



Getting to know your Secretary



Hello everyone! I have been with Brushwood for almost a year and Pastor informed me that many of you would like to know more about me so we decided that I would use her space in the April newsletter for this purpose.

I was raised about an hour south of Rensselaer in a tiny blink town named Pine Village. I am a 7th generation farmer and a true country girl at heart. I graduated from Saint Mary-of-the-Woods with a Bachelor of Science in Equine Business and Administration and a Master's of Non-Profit Leadership and Development.

I currently live in Remington Indiana with My husband Greg, our 2 dogs, 2 cats, 7 horses and 1 cow. As well as working as the church's Secretary I also work at Van Rensselaer Elementary School as a teacher's aide helping out with the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades.

In my "free-time" my husband and I are slowly renovating an old farm house into a functioning hobby farm where we can raise not only our own food but also our future children. Sometimes I even get to steal away an hour or two for a trail ride or make homemade goodies to fatten up my husband.

Greg and I have made it our goal to come to more church events in the coming year and promise to try, our schedules are crazy right now, but we want to see more of you. Please enjoy the rest of your newsletter!

Blessings,
Frances Jordan



a message from **BISHOP TRIMBLE**



The United Methodist Church: A New Story

By Bishop Julius C. Trimble | March 8th, 2019

A Church that is open to all people and values the stories, gifts, talents, and witness of its members and families. A Church characterized by affirmation that God's grace is available to all and diversity is to be celebrated not feared. A Church where people together experience



Christian community, welcoming, forgiving, and loving one another as Christ has loved and accepted us. A United Methodist Church in Indiana that is in ministry with and for all people.

To United Methodists who are LGBTQI+, to our brothers, sisters, siblings, friends, families, churches, communities, and supporters, I want to convey our love and support for you and for a Church where our welcome is not hollow and our commitment to full inclusion is more than aspirational. Your sacred worth and personhood is not determined by church votes in a denomination too long divided on matters of human sexuality. The movement of God and the human rights of Hoosiers who chose to worship and do ministry in The United Methodist Church cannot be held hostage by votes at a General Conference or the wide chasm between those who read the Bible and see condemnation and others who read the Bible and see grace.

At the recent General Conference in St. Louis, the Traditional Plan was passed that retains language in the United Methodist Discipline that conveys a hurtful message of exclusion with proposed penalties for pastors and bishops and obstacles for persons who are LGBTQ+ to answer their call to ministry in our Church. Our actions as a Church have caused anger, hurt, and opened a door of discouragement when so many thousands of people were anticipating a Way Forward for a diversity of perspective and all persons to worship under the big tent of United Methodism. I am deeply pained and sorry for the harm we have done, and the fact that our attempt

as a Church to resolve a long-standing division has left us no less divided.

Our actions again have made you feel talked about and not listened to or seen through the eyes of Jesus.

Many persons have expressed they will not leave their church because it is a place of welcome and vital ministry for you. Some persons have expressed their pain as though a dagger has been stabbed in their hope for change. Some of you are considering whether you will stay in The United Methodist Church. I respect your feelings and your desire to live with integrity and not with a qualified welcome or what may feel like empty words of love.

I want to end this letter by quoting words from Pastor Rudy Rasmus' book, "Love Period, When All Else Fails," who will be preaching the opening at our 2019 Annual Conference. Pastor Rudy has taught me and thousands that we all need love with a period; we need spiritual friends, guides and counselors. Most of all, we need Jesus Christ...

Pastor Rudy says, "The L in love stands for liberation." Our Church needs to be liberated from this singular focus on the marginalization of part of the Body. "Our love has the potential to be unlimited, even revolutionary if we allow the flow of God's love to surge through our words, actions, and attitudes." We have experienced a setback on our way forward. "There is always a stone standing in the way of the power of love."

This is a time of crisis in The United Methodist Church. Crisis and heartache can be a launching place for the drafting of a new narrative for our Conference and pouring witness as United Methodists.

Let's write a new story where we don't have to hide our old signs that say, Open Hearts, Open Minds, and Open Doors. A Church at its best where people who don't always agree can worship together and live fully as a missional movement in Indiana and beyond.

Do not be discouraged, answer God's call and bring renewal with justice and a place for all.

I am not leaving, and I ask you to help bring change to the Church we love for the sake of Christ Whom we follow.

Be encouraged

Bishop Julius C. Trimble

Be encouraged,

Bishop Julius C. Trimble

Indiana Resident Bishop

The United Methodist Church





BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| 1-Morey Johnson | 24- Darlene Chambers |
| 6-Yong Lone | 26- Cam Bales |
| 8-Marcia Johnson | 18- Diane Underwood-Setor |
| 10-Greg Jordan | 28- Ron Chambers |
| 14 Debbie Williams | 29-Elsie DePew |

ANNIVERSARIES

- 23- Paul & Cindy DeBarge
26- Dick & June Brewer

Servants in Action

April 2019

	Ramp Greeters
4/7/19	John Smith
4/14/19	Cam & Sonya Bales
4/21/19	Joanne Ziese
4/28/19	Morey Johnson
	Front Door Greeters
4/7/19	John & Nancy Tillema
4/14/19	Trudy Bales
4/21/19	Jack & Cleota Warne
4/28/19	Shawn & Marcia Johnson

April Ushers: Allen Jefferies, Elvis Mitchell, Larry Meyers, Dick Brewer (Jason Stowers to fill-in).

Children's Sermon

4/7/19	Trudy Bales
4/14/19	Cristine Colbert
4/21/19	Morey Johnson
4/28/19	Pam Meyers



~ Brushwood Prayer Concerns ~



Our Church: The Indiana Conference, Bishop Trimble, The North West District, CS Lore Blinn Gibson, Assistant District Superintendent's Lamar Imes, Rob Seewald, and Hugh Rohrer.

Our Nation: Congress, President Trump, Governor Eric Holcomb, other officials. Those in position of authority.

Our Military: Amber Buster (Laney): Florida (Dee & Phil Malavolta), Douglas Siedelmann: Army-Kuwait .

Our Missionaries: Wertzes – Tanzania, Evan and Lydia Smith with CRU Missions at IL University.

In Ministry: Wayne Williams, appointed to Mt Ayr UMC and Morocco First UMC. Hal & LuAnn Cohn appointed to Kewanna UMC. Chris Kosary, appointed to Raub & Mt. Aion UMC. Jodi Kosary appointed to Wolcott & Mt. Gilboaoa UMC.

Our Shut-ins: Bethel Britt, & Sharon Patrick.

Those we lift in Prayer: Dwight Williams, Jack Warne, Roy Finch, Jim Paschke, Amber Buster, and George & Joan Fox.

Our 10:15am Worship Service; Our Attendees – those returning to church, those seeking a church, those seeking God

April Dates to Remember

6th 8:30am-2pm IMPACT Session
 8th 3pm UMW
 9th 7pm Trustees Meeting
 10th 11:45am Lenten Luncheon
 14th Palm Sunday
 14th 2:15pm Rensselaer Care Center
 Service



19th 6pm Good Friday Service



21st Easter Sunday

21st Rensselaer Care Center Service



24th 11:30am Sr. Saints



27th 10am Ladies Tea

28th Church Council after
 Worship Service



28th-2nd Rummage Sale Prep
 May 3rd 8am-2pm Rummage Sale



Bible study will be every Wednesday unless
 otherwise stated at 9am and 5pm.

Announcements

Volunteers are needed for the rummage sale. a sign-up sheet is on the Welcome Center.

Please fill out the calendar on the Welcome Center with upcoming May events. Frances will collect it for the May newsletter on April 25th.

Wednesday Night Bible Study will begin a new book April 24th. There is a sign up sheet to purchase the new book as well as its description on the Welcome Center. This sheet will be collected April 7th.

If you have a local or church event/meeting that you like posted on the bulletin board, in the weekly church bulletin, on the website, or in the monthly newsletter please place it in the Secretary's mailbox or leave a voicemail at (219) 866-3933 with the date, time, location, and a brief description of the event. **She can't share these events with the congregation or local community if she does not know about them!**

