



1548 South Hart St Road Vincennes, IN 47591

812-882-2220

[www.cumcvincennes.org](http://www.cumcvincennes.org)

January 7, 2021 Newsletter



Sunday Worship 9:30am  
Sunday School Classes 10:45am

Check out the [church calendar](#)  
on our website.

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### **Bell practice begins this evening**

Bells will practice each Thursday in January (7th, 14th, 21st and 28th) at 6pm. The bells will play in church service on Sunday, January 31st. All are welcome to begin on Thursday or contact [Shelly](#), CUMC Music Director for more information.

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### **Mountain Mission Truck**

The Mountain Mission Truck is coming again to Vincennes! What is the Mountain Mission truck? This truck travels to churches throughout the Midwest to collect gently used clothing and household items. These trucks then return to the United Methodist Mountain Mission in eastern Kentucky, where the donated items are put to good use improving the quality of life for people in the mountains. You can bring your items for donation to the CUMC pavilion the week, of February 1st thru the 5th 8:30am-5pm Items must be dropped off in the pavilion no later than Monday, February 8 at 5pm. The items will be picked up February 9th.

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### **CUMC Pavilion is being used for a Covid Clinic**

The church pavilion will be used as a covid clinic for Knox County starting Monday, January 11, 2021. We do not have a schedule from the health department as of yet for the future clinics but at this time, they will be using the pavilion all next week. The church is not responsible for scheduling appointments, to register you will need to call 211 or go to the website at [ourshot.in.gov](http://ourshot.in.gov). Doctor Stewart, the Knox County Health Officer will present information at church this Sunday morning at 9:30am.

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### **Read through the NRSV Bible in two years.**

It takes less than ten minutes a day and is an easy way to become more familiar with the scriptures and find inspiration for your day.

Hi Everyone,

Over the past several years I have put together a Devotional Bible that you can download and read from any of your computer devices. It's simple to use and easy to take with you wherever you go. Download it now and start off your New Year exploring the whole Bible.  
Pastor Darren

**How it works:** Each day you are provided a reading from the Old Testament, Psalms, Proverbs, and the New Testament. The readings allow you to progress through the Bible in a parallel fashion as it follows each book from start to finish.

Day one, starting chapter one, verse one of Genesis, Psalms, Proverbs, and Matthew you will be provided with a portion of each chapter. On the second day it picks up where it left off on the day before and this process continues until you reach the end of the two year cycle.

[Click here to view or download the two year bible.](#)

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### **Giving Envelopes**

The giving envelopes for those that use them are in and may be picked up in the Narthex. If you did not receive envelopes and would like a box for 2021, please e-mail [Cindy Lone](#), Finance Administrator, or call her at 812-882-2220.

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[Click here to see the CUMC 2021 Lay Leadership](#)

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We would like to thank all who sent birthday cards to Marion and all the prayers you are saying for Marion and myself.

Marion & Lorene Mason.

We are so blessed!  
For the 2020 Christmas season we received so many beautiful Christmas cards, family

pictures and gifts! We pray that God will bless each of you and we really do look forward to getting to know you more and more in the coming months!

In Christian Love...Pastor Darren & Cheryl

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**Happy New Year! I hope this email finds you doing well.**

Unless you have been hiding under a rock you have probably heard about Congressman Emanuel Clever's prayer to open Congress. He ended with "**Amen and Awoman**". I found what went before that far more concerning. On the off chance you don't know, here is article with details: [Amen & Awoman](#)

I have heard from so many people who are shocked and assume that this is some odd outlier in the UMC. Sadly it is not.

I've spent a lot of time with United Methodists whose belief system is radically different from traditional orthodox Christianity. They are not an outlier--in fact they are typical in entire Annual Conferences and Jurisdictions.. As a result I was not remotely surprised by the prayer in Congress or the guy who wanted to re write Christmas hymns to change "Little Lord Jesus" in Away in a Manger to "Little Love Jesus". You can find the details in the [Jeremy Smith Inclusive Christmas Carols Article](#)

These beliefs from fellow UMC clergy make both my head and my heart hurt! They but they no longer shock me they way they did when I attended my first UMC General Conference.

For those struggling to understand all of this I'm sharing a link to Rev Keith Sweat's helpful article UMC Separation Part 2: It's about Elephants below.

I need to preface Keith's article by saying that neither end of the theological spectrum is a monolith. I agree with his main conclusion the UMC NEEDS to divide and that the coming division is over far more than sexuality

But in the interest of nuance I want to remind you that not all clergy who support gay marriage and gay clergy would necessarily deny the divinity of Jesus or self identify as universalist (all people go to heaven regardless of what they believe about Jesus. We have clergy in Indiana who have fairly High Christology (divinity of Jesus) and affirm the Apostle's Creed/Nicene Creed yet embrace gay marriage/clergy. Their arguments to support their position do not, in my opinion, hold water. But it is important not to paint everyone with the same broad brush!

Having said that most local church members remain blissfully ignorant that this is common in the UMC. Why? It is because they have been intentionally kept in the dark about such beliefs.

Many (not all) progressive clergy keep their mouths shut about what they believe. They preach carefully worded sermons on Easter that people interpret as affirming the bodily resurrection when these clergy persons don't believe Jesus literally came back to life. They carefully avoid letting local church members know their real beliefs because they know it would lead to a request for a new pastor. .

More theologically conservative pastors have also been guilty of keeping people in the pews in the dark. We don't want to upset the apple cart in our local congregations. We wanted to focus on the main thing and "avoid distraction". Or, quire honestly we didn't want people to leave our church or quit donating to it.

As a result, many local churches are sadly set up many "buy a pig in a poke" (as my friend Arthur puts it) when the inevitable separation of the UMC happens.

The institution will encourage local churches to remain in the "Post Separation UMC. Continuity will be emphasized and it will be framed as a "big tent" with room for "centrists". Churches will be old "your local church doesn't have to do gay marriage if you don't vote to do that". In reality the influence of the most radical voices in the church (not just on sexuality but on theology) will grow dramatically. Other denominations of lurched leftward as traditionalist voices leave to do a new thing. Caveat Emptor. Buyer beware.

I continue to pray and hope for an amicable separation in the UMC (probably some form of the [Protocol](#) passed whenever General Conference is finally able to convene.) I'm also praying that UMC laity will become more aware of what is taught in many places.

Speaking of GC since I've had no fewer than 5 phone calls or texts today asking "WHEN?!" I'll tell you we don't know yet. The Commission on General Conference meets in February to review the report of the commission looking at possible technological ways to meet. That information and all of the other information being gathered will

be used to make a decision about GC 2021. The logistics for an event of this magnitude are staggering. In addition to the obvious issues with the pandemic there are practical, financial, legal, and contractual challenges. There are also challenges related to global travel and visas. Please keep praying for those who are working on all of this.

The Commission on General Conference meets in February. We may know something after that meeting. Watch for a press release.

In this liminal time, please focus on the fact that Jesus is Lord (not just a little love). Trust in Him. Keep praying. Be patient. Most of all keep doing the "stuff" of making disciples

Blessings and peace,  
Beth Ann

P. S.

If you want more information on the future for the people called Methodist I encourage you to reach out to INUMC Lay Delegate Mike Womack is well informed, very fair, and willing to come meet with groups of pastors or do presentations for local church leaders. His email is: [mikewomack@comcast.net](mailto:mikewomack@comcast.net)

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For online giving click the [Vanco link](#)

You are welcome to mail contributions to the church at 1548 S Hart St Rd, Vincennes, IN 47591 Atten: Cindy

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Sign the online [Pew Pad](#) in our website by clicking [here](#)

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ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE :

[Sunday, January 3, 2021](#)

To view past Worship Services and Sermons, go to [Community United Methodist Church web page](#).

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Check out the [church calendar](#) page on the web site for meetings and happenings around the church.