

May
2017



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)



Inspiring the Energy of the Spirit

“Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.”

2 Corinthians 3:17-18 (NRSV)

In Paul’s final exhortations to the Thessalonian Church he instructs the believers there “Do not quench the Spirit.” (1Th. 5:19) The implication is that Christ’s disciples should do the opposite. Maybe “stimulate” or “inspire” the Spirit. The Apostle Paul writes above that “the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

I write this note, on Easter evening in the concluding moments of a Holy Week that for me was filled with the Spirit at work in two Cantatas, five Worship Services, and an extremely successful community Easter Egg Hunt that were all filled with power of the Holy Spirit at work among us. And, that same Holy Spirit has been active in our midst for some time, at times lately in marvelous ways that remind us that where the Spirit of the Lord is there is, indeed freedom, but also there is joy, energy, momentum and transformation.

The bottom line of all this that where the Spirit of the Lord is there growth in both number and the quality of our relationships. Where the Spirit of the Lord is there are people connecting in faith, growing in grace, serving in love and sharing in hope. Where the Spirit of the Lord is there are disciples becoming committed followers of Jesus, embracing our community in Christ’s name, inspiring hope and purpose in people’s lives. To net this all into one word, Where the Spirit of the Lord is there is *life!* We at Bradley are currently enjoying this Spirit-filled life!

The period that we are entering into as a church is an exciting time. Our big picture goal right now is to be careful not to quench any of what the Spirit is doing among us; but instead to focus ourselves with a laser-like precision on those things that will stimulate and inspire the Holy Spirit to continue to bring the Spiritual Life, Spiritual Leadership and Spiritual Formation that will lead to a continual outpouring of the living water of Christ in the form of freedom, joy, energy, momentum and transformation.

I invite you join with me in our search for the Spirit’s wisdom, direction and power in our lives and ministry, as we continue to move forward together.

May your heart be always at peace,

Pastor Dave Scifres

Rev. Linda's Corner

Take Your Smile With You Everywhere You Go!

There are few symbols which so fully represent the American spirit of joy and happiness as the smiley face. Harvey Ball, co-owner of a public relations firm in Worcester, Massachusetts designed the first smiley face. In the early 60's, State Mutual Life Insurance Co. made a sudden merger that had a bad effect on company morale. So Harvey Ball's PR firm cooked up a campaign to get new and old employees to start smiling at one another and begin to develop friendships. Smiley faces were posted all over the building and whenever the employees helped a customer, passed a co-worker, or greeted one another at a meeting, they were encouraged to smile. Harvey Ball reported to a local newspaper that he designed the smiley face in 10 minutes, and he was paid \$45 for it. This was the only profit that Ball ever made from his famous creation.

In one study of adults from some of the happiness experts I have been reading, a tendency was found for subjects to mimic the expression of those around them. In other words, sad faces evoked sad faces and smiley faces evoked smiles, and along with it, a feeling of happiness. A smile is a small thing, but at the same time, a powerful sign of hospitality. I think some folks just don't realize that they are not smiling when they see you, so that's why our own smiles can send a gentle reminder. I say hang around folks who smile, and it will rub off on you.

Since I have been reading up on all things smiley, I have come to know that scientists have discovered that smiling affects our brains. Each time we smile, we throw a "feel good party" in our brains. The act of smiling actually activates the feel good neurotransmitters dopamine, endorphin, and serotonin when we flash a big grin across our faces. Also, a smile can fight off stress, lower our blood pressure and boost our sense of happiness. What I like about smiling is that it is contagious, so when we smile at someone, it's likely they will smile back. Most folks want to belong to a happy church, among other things, of course. Let's smile as we enter the sanctuary, smile as we greet our visitors, smile at the choir, smile at the praise team, smile as we welcome folks in the Beacon Cafe, smile at Pastor Dave while he is preaching, and smile at our children as they run out of the sanctuary to children's church.

I guess I am asking us to take smiling seriously, and practice it intentionally as often as possible. We all have experienced a time of happiness that has been a source of our smile, but it's also a good thing to know that our smile alone, for no other reason, can create a source of happiness too. Whichever it is, our Bradley Church family and our whole community is simply a better place when we smile.

Family Connect with Heather

What a joy it was to serve with you this past month! Family Life has been busy and we couldn't have done it without all of you. Thank you all who helped out with the Easter Egg Hunt. It went great! Thank you to all who gave candy, eggs, and monetary donations. I am still shocked how quick you filled the eggs. Clearly, praying as you filled them produced results! Wonderful things happen when you include God in your work. Big thank yous go to Carmen Scifres and the Hospitality team, Sue True and the Community Life team, Pastor Dave, the Family Life team, and everyone else that came to the park and helped. It went smoothly, and the biggest part took only about an hour. Thank you for sharing a vision to serve the community and helping it come to life. The community really responded and loved what we were doing for them. One attendee told me, "Greenfield has needed something like this for a long time." The feeling I get when I think of what we did is overwhelming joy. We saw a need in our community, and car loads of people responded! There was joy on hundreds of kids' faces, and even the squirrels appreciated capturing a few eggs. It was a wonderful way to show God's love and I am so thankful I got to do it with all of you! Visit the church website to see pictures from the hunt.

And if that wasn't enough, Family Life did even more last month. We have painted most of our Sunday school rooms and completed a few of them. The kids have had a blast in their new spaces! As we have done the update we have also noticed that our attendance is growing. The kids really enjoy the programs we have for them and they love their small group leaders! They are learning so much about how God loves them and how they can share his love! Go by any the rooms anytime to see how they look, and go by during Sunday School to see kids engaged and growing in discipleship! Even though we have done so much, God's work is never done. We have so much more to do and if you'd like to help, we'd be glad to connect you! If you are curious about Family Life and what all we are doing please contact me. I'd love to have coffee with you and share what we are doing! And as always, you're invited to our team meetings. Our next meeting is May 24th at 7pm in the parlor.

Thanks for all you do! It's great to serve with you!
Heather Cress

hccress@bradleyumc.org
812-219-5752

You are invited to a banquet!

The Great Banquet and Walk to Emmaus weekends are a feast not only for your body but also for your mind and heart. These spiritual weekends are a once in a lifetime experience where you can enjoy some great food, Christian fellowship and a chance to relax and enhance your relationship with our Lord. There are several members of Bradley who have already attended one of these weekends. Russ and I attended Great Banquet weekends almost eleven years ago. The experience has had a profound effect on our lives and given us more blessings that we could have imagined. There are weekends coming up this summer and next fall and we would love to sponsor you to one of them.

That's not all! There are also weekends for teens from the end of their freshman year through the summer after graduation. I have had three nephews who have attended one of these weekends with similar spiritual benefits.

For more information on either the adult or teen weekends, please contact me at 317-462-7537. Russ and I will be happy to provide more information and sponsor you to what can be the spiritual experience of a lifetime.

~Rachel Sellmeyer

Listed below is information on The Great Banquet.

Hamilton County: (126th St. in Fishers)

Men: November 9-12

Women: November 16-19

Crossroads: (91st Street Christian Church)

Men: June 8-11

Women: June 22-25

Men: October 12-15

Women: October 26-29

Awakening (Teens) (Cicero, IN)

Boys: July 21-23

Girls: July 14-16

Join Us to Pray in May

The prayer group will meet on May 2nd at 10:00 a.m. and on May 18th at 1:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to join us to prayer with and for one another. We are a group that welcomes all and would love your company. Mark your calendar!

Life is fragile, handle with prayer.



Laura Barnard	5/2
Todd Page	5/8
Betsy Friedenber	5/8
Susan Hoover	5/9
Aaron Gilpin	5/10
Christian Day	5/11
Gary Locke	5/11
Roger Blice	5/12
Jeanne Meddock	5/16
Loren Thompson	5/17
Ken Jolly	5/19
David Medved	5/19
Bob True	5/20
Ethan Kile	5/21
Kathy Medved	5/22
Bob Palmer	5/22
Mike Reder	5/22
Shelley Rogers	5/23
Sam Goodin	5/27
Paula Hammond	5/30
Emily Parkerson	5/31



Thank you Rev. Scifres for the wonderful service for our Father. Thank you to the Bradley Ladies for the wonderful meal.

Thank you Rev. Linda for all the nice visits to our

Father while he was so ill. Thank you Bob's faith family for the kind words, visits, and prayers.

Blessings to you,
The Rodocker Family

Hilltoppers

Hilltoppers will meet at Tour of Italy on Thursday, May 11 at 11:30 a.m. Call the Griners at 317-462-9401 or 317-604-9691 to reserve your spot.

Church Wide Dinner May 7

The entire church is invited to a potluck dinner following the 11 service on Sunday May 7. In addition to good food and fellowship, the event will give us a chance to celebrate the CREED study and small groups. Fried chicken, drinks and table service will be provided. Bring a dish of any kind to share. Better yet, bring a friend.

We'll Be Serving Breakfast at the Soup Kitchen

Sat - May 20 - We will be serving breakfast at the Kenneth Butler Memorial Soup Kitchen. Here's an excellent opportunity to serve our community. There will be 2 shifts; 1) 6 am - 9 am and 2) 9 am - noon. Watch for sign up sheets. Also, plan to join us for breakfast that morning. A terrific way to start your day for those in need!

Upcoming events:

June - Community Service Work Day

August - Bradley at the Ballpark - Indianapolis Indians

From the Finance Team

Here is the Financial Report for the Operating Budget as of March 30.

	March 2017
Income:	\$ 29,796
Expenses:	<u>\$ 34,344</u>
Shortfall	\$ <4,548>

	March 2016
Income:	\$ 29,990
Expenses:	<u>33,074</u>
Shortfall	\$ <3,084>

Home Medical Equipment Lending Closet

Mt. Lebanon UMC hosts a home medical equipment lending closet gap ministry. Items such as walkers, crutches, wheelchairs, and other miscellaneous items are in inventory. They are currently in need of bed side commodes and shower chairs. To request or donate these items, call the Love INC Clearinghouse (317) 468-6300.

Love INC - Volunteers Needed to Help Foster Families

Trinity Park UMC - 2nd Thursday monthly, 5:45 - 8:15 pm

Every month, foster parents gather at Trinity Park UMC for a support group or training. Their need is for people to watch their children while the caregivers have their meeting. Your responsibilities could include playing games or coloring with elementary students, rocking a baby, or playing with a toddler. Optional to bring crafts or games for their participation. Volunteer as a Small Group or Family. Love on kids that need love! Contact Megan Cutshaw at megan@handsofhopein.org, or sign up at handsofhopein.org/hancock

8 a.m. -12 p.m.
(closed for lunch 12-1)
1—4 p.m.
Monday through Friday

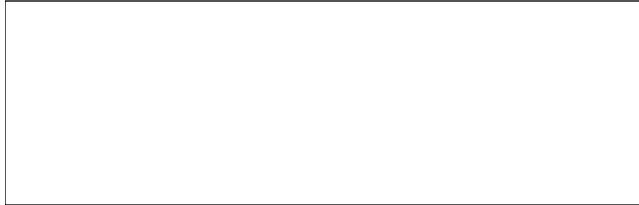


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Website:
www.Bradleyumc.org



How to Reach Us



Bradley United
Methodist Church



@bradleyumc

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

Church Telephone:	317-462-2662
Church Fax:	317-462-3211
Email Address	Info@BradleyUMC.org
Website	www.BradleyUMC.org
Look for Bradley United Methodist Church on Facebook	
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	Sandy Yavor

Office Hours:..... Monday-Friday, 8:00am-12:00pm, 1:00-4:00pm

Deadlines: Bulletin Announcement—12:00 p.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.