



Laurel

United Methodist Church

OUR MISSION

LOVE GOD
SHARE with others
SERVE Both

The Laurel Leaf

What's INSIDE

- 2 Caring Thoughts and Prayer List
- 3 Paint Night
- 3 International Health and Development Network with Karen Hoelzer
- 3 Church Family News & Thank You's
- 4 Bible in a Year Reading
- 5 Laurel Church—Inside Look
- 6 Cook Out with the Hamilton's
- 6 Laurel Book Club
- 6 Estate Planning Program
- 7 Laurel Calendar

July the 26th through August the 15th, 2017



JULY is SCHOOL SUPPLIES MONTH!

A little fun, a little mission!

During the month of July the Sunday School Department will be sponsoring the July Mission Project to collect School Supplies for the Asbury Children's Supper Hour and Butler Elementary School. Please drop off items in the wire basket at the main level elevator.

Know Your Numbers? Blood Pressure Numbers! 120 over 80?

A nurse from our congregation, Megan Strohm, and a friend who is also a nurse, will have a blood pressure station set up after the 8:30 service next Sunday morning, July the 30th. Please stop by and let them check your numbers! **See you on Sunday!**





Martha Pulliam will be 91 on July the 26th



Eugene & Elmina Carroll will be married 65 years on July the 29th

John & Esther Smith will be married 64 years on August the 7th

Robert and Carolyn Stine will be married 53 years on August the 8th



- * Reverend George Russell and family at the recent loss of his wife, Rubye
- * Cheryl Wise and family at the recent loss of her sister, Nancy Boyer
- * Claire Gordon and family at the recent loss of her father, Bob Brunner

Caring Thoughts from the Parish Visitor

What is Your Superpower?

This summer we are thinking about Super Heroes. Our Mini Camp and our Library Reading programs both focused on heroes. Dwell on this:

Superman doesn't have to think about flying in order to soar above the clouds. Spiderman doesn't have to practice sticking to a ceiling. The Flash doesn't have to put in any extra effort in order to run really, really fast.

We marvel at those abilities, but these heroes are doing what comes naturally. So, what are your superpowers? We all have some, even though they may not seem that special. We overlook our own special powers because they come so easily to us.

- Maybe you get giddy manipulating spreadsheets.
- Maybe you have a knack for whipping up a delicious meal from items in your pantry.
- Maybe you are good at finding amazing deals that save lots of money.
- Maybe your gift of gab helps you to connect with people quickly and make them feel comfortable.
- Perhaps you're a detail oriented person who's good at organizing events, and loves making thorough to-do lists.

Believe this, the things that come easy to you – even without trying – are amazing superpowers that not everyone has. The world needs you to share your gifts. So, please, own your inner superpowers and unleash them to help make the world a better place.

Caring Prayer List

July the 30th to August the 5th

Lucille Foster; Bryan, Sara, Maggie, Samantha and Evan Gleckler; Al, Michelle, CarolAnn, Michael and Olivia Lee; Carol Lee; Sue Lohrenz; Liz Magee; Larry Bapst and Susan, BeiLee and Kanti Wilham

August the 6th to the 12th

Dan and Lynn Brown; Mark and Linda Brown; Joan Brown; Jane Bunker; Jeff Conant; Rick Conant; Jerry and Virginia King; Gary and Marjorie McGlasson

August the 13th to the 19th

Beverly Brekke-Bailey; Joyce and David Downey; Bob and Carol Dyson; Monica Dyson; Kyle, Melanie, Ty and Cole Dyson; Alberta Heckel; Darlene Johnson; Florence Johnson

Church Family News and Thank You's

- * Dear Friends in Christ, **Thank You** for your continued ministry with **Kumler Outreach Ministries**. Your generous gifts of more than \$5,500 at Easter and on Kumler Sunday, underscore your commitment to serve our neighbors. It is indeed a blessing to have such faithful support from our brothers and sisters in Christ. While we were shaken by the vandalism that took place at Kumler Outreach Ministries this spring, we have come out stronger, uplifted by the outpouring of support we received. Gifts such as yours are a wonderful reminder of the generosity that allows us to help those who are struggling. What we do is a ministry and mission that can only be done in communion with others like you. Thank you for sharing your gifts with us! Please keep us in your thoughts and prayers, and also, the young girls who committed the vandalism. Sincerely, Sharon Brown, Exec. Dir.
- * I want to say a special **Thank You** to my friends at Laurel for the many birthday cards I received, and the flowers that were such a big surprise. Thanks again to all. In Christian Love, Lawanda Oseland
- * Dear Laurel, **Thanks for your generosity** in letting the **Sierra Club** use the fellowship hall for our documentary screening of **From the Ashes**. As a new person to Laurel, the hospitality that this congregation has shown myself and the community is an encouragement. Elizabeth Scrafford
- * Dear Laurel UMC, **Thank You** for your gift of Pop Tabs! For over 30 years, **Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Illinois** has provided a supportive "home away from home" for families traveling to Springfield to seek medical care for their children. Thank you for helping the families we serve. Sincerely, Kelly Thompson, Exec. Dir.



IT'S A FUN FUNDRAISER!!

The Laurel Scholarship Committee is sponsoring a PAINT NIGHT
Date: Friday, August the 18th
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Place: Laurel UMC in the Fellowship Hall
Who: Invite everyone you know
Cost: \$45.00, must be paid in the church office prior to the registration deadline of August the 4th ... Laurel's Scholarship Fund will receive \$20.00 of each registration fee paid.

Join us in the Fellowship Hall on
Sunday, August the 20th
at **9:30 a.m.**

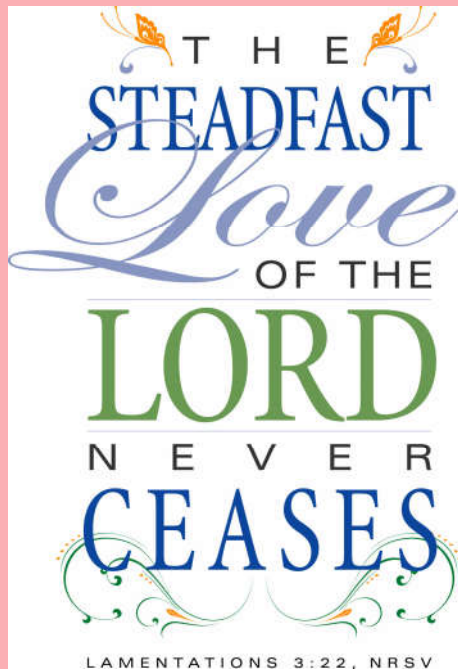
As Karen Hoelzer presents information on her recent trip to
Ghana and her work with
INTERNATIONAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT NETWORK PROGRAM



In March of 1996, a group of men and women of faith gathered in Springfield, Illinois to form a new Medical Missions Organization called International Health and Development Network (IHDN). IHDN was incorporated in the State of Illinois on March 25th, 1996. IHDN is a medical missions nonprofit organization based in Springfield, Illinois. IHDN seeks to develop effective and sustainable Primary Health Care programs in small towns and villages in the developing world. We use the earthly Health Care Ministry of Jesus Christ as our model.

IHDN serves to:

- Develop a ministry using the earthly work of Jesus Christ as a model
- Seek the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual well-being of individuals in communities, especially in developing countries
- Provide humanitarian assistance, education and research on issues of health, family life, conflict resolution and Christian values
- Emphasize faith in Jesus Christ as the basis for successful living



Bible in One Year, Weeks 31 to 33

In the past, these readings have been the most difficult for me. Each time I read the Bible from beginning to end, I hit the wall around Jeremiah and Lamentations, and I wonder if there will be any good news coming soon. The messages contained in these scriptures always seem dark and hopeless, but understandable when you know the context.

As I get older, I appreciate the book of Lamentations more than I did in college. It is the only poetic book of the Bible that contains key insights into the feelings of grief from beginning to end. And, as we age, grief seems to come to us on a more frequent basis. Knowing how to navigate grief becomes an important life lesson.

The author of Lamentations is grieving about the destruction of Jerusalem, and struggles with God as to the meaning of it all. But he captured beautifully the feelings of abandonment and isolation, as well as raising the unanswerable question of why, and, is this a result of God's rejection of them? As the city crumbles and the author's faith is challenged, he wonders if God will remember them and restore them. In the end, he can do none other but praise God and continue the conversation with God in hope and faith, because the author realizes that one of the greatest tragedies in life is losing God. With the loss of God, there is a loss of hope. Lamentations reminds us that God is the rock in whom we can turn. So keep reading, because good news is on the way!

Kent

Laurel Church . . . an Inside Look

The **Council on Administration** at a United Methodist Church oversees the administration and ministry of the congregation.

At Laurel, the COA is led by Jim Reed. It meets bimonthly so representatives from each committee and ministry area (listed below) can describe projects, express concerns, and find support from others. The group also discusses how they can partner to fulfill the mission of our church—Love God. Share with Others. Serve Both.



- Board of Trustees Chair – Rich Garber
- Finance Committee Chair – Cindy Nagle
- Staff Parish Relations Committee Chair – Fran Langum
- Nominations Committee Chair – open
- Lay Leader – Don Foster
- Lay Member of Annual Conference/Cluster Representative – Liz Frazier
- Lay Member of Annual Conference – Anthony Stauder
- Church Treasurer – Kathy Badger
- Financial Secretary – Karen Hall
- Nurturing Ministries Representative (Faith Formation) – Donna Means
- Outreach Ministries Representative (Sharing Ministries) – open
- Witness Ministries Representative (Caring Ministries) – Arlene Dittberner
- United Methodist Men’s President – Jack Shook
- United Methodist Women’s President – Marnita Wade
- Child Advocate Representative – Betsy Goulet
- Church Historian – Becky Cowan
- Faith Formation for Children/Youth Representative – Peggy Ross Jones
- Worship and Celebration Representative – Ben Berry



Thank you, thank you, thank you for your tremendous support of Laurel’s Lights and all our activities throughout the past year!! With your help, our Relay For Life team raised \$25,115 for the American Cancer Society to aid in the fight against cancer. We couldn’t do this without you!

And now for the tally you have all been waiting for—the results of our paper t-shirt sales!

CHICAGO CUBS - 113
ST. LOUIS CARDINALS – 108
CHICAGO WHITE SOX – 37

Laurel’s Lights is taking a short break, but we’ll be coming together again in a few weeks to plan for the coming year. We’d love to have you join us! Watch for our meeting announcements.

Laurel’s Lights 2016-17 Team



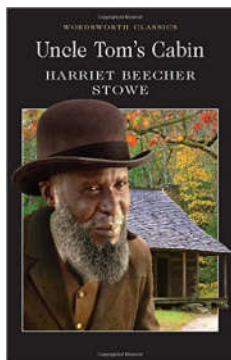
A HERO!

Get caught up in a Super Book!

Reading logs will need to be returned on Sunday, July the 30th. Prizes are awarded!

Bring you Reading log to the Library!

Laurel Book Club



**Tuesday, August the 1st
6:00 p.m. in the Parlor**

Join us for lively discussion about our August book, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. The meal will be a salad potluck. The lettuce salad, dressings, and drinks will be provided. We ask that you bring a favorite vegetable and protein for the salad to share.

At this gathering we will also ask for volunteers to be on our Book Selection committee, and suggest books for the 2017-2018 year (bring the book or written information about the book). We are in need of a discussion leader

for the August book, as well as a new leader for our meetings. Please consider stepping forward with your ideas and/or help.



**Laurel United Methodist Church
August the 13th at 11:45
In the Fellowship Hall**

Join us for lunch and an Estate planning presentation given by
**Reverend Edward Weston Director of Development
from the Preachers Aid Society**

Some of the questions answered will be the following:

- Why do I need to Plan?**
- What is Planned Giving?**
- What are the types of Planned Giving?**
- Why should I Include my church?**
- How can I proceed?**

Watch for a sign-up sheet in your church bulletin.



You are invited to the
HAMILTON'S
(157 Nottingham Drive)

**Sunday, August the 27th
Gather at 4:00 p.m.
Eat at 5:00 p.m.**

Bring a dish to share, your lawn chairs, and come join us for a fun evening.

Drinks and the main dish (hotdogs, hamburgers, etc.) are provided.

There will be games to play for both the young and old!

LAUREL UMC CALENDAR

BR—Bride's Room
FH—Fellowship Hall

P—Parlor
L—Library

CR—Choir Room
S—Sanctuary

JrH—Junior High
K—Kitchen

SrH—Senior High
Ch—Chapel

Sunday, July the 30th

SCHOOL SUPPLIES MONTH

- 8:30am Jazz-Style Worship*
- 9:30am Sunday School
- 9:30am Blended Worship*
- 10:45am Traditional Worship*

Monday, July the 31st

- 12:00pm Toastmasters, 303
- 6:30pm SHS reunion planning, 201

Tuesday, August the 1st

- 10:30am Muscles in Motion, FH
- 11:15am Forever Strong, FH
- 11:30am Staff Meeting, L
- 1:30pm Joy of Movement, FH
- 5:30pm Aware, 106
- 5:30pm Altrusa, 201
- 6:00pm Laurel Book Club, P

Wednesday, August the 2nd

- 9:30am Laurel's Quilters, FH
- 10:00am LCFS, 106
- 10:00am Men's Aware, 303
- 5:00pm First Wednesday, FH
- 5:30pm Men's Aware, 106
- 5:30pm Centering Prayer, Ch

Thursday, August the 3rd

- 9:30am Scribbles, 203
- 10:00am Women Aware, 303
- 10:35am Muscles in Motion, FH
- 11:15am Forever Strong, FH
- 7:00pm Nar-Anon, BR

Saturday, August the 5th

- 8:00am Ministerial Alliance Breakfast, FH

Sunday, August the 6th

Communion Sunday

August is UNDIES MONTH

Mission Trip and Baby Fold reports

- 8:30am Jazz-Style Worship*
- 9:30am Sunday School
- 9:30am Blended Worship*
- 10:45am Traditional Worship*

Monday, August the 7th

- 11:00am Greater All Nations Sr. Luncheon, FH
- 12:00pm Toastmasters, 303
- 6:00pm MDA Support, 303
- 7:00pm Stephen Ministry, BR
- 7:00pm Boy Scouts Troop 36, FH

Tuesday, August the 8th

- 10:30am Cachet Club, FH
- 10:30am Muscles in Motion, CR
- 11:15am Forever Strong, CR
- 11:30am Staff Meeting, L
- 1:30pm Joy of Movement, CR
- 5:30pm Aware, 106

Wednesday, August the 9th

- 9:30am Laurel's Quilters, FH
- 10:00am Men's Aware, 303
- 5:30pm Centering Prayer, Ch
- 5:30pm Men Aware, 303
- 5:30pm TCCMC Board, 106
- 6:00pm Jr. Volunteer's APL party, FH

Thursday, August the 10th

- 9:30am Scribbles, 203
- 10:00am Women's Aware, 303
- 10:35am Muscles in Motion, FH
- 11:15am Forever Strong, FH
- 7:00pm Nar-Anon, BR

Friday, August the 11th

Newsletter deadline

- 6:30pm Sangamon Valley Mensa, 201

Sunday, August the 13th

August is UNDIES MONTH

- 8:30am Jazz-Style Worship*
- 9:30am Sunday School
- 9:30am Blended Worship*
- 10:45am Traditional Worship*
- 12:00pm Estate Planning with Ed Weston and Luncheon, FH
- 1:30pm SFFA Guild, 201

Monday, August the 14th

- 12:00pm Toastmasters, 303
- 5:00pm Be Strong Families, 303
- 6:30pm Vinegar Hill Neighborhood Assoc. 201

Tuesday, August the 15th

- 8:00am Marketing Sr Lifestyles, 201
- 10:30am Muscles in Motion, FH
- 11:15am Forever Strong, FH
- 11:30am Staff Meeting, L
- 1:30pm Joy of Movement, FH
- 5:30pm Aware, 106
- 6:00pm Altrusa, 201

Wednesday, August the 16th

Newsletter mailed

- 9:30am Laurel's Quilters, FH
- 10:00am Men's Aware, 303
- 5:30pm Centering Prayer, Ch
- 5:30pm Men Aware, 303
- 7:00pm Troop 36 planning, 106

Thursday, August the 17th

- 9:30am Scribbles, 203
- 10:00am Women Aware, 303
- 10:35am Muscles in Motion, FH
- 11:15am Forever Strong, FH
- 7:00pm Nar-Anon, BR

Friday, August the 18th

- 6:30am Paint Night at Laurel, FH

Sunday, August the 20th

Butler School

August is UNDIES MONTH

- 8:30am Jazz-Style Worship*
- 9:30am Sunday School
- 9:30am International Health and Development Network Program (Ghana) with Karen Hoelzer
- 9:30am Blended Worship*
- 10:45am Traditional Worship*

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The Laurel Staff

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Pam Rouse, Director of Finance and Administration
Dyann Miller, Executive Secretary
JoAnn Overholt, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries
Alyce Foster, Director of Hospitality
Gail Lehmann, Parish Visitor
Deb Watts, Organist/Music Coordinator
Doug Hahn, Music Director
Mary Myers, God's House Band Leader
Carissa Filipiak, Chime Time Director
Elaine Gentry, Childcare
Sheila Campbell, Childcare
L.T. Bickham, Custodian
John Elliott, Evening Ambassador

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