

January
2018



BRADLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
The Bradley Beacon

Our Mission: *To make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*
(Matthew 28:18-20)

 **FROM THE
PASTOR**

A Faithful New Year

“I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.”

(Philippians 1:3-6 – NRSV)

Making and being disciples of Jesus; embracing and engaging our community in Christ’s name; inspiring and sharing the hope of Christ’s love. This is one way of describing God’s vision for us as a church that bears the name of Jesus. At Bradley we seek to realize this vision by “connecting in faith, growing in grace, serving in love and sharing in hope.”

I thank God in my prayers for all of you who are being faithful to this vision whether you fully understand what it means or how it works, and I am confident that God has begun a great work among us, and has every desire to complete it in us and through us in the time to come.

I recently read about Live Oak UMC in Watson, Louisiana. Over a 20 year period the church has grown from under 100 in weekly worship to nearly 1500 in weekly worship today. Live Oak UMC is a “poster church” for having patience and remaining faithful. Interestingly, but not surprising to me, Pastor Mark Crosby’s advice to other churches is simple:

Preach the Word
Make sure Jesus is proclaimed as the Way, the Truth and the Life
Love and care for people

Likewise I believe our vision is simple: “be disciples, embrace our community, and share in hope.” I think that is easy enough to remember, and with God’s help and the Spirit’s power 2018 can be a faithful new year for Bradley as we continue to work toward this vision.

As we begin another year together I am thankful for your faithfulness, not taking for granted your great patience, and completely committed and excited to finish the good work we have been blessed to begin together.

May the blessing of God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit continue to rain down upon us, upon you, and upon yours in 2018!!! Praise be to God!!!

May your heart be always at peace,

Pastor Dave Seifres

Rev. Linda's Corner

Which of you Walks in Darkness and Sees no Light? "Lean On God!"

An art contest was held each year in a Maine seaside town. One year, the local artists were to submit a painting that portrayed the theme of "peace." Many entries depicted peaceful landscapes and tranquil seascapes. But the painting that took first prize showed a rocky sea-coast in the midst of a violent storm. At first glance, the painting was anything but peaceful. However, a closer examination of the painting revealed a small sea gull, a tiny bird huddled in the cleft of a rock. All around the fragile bird, the angry sea pounded on the sea coast, but the little sea gull shielded by the rock was safe and secure, sheltered in the midst of the storm.

There are times when we all walk through storms, walk through darkness and need shelter too. Each of us go through times of trouble, times of crisis, times of illness and there seems like there is little or no light to be found. Yet, there is a place of protection where we can say "Oh Lord, you are my lean-to shelter, you are my hiding place!" We need a shelter when our bodies are bone weary, when we're wounded with emotional pain, and when our hearts are grieving.

We all travel many long and weary roads, and dark stretches that steal the energy from our spirits. In these times, we need a place to lean upon, a shelter to provide us a pause from our struggles, a place to rest and gain our strength to go on again. The *Good News* is that we have a wonderful lean-to God who always provides a refuge for us. More *Good News* is that God sent us people to lean on, people who stand by us offering encouragement and support. Lean-to people give us shelter and small acts of comfort and kindness such as: a cup of coffee and a donut when we're lonely; a warm hug when we're tearing up; a hand to hold when we get bad news; a ride to the doctor's office so we do not have to go alone. In all these lean-to moments, we rest and draw strength from one another.

Remember the stormy painting with the tiny sea-gull sheltered in the crevice of the rock. Let this image help you recall Isaiah 50:10. Remember when someone is in a dark place, a hard place, and the cry goes up "What am I to do?" we will not remain silent. We will remember Isaiah's words, and we will reply in confidence "Lean On God."

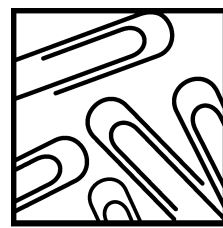
Family Connect with Heather

Happy New Year! It's hard to believe that our year of firsts is over. First Easter Egg Hunt, First Trunk or Treat, and First Full year with our new Sunday School program! What a year! Thank you for all your help! We couldn't have done any of it without you and your prayers!

As great as last year was I am really excited for 2018! A year of continuing and improving as we follow God's direction. I look forward to what is in store!

I want to thank you all for your support and prayers for Family Life! I appreciate each and everyone of you! As always please feel free to come to our meetings. There are many different opportunities in the family life community one of them being a voice in our meetings and bringing ideas for our programs. We meet on the 3rd Monday of each month.

On a personal note - thank you for your support as I started seminary! One semester is complete and it was wonderful. It's a blessing to know I have a church family behind me on this journey!



Office Hours

Monday-Friday
8:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Join Us to Pray in January

Tuesday January 2 at 10:00 a.m.
Thursday, January 18 at 1:30 p.m.
Mark your calendar!



Life is fragile, handle with prayer.



UMW NEWS

United Methodist Women

At the Thanks for giving luncheon in November Lee Wrchota was presented the UMW Annual Mission Award

for her many service activities at Bradley and in Greenfield. This luncheon provided a very happy occasion to honor many members of our congregation who were named by fellow members of Bradley by a donation to the UMW gift project. The donations, over \$600 for 2017, are used to help support these local charities: Boys & Girls Club, Shop with a Deputy, Hancock County Food pantry, Cops 4 Kids, Mental health of Hancock County, Toys for Tots, Kenneth Butler Soup Kitchen, Santa's Helpers and United Christmas Service. The recipients of love gifts were; Ann Vail, Audrey Page, Barb Terry, Carmen Scifres, Cheryl Byers, Cheryl Goodin, Cindy Davis, Della Benefiel, Dian Hyde, Diana Wells, Don Erwin, Jan Burt, Jan Tarwater, Judy Laird, Kathy

Book, Kathy Locke, Kathy McCorkle, Kathy Vahle, Kevin Selmier, Kristin Fewell, Lee Wrchota, Lyn O'Neal, Mike Reder, Rowena Overstreet, Sandy Yavor, Sara Thompson, Scott Davis, Sue True.

Thank you for supporting The BIBS Pantry, which provides free basic-care items for newborn babies. The pantry was established in 1991 in response to the high infant mortality rate in Marion County—one of the highest in the nation. University Heights UMW sponsors the BIBS Pantry in cooperation with Methodist Hospital's HealthNet Better Indy Babies Program.

From the Finance Team

Here is the Financial Report for the Operating Budget as of November 30, 2017

	November 2017
Income:	\$ 27,607
Expenses:	<u>\$ 34,991</u>
Short Fall	(7,384)

	November 2016
Income:	40,899
Expenses:	<u>33,247</u>
Net Income	7,652

SAVE THE DATE

Breakfast at the Kenneth Butler Memorial Soup Kitchen

Saturday - 2/10/18

Come to Serve and come to eat a delicious breakfast with friends and family

Interested in participating in Outreach to Serve our Community? The Community Life Team needs YOU (and so does our community). There are plenty of service projects throughout the year including:

- assisting with the Community Easter Egg Hunt and Trunk or Treat
- Serving breakfast at Kenneth Butler Soup Kitchen
- Preparing and serving a meal at The Landing
- Serving at The Chocolate Walk
- Participating in Community Service Day - outside or on Card Brigade

Have ideas for Community Projects? Contact Sue at barbettasue@gmail.com and be part of the Team.



Thank you so much for the lovely retirement dinner. It touched my heart. Thank you for your generosity. The picture of the stained glass window will be treasured and I will think of you all every

time I look at it. I hope to keep in touch with many who have become my friends over the years.

I have so enjoyed serving you as we serve Him.
Sandy Yavor

Thank you all so much for all the cards and prayers during my recent surgery. This church has been so good to me and I greatly appreciate your love.

Rose Crawley

Dear Bradley Family,

The Vahle family would like to thank our Bradley family for all of your prayers and kind thoughts for Kristie Vahle as she continues her Peace Corp service in Rwanda. She very much appreciates the cards and packages she has gotten from church family. As some know she had some health concerns this past fall, but if feeling much better. She continue to enjoy her work that spans health, nutrition, and gender equality topics. Once again, thanks to all of you for your prayer and concerns.

John, Kathy, and Kristie Vahle

Bradley Community Preschool

One of the blessings I have as the Preschool Director is leading chapel with the children of our preschool. Leading up to Christmas I tell the story of the nativity. This year there was one session that will forever be etched like a video on my brain. I knew many children could relate to the birth of new babies as several had very young siblings at home. I began the nativity birth with an illustration of a desert stable and the demonstration of how cattle ate out of a manger. I then asked where babies were born, knowing many would automatically respond "hospital". When I explained Mary had her baby in a stable, jaws literally dropped. I then held up a plastic toy of a baby Jesus in a manger and the expression of surprise was immeasurable. The best part though was when I said "It's okay though, God had a plan. He wanted it that way. Angels sang, Shepherds came to visit, even the animals got to see Jesus." I could see children relax--Oh to have the faith of a child. As we begin the new calendar year at Bradley Preschool we are looking forward to studying more alphabet letters, fine tuning writing our name, and discovering more complicated patterns with math manipulatives. Our winter curriculum also includes winter weather, discovering the properties of ice and snow, and the color blue.

The church is setting up to host a Preschool Celebration Sunday on February 4th at the second service. The children will sing and take part in children church. Be sure not to miss this.

Joyfully Yours,

Kathy Vahle, Bradley Preschool Director

NEW YEAR RESOLUTION

"Don't take your organs to Heaven, Heaven knows we need them here" was a bumper sticker we received at transplant support group. Because of transplant Mike had fourteen (14) extra years of life, got to know grandchildren and great-grandchildren. We now have three (3) more great grands who will never know him, but fourteen (14) years of life is amazing. A fifty-three (53) year old man had a severe stroke and we got his lung. I wonder if he was a golfer because Mike certainly spent a good part of those years on the golf course. Just as someone had to die so Mike could enjoy those extra years, so Jesus had to die so we could be saved for a new, eternal life. As we begin the new year and make all those resolutions resolve to be an organ donor. Resolve, too, to be more purposeful in your Bible reading, prayer, worship participation. Heaven knows we need your involvement here now. I pray blessings on you for a joyful, healthy, and successful year. I look forward to seeing you at Bradley.

God loves you and so do I. Lyn O'Neal



Chuck Jordan	1/2
Nick Kile	1/3
Pat Molinder	1/3
Cheryl Bruns	1/7
Danny Wheeler	1/7
Rev. Linda Brackney	1/8
Emily Kile	1/8
Barbara Yordy	1/12
Jim Shelby	1/15
Susan Parkerson	1/16
David Caudill	1/22
Rosemary Crawley	1/22
Catherine Smith	1/23
Mildred Grist	1/24
Marcia Meyer	1/27



Do we have your current information?

It will soon be time to mail out year end information. If you move or change your phone number, please notify the church office. Many times we aren't aware of a change of address until the newsletter is returned to us because it is undeliverable with a fee to pay for the return. Please take a moment to email us or call if you have any change in your mailing address, email address or phone number. Thank you!



Bradley United
Methodist Church

@bradleyumc

BRADLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH AUCTION AND DESSERT SOCIAL

SUNDAY APRIL 8, 2018 12:00 4H FAIRGROUNDS

Calling all Bradley members, we need donations for 1st ever auction! Ideas for items can be: antiques, collectibles, jewelry, coins, tools, gently used items, toys, car, memorabilia, gifts cards, hand-made items (paintings, woodworking, quilts, etc.), baked goods...

Please complete your list and submit to jerry.rogers@infarmbureau.com or mail to the church at 210 W. Main St. Greenfield 46140, Questions, contact Jerry 317-442-3318.

Deliver items to the Fairgrounds on April 6 & 7, 2018. Addison's can also store items in advance if necessary. Please note if storage is needed.

It is best to submit your items early so we can better plan our auction.

Description of Item	Estimated Value for Tax Deduction

***** ADDITIONAL ITEMS SUBMIT ANOTHER FORM*****

DONOR NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

Wayne Addison, Another Addison Auction

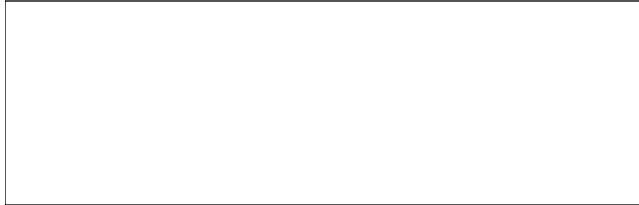
BRADLEY UMC TAX EXEMPT #35-104-1917

Bradley United Methodist Church
210 W. Main Street
Greenfield, IN 46140-2097

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Phone: 317-462-2662
Fax: 317-462-3211
Email: info@bradleyumc.org
Website:
www.Bradleyumc.org



BRADLEY
united methodist church
Connect :: Grow :: Serve :: Share

Sunday Worship Schedule

The Beacon Café is open from
8:00—11:00 a.m.

- 8:30 A.M. Traditional Worship Service
- 9:45 A.M. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m.—Fellowship in Cafe
- 11:00 A.M. Blended Worship Service

How to Reach Us

Church Telephone:	317-462-2662
Church Fax:	317-462-3211
Email Address	Info@BradleyUMC.org
Website	www.BradleyUMC.org
Preschool Telephone:	317-462-8858
Preschool Website	http://bradleypreschool.com
Preschool Email	preschool@bradleyumc.org
Senior Pastor:.....	Rev. David P.Scifres 765-277-1014
Visitation Minister.....	Rev. Linda Brackney 812-722-3272
Family Life Community Leader.....	Heather Cress
Music Ministries Team Leader.....	Heather Pechin-Myers
Organists:	Tom Magee, Chris Gordon
Financial Secretary:.....	Bob McCorkle
Interpreter.....	Zach Evans
Preschool Director:.....	Kathy Vahle
Administrative Secretary/Treasurer	Ashley Bridges

Office Hours:..... Monday-Friday, 8:00am-12:00pm
Deadlines: Bulletin Announcement—10:00 a.m. Thursday
Newsletter Information— the 15th of the month for the following month’s issue.

“The Bradley Beacon” is a monthly publication of the Bradley United Methodist Church; 210 W. Main Street; Greenfield, IN46140.