



1548 South Hart St Road Vincennes, IN 47591

812-882-2220

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



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

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

The new church web site: [www.communitychurchofvincennes.org](http://www.communitychurchofvincennes.org)

### e-mail addresses and contact information

**Community Church Office**

**[office@communitychurchofvincennes.org](mailto:office@communitychurchofvincennes.org)(general)**

**Cheryl Williams: [cheryl@communitychurchofvincennes.org](mailto:cheryl@communitychurchofvincennes.org)**

**Cindy Lone: [cindy@communitychurchofvincennes.org](mailto:cindy@communitychurchofvincennes.org)**

**Pastor Darren Williams: [darren@communitychurchofvincennes.org](mailto:darren@communitychurchofvincennes.org)**

**Jim Bitner: [jfbcounselor@yahoo.com](mailto:jfbcounselor@yahoo.com)**

**Rex Seitzinger: [rex@communitychurchofvincennes.org](mailto:rex@communitychurchofvincennes.org)**

**Shelly Bitner: [shelly@communitychurchofvincennes.org](mailto:shelly@communitychurchofvincennes.org)**

**Sue Vories: [sue@communitychurchofvincennes.org](mailto:sue@communitychurchofvincennes.org)**

Public wifi: communitychurchofvincennes - Public wifi password: CommunityChurch

### Bus Ministry Trip

Saturday, July 15, 2023 The Dailey and Vincent gospel and blue grass singing group will be performing at Montgomery, IN. This is a popular group that performs across the country including the Grand Ole Opry. We will leave the church parking lot at 4:30pm. A sign up sheet will be at the welcome center. Tickets are \$30. each. If you have questions, contact Bonnie Chattin

## Festival Choir of Praise Concert

On Sunday, June 25, 3:00 PM, at the Red Skelton Performing Arts Center, members of the larger community will present a choral concert. At the helm will be renowned composer, conductor, and humorist Pepper Choplin. There is no charge for the concert.

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### **Summer "Halftime Choir" Opportunity for Junior High Students through Adults:**

For Junior High (going into 6th grade) through Adult singers, come and join us for the "Halftime Choir." We will be singing a majestic arrangement of the "Battle Hymn of the Republic" on July 2, and a beautiful version of "As the Deer" called "Sicut Vervus" on August 6. Rehearsals will be on Wednesday, June 14 and June 28; July 5 and July 19; and August 2. Please email Shelly at [shelly@communitychurchofvincennes](mailto:shelly@communitychurchofvincennes) if interested and for practice links.

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*The Mary Martha ladies want to thank everyone who helped make the campers at Royal Kids Camp (children in foster care) feel very special. Duffel bags were filled with towels, washcloths, coloring books and pencils, a stuffie; plus... a hygiene bag with toothbrush and paste, body gel, deodorant and a scrubbie. Several of the MM ladies went to camp for a birthday party where each camper received a gift and individual cake. They especially enjoyed the noise makers on the table.*

*On behalf of the Children's Council and the Sugar Plum Ball team, thank you to the congregation of the Community Church of Vincennes for continuing to support the official Knox County father-daughter dance, the Sugar Plum Ball. From cookies to prayers to set up and tear-down, many of your hearts have shown that you value this important relationship. May you be blessed for your generosity.*

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### **What the Hex?! Disaffiliation Rhetoric Gone Awry**

by Suzanne Nicholson

This current season in the United Methodist Church has resulted in deep grief as one annual conference after another has held disaffiliation votes, resulting in hundreds of churches at a time leaving the denomination. As I write this, 5,453 churches have been approved for disaffiliation, with more to come. In some cases the process has gone relatively smoothly, with words of blessing flowing across the disaffiliation vote. But this past week the levels of anger, frustration, and grief rose to a new level as one pastor prayed a "holy hex" upon the disaffiliation.

The Prayer and the Aftermath

In the East Ohio Annual Conference on June 8, Pastor Derek Kubilus led the prayer prior to the vote to approve the disaffiliation of 237 churches (36%) of the conference. The following is a transcript of [his prayer](#) (see 3:05:25–3:09:34):

Holy God, it is only because you have gathered us together, that we can now stand before you. It is only because you have reconciled the world to yourself, through your Son, Jesus Christ, that you have given us, the people called Methodist in East Ohio, his ministry of reconciliation, that we might be his hands and feet in the world, and that the world might come to know him by witnessing our love for one another.

Yet we confess, we stand here divided, disunited, discouraged, disillusioned, and about to be disaffiliated. We dare not ask you, O God, to bless this work of disaffiliation that we are all about to do, no more than we would ask you to bless a work of idolatry or fornication. Breaking up the church is dirty business, O God, and we will not pretend otherwise. For truly, as Saint Paul said, we know not what we do. For what we want to do, we do not do, and we do the evil that we do not want to do. And so we can only throw ourselves at the foot of your cross and beg your forgiveness once again, knowing that you will bless us whatever we do, in our churches, in our denominations, and all the ministries that we carry forth will have the guidance of your Holy Spirit.

But before we go and do what we're gonna do, since we won't ask you to bless the disaffiliation itself, then I guess we need to ask you to put a holy hex on it, God, that in the days and weeks and years ahead, you would wilt the seed of disunity we plant here today, that you would shrivel and melt away all our angst, all our frustration, all our devout desire for division, and we would walk from this place with a holy thorn in our side pricking us day and night, until we finally reach that glorious reconciliation of all things under Christ Jesus, or—dare we hope—until some fateful day on this side of the Jordan, when all the broken brethren of John and Charles will once again join hands, and this world will know we are Christians, not by our schism, not by our judgment, not by our condemnation of one another, but by our love for all your people.

In the name of Christ—the conqueror of hell, the one who always saves us from ourselves—we pray, amen.

Almost immediately, many pastors and laity in the conference took to social media to report their astonishment and offense at a Methodist pastor calling for a hex upon brothers and sisters in Christ.

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On Heresy

by Ryan Nicholas Danker

One of my most treasured belongings is also one of the most humorous. During graduate school at Boston University, I was known for calling out any and all comments that could even remotely be interpreted as heterodox. I assure you that I was not on some sort of intentional campaign. More often than not these comments were part of witty interchanges. But in the midst of this fun, another doctoral student gave me a wonderful gift, a bespoke stamp with the word “HERESY.”

I’ve never actually used that stamp as a stamp. But at the beginning of classes, I’ve often brought it out to show it to my students with the promise that if they cite Wikipedia in their research papers, I will use it. A few times I did have students make heretical claims in

their papers, but each time I would speak to them privately – without the stamp – and each and every time it was ignorance rather than heterodoxy that was really at play. Words such as heresy, apostasy, heterodoxy, or even their converse such as orthodoxy, are all ecclesiastical words with a great deal of history behind them. And they have meaning, even if in today's ecclesiastical climate they're not always used well.

As Wesleyans, the Bible is our primary source for understanding God's will for the creation, for "all things necessary to salvation." We can also adopt Wesley's affinity for "primitive Christianity," not as equal to Scripture but in addition to it. Wesley believed that the early Christians held firmly to the faith despite numerous challenges to it both without and within the Christian community. He often lists church fathers as faithful guides. This early period is seen as part of the great consensual tradition of the Church, a tradition with general agreement on core Christian beliefs, sometimes referred to as the Rule of Faith.

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## Churches in Indiana our new Global Methodist Great Lakes Conference

Our Leadership: <https://greatlakesgmc.org/leadership>

Our Churches: <https://greatlakesgmc.org/our-churches>

Our Region: <https://greatlakesgmc.org/our-region>

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*Rev. James F. Bitner*  
*Pastoral Counselor*

*Appointment: call or text 715-581-1981*  
*email: jfbcounselor@yahoo.com*

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A weekly video devotional designed to challenge and encourage believers in their daily walk with the Lord.

Thanks for stopping in and may the Spirit of God be with you as you seek his face and grow in the Spirit

"Word for the Week" by Pastor Darren.

Click [here](#) to watch this weeks word.

## Get Connected!



Looking for ways to get connected to church ministries? Click on this [link](#) and find many ways to be involved/volunteer in the life of the church.



**For guides to help you in your  
time of prayer**

[click here](#)

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

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

ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE :

[June 5, 2023 Worship Service](#)

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

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