in worship, followed by class on Sunday mornings. In class, we explore what was presented in that morning's scripture and ser-

mon. We study, learn, and laugh, as we build friendships and grow in our faith, as well as our own personal relationship with Jesus.

In addition to our weekly Sunday morning activities, we continue to have opportunities to get together at other times throughout the month. In January, our youth attended the "Winter Jam" Concert at Banker's Life Fieldhouse and in February, we had a bowling event at "The Expo Bowl". We also had the awesome opportunity to host the Annual Spaghetti Supper in February and want to thank all who attended. Funds raised from that event will be used for spring/summer youth activities.

Our youth desire another bowling outing, more hikes at Ft. Harrison and other area parks, a trip to King's Island, as well as the possibility of visiting the Creation Museum.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Susan Nyquist at the church office or email her at "[susanbjoyful247@gmail.com](mailto:susanbjoyful247@gmail.com)"

## WOMEN'S MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Please join us beginning Monday, March 2, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. for a brand new Monday Night Women's Bible Study.

This 12-week Women of Faith Bible Study is called *Worshipping God with Our Lives*.

In this study readers will discover how Jesus' declared intent was solely to do the will of His Father, how He worshipped as He healed the blind and the lame, and even how He worshipped in the Garden of Gethsemane as He prayed. They will be encouraged to live a similar life of worship to their heavenly Father.

In *Worshipping God with Our Lives*, we will look at what the Bible says about the ways in which we can bring glory to God in all we say and do. We will examine how to make time each day for fellowship with our heavenly Father, how to stay committed to our prayer time, and how to use the unique gifts God has given us to worship Him. Above all we will discover how a life of worship can serve as a powerful testimony to the Lord's faithfulness!

Please try to join us! For Books (\$5) or Questions, please see Penny Bond or Julie Bullard.



Fun for Seniors

## Golden Shepherds

The Golden Shepherds meet at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall on the first Monday of every month. Their March meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 2nd. Our entertainment will be music from Indiana Harpist Laura Hiner. Be sure to wear the green.

**Everyone 55 and over is welcome to join these recycled teenagers.**



# Mission Moments



## 2020 Theme: Commit

**Service at Wheeler Mission:** Thank you to all who served at Wheeler on February 28<sup>th</sup> and those signed up on March 8<sup>th</sup>. We pray the experience was as much a blessing to you as to those you served.

**Mac N Cheese Church:** We have a monthly pledge of 150 boxes of Macaroni and Cheese to Fletcher Place Community Center, so make sure you donate a few boxes during the month of September. Extra boxes will be donated to God's Bounty food pantry. Any questions, ask Dick Nye.

**Fletcher Place Community Center:** Hope. Compassion. Renewal, 1637 Prospect St., Indianapolis, IN 46203, 317-636-3466. Volunteers are always welcome. [www.fletcherplacecc.org](http://www.fletcherplacecc.org)

**Old Bethel Food Pantry:** Opportunities to volunteer. If interested, contact Dick Nye.

**Servant's Heart:** Good Shepherd is scheduled to help on the 4th Thursday of each month. Clients are scheduled to shop between 6:30 pm and 9:00 pm. Volunteers should arrive at least 15 minutes early. Call 317-788-9433 with questions about volunteering or visit [www.servantsheartofindy.org](http://www.servantsheartofindy.org).

**Mission Committee Members:** Jessica Albright (chairperson), Dick & Sue Nye, Bob Gregory, Tina Mercer, Rebecca Conger, Larry & Marge Sweany, and Jim & Judy (treasurer) Jones. All members are active and contribute so much.

"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His Life as a ransom for many." Mark 10:45

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## Featured Mission of the Month: Wheeler Mission

Each month, we would like to highlight a story provided by one of our missions or missionaries that are being used by God to change the lives of His people. This story comes from Steve, a client of Wheeler Mission.

**Because of you... "My story has a new beginning! God brought me out of the wilderness, and I don't want to go back there," Steve shares. "So, I'm just trusting in the Lord."**

**"I've come from a very destructive lifestyle, lost in what I was doing," Steve says. Steve grew up in the church, but he let curiosity get the better of him when he first tried drinking at age 11. This led to years of heartache and grief, as alcohol slowly consumed his life and marriage. "Before I came to Wheeler Mission, I was drinking constantly." The wake-up call came when Steve ended up in the hospital. "I was blacking out and it was kind of a warning, to get it together - but I didn't listen." At his lowest point, Steve ended up in jail. But as soon as he was released, he walked straight to Wheeler Mission, determined to make a change.**

**Here, through your gifts, he was blessed with the essentials of safe shelter and nutritious meals. He received everything he needed to feel comfortable and at home. "My life has changed significantly. The verse that sticks out to me is 1 John 1:9, 'If we confess our sins, He's faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.' We're all sinful people, and we need Jesus every day, every minute, every hour."**

For the first time, Steve was able to celebrate the miracle of Christmas with God's joy and peace in his heart. Steve first entered Hebron, our long-term, residential addiction recovery program. Then he completed our six-month residential internship program, Equip, to prepare for work in ministry. He now works as a Guest Services Coordinator at Wheeler Mission, and he and his wife are taking steps to reconcile their marriage.

**"I'm grateful for the opportunity to get my life back on track. To surrender and accept Christ as my Lord and Savior."**

# March 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> FAITH PROMISE 9:00A Worship Service 10:15A Sunday School	<b>2</b> 6:00A Men's Bible Study 9:30A Golden Shepherds 6:30P Women's Bible Study 7:00P Trustees	<b>3</b> 9:00A Sewing Ladies 7:00P Cub Scouts	<b>4</b> 1:00P Euchre & Dominos 1:00P Core 2 6:30P Core 2 7:30P Confirm.  Class	<b>5</b> 11:00A Children's Storytime	<b>6</b> 10:00A Ladies Bible Study	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 9:00A Worship Service 10:15A Sunday School 4:00P Mission Team to Wheeler Mission	<b>9</b> 6:00A Men's Bible Study 6:00P Gideon's Cabinet  Mtg 6:30P Women's Bible Study	<b>10</b> 9:00A Sewing Ladies 7:00P Cub Scouts	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 11:00A Children's Storytime	<b>13</b> 10:00A Ladies Bible Study	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 9:00A Worship Service 10:15A Sunday School 6:00P Ad Council	<b>16</b> 6:00A Men's Bible Study 6:30P Women's Bible Study	<b>17</b> 9:00A Sewing Ladies 7:00P Cub Scouts	<b>18</b> 1:00P L. B. T. 1:00P Core 3 6:30P Core 3 7:30P Confirm.  Class	<b>19</b> 11:00A Children's Storytime	<b>20</b> 10:00A Ladies Bible Study	<b>21</b> 8:00A Ladies Retreat
<b>22</b> 9:00A Worship Service 10:15A Sunday School	<b>23</b> 6:00A Men's Bible Study 6:30P Women's Bible Study	<b>24</b> 9:00A Sewing Ladies 7:00P Cub Scouts	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 11:00A Children's Storytime 6:30P Servant's Heart	<b>27</b> 10:00A Ladies Bible Study	<b>28</b> 2:00P Dolores Hull Open House
<b>29</b> 9:00A Worship Service 10:15A Sunday School 11:00A All Church Pitch-In	<b>30</b> 6:00A Men's Bible Study 6:30P Women's Bible Study	<b>31</b> 9:00A Sewing Ladies 7:00P Cub Scouts	<b>APRIL NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b> Please have your information into the church office by Friday, March 13th.			



## March Celebrations

Birthday blessings to:

Lee Ransom.....	3/3	Bob Gregory.....	3/23
Emilia Simon.....	3/3	Landon Masters.....	3/23
Randy Collins.....	3/9	Judy Dilk.....	3/27
Dan Norris.....	3/11	Evan Melling.....	3/27
Richard Nye.....	3/13	Dolores Hull.....	3/28
Roger Hill.....	3/16	Marge Sweany.....	3/28
Susan Nyquist.....	3/16	Abby Hyde.....	3/29
Emma Masters.....	3/18	Grace Cooning.....	3/30
Marlene Cox.....	3/20	Michele Orman.....	3/30
Diane Simon.....	3/20	Virginia Ransom.....	3/30
		Melanie Eubanks.....	3/31

Don't forget your **MAC 'n CHEESE**  
for Fletcher Place



Garry & Debbie Colledge 3/5



**2015 S. Arlington Ave.  
Indianapolis, IN 46203**

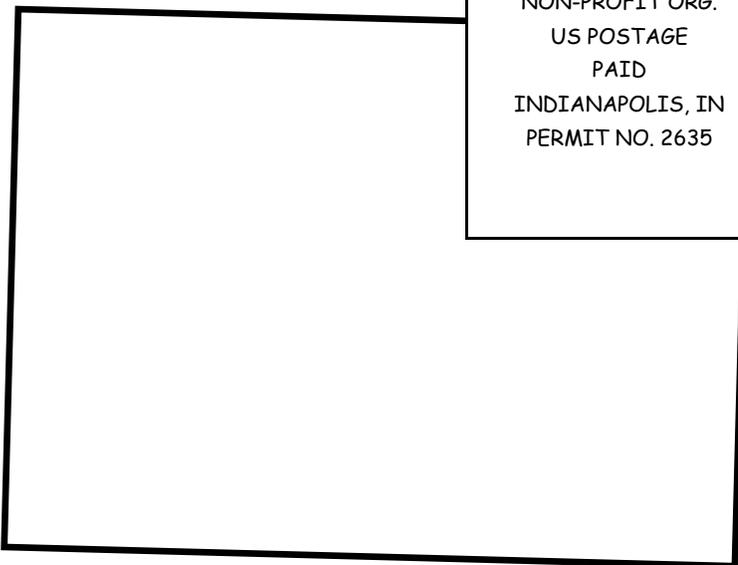
**Worship Schedule**

Traditional Worship Service      9:00 AM  
Sunday School                              10:15 AM

**Bible Studies**

Men's Bible Study - Monday      6:00 AM  
Women's Bible Study - Monday      6:30 PM  
Ladies Bible Study - Friday      10:00 AM

**VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!**



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We're on the web—[www.gsumcindy.org](http://www.gsumcindy.org)  
Facebook: <https://fb.me/GoodShepherdUMCindy>

**Phone: (317) 356-3787 Fax: (317) 356-7071**

**MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR OF FAMILY MINISTRIES**

"Librocubicularist" is a word that fascinates me. I came across it several years back and realized that I have been one of these for practically my entire life! What is it, you may wonder? It's just a really fancy word for someone who likes to read in bed. That would be me. I have ALWAYS loved to read, any time or any place.

That being said, I saw a Twilight Zone episode a while back that resonated with me. It involved a man who loved reading, to the exclusion or extreme of not wanting to do anything else. I can relate to that level of passion for books, yet I don't neglect my other tasks in order to read.

Now, the man from the Twilight Zone episode, he didn't really care to do his job, or spend time with his family. He was THAT obsessed with reading books. He worked in a bank and went to hide in the safe so that no one would disturb him while he was reading. While he was in there, something happened to the world outside.

This man was so engrossed in his book that he did not notice that there had been some kind of worldwide disaster. When he came out of the safe, all life had been destroyed and only a few buildings were left standing.

Ironically, one of the buildings that remained happened to be the public library. The camera showed him walking up the stairs with this expression of disbelief and wonder upon his face. Clearly, he was thrilled that he would be able to read uninterrupted, for the remainder of his days.

The scene ends unexpectedly, with his eyeglasses falling to the ground and breaking. They had extremely thick lenses, and it was obvious that without them, the man would be unable to read.

There he was, with all the time in the world, all the books he could desire, and he couldn't be touched by their stories.

Now, to a dedicated librocubicularist, that seems tragic! I will point out, however, that from my perspective, he was very selfish with his time.

As an avid reader myself, I can appreciate wanting to read the day away, uninterrupted. Similarly, I can recognize the point that the Twilight Zone writers were trying to make, using irony to do so.

I was thinking about that episode the other day and reflecting that people are like books. Everyone has a story to be discovered. Some folks are harder to "read" than others. Some life stories require more patience or understanding to be heard. And I think there is tragedy in the sense that I wonder how many people let the "stories" around them go unread? How many people ignore what those around them have to say, whether it is in words, or whether it's the essence of their being?

May today find us in tune with the Spirit, ears primed to listen, eyes and hearts ready to discover the stories of those around us. May we appreciate the beauty and uniqueness of every individual, and may we reflect back to them their value and worth in God's sight.

*Susan Nyquist*