

AUGUST 22, 2008



# Dyer United Methodist Church

*...Where the adventure begins*

Dear Friends,

My son, Brad, will begin college this month. As I reflect on the blessings that God has given Beth and me with all three of our children, accomplishing this first milestone into adulthood can be scary for the offspring and parents alike.

I remember teaching him years ago how to ride his bike. We started by removing his training wheels. Then Brad started out pedaling as I held on to him and ran around trying to help him keep his balance. I would then wait for an opportunity to slowly let go of him and have him take off on his own. This ended in disaster the first few times. But Brad is a persistent learner, and before long he was making longer and longer strides on his own. By the end of the day, all he needed was that first push, and off he went!

My wife, Beth, helped out with some of those first pushes. She explained to me that it was hard for her, as it was for me, to know when to let go. If we were to hold on just a little bit longer, he would have even better balance, and possibly do better. Brad finally became frustrated with Mom and Dad holding on too long, and asked that we let go sooner. In days he learned how to get started all by himself and off he went!

As Beth and I had time to reflect on this bike-riding accomplishment, we realized that this whole thing about letting go had to do with a lot more than just holding onto the back of a bicycle. Brad's life is begging for us to let go a little sooner, to be there for that first push, but then get out of the way and let him take over for the ride of his life. We can only pray that the training and support we gave over the years and God's guiding presence in his life will allow him to pedal into the future with success.

I hope that you are letting go of areas in your spiritual life that need some space to grow. I hope that you are taking off the training wheels on those areas God has called you into, and are learning to ride free. And I hope you're there for the people around you who just need that first push of an encouraging word or prayer to get rolling. Letting go is sometimes hard. But getting in the way of God's plan is even harder.

I hope to see you riding around in the near future. Come and share your journey with us soon!

Letting go for God,  
Ken

**Is Your Pledge Up to Date?**

**Record of Faithfulness**

Totals to Date as of  
08/22/2008

**Weekly Stewardship to Reach Budget**  
\$7,845

**Weekly Stewardship Received**

07/20/2008	\$5,907.00
07/27/2008	\$5,267.50
08/03/2008	\$7,285.00
08/10/2008	\$5,414.31
08/17/2008	\$6,017.50

**Weekly Attendance**

07/20/2008	- 177
07/27/2008	- 187
08/03/2008	- 195
08/10/2008	- 197
08/17/2008	- 172

ATTENDANCE



Hey yall! I hope you have had an awesome summer, I cannot believe school has started once again and we are about to begin our fall schedule for Shoreline! Our back to school kick off event was a success and we had a great time, if you were able to make it, we hope you had an awesome time and were able to connect with God through it in some way! I wanted to applaud our students and how well they did on youth Sunday! It was very clear the Holy Spirit was speaking through each one of those students, and their life is being transformed and impacted by our awesome Lord and Savior! I wanted to point out our weekly activities for our fall schedule!

- Starting September 2<sup>nd</sup> and every Tuesday thereafter will be our High School Bible Study at Jamen Lane's house from 7:00-8:30pm! Please come as we hang out, and dig into the Word of God! (162 Crestview Lane, Dyer IN)
- Starting September 4<sup>th</sup> and every Thursday morning thereafter will be our "Breakfast with the King" Discipleship at Burger King in Dyer at 6 am!
- Starting September 4<sup>th</sup> and every Thursday night thereafter will be our Middle School Bible study at Peter Boyd's house from 7:00-8:30pm! Please come as we hang out and dig into the Word of God! (14193 W. 90th Court, St. John IN)
- Every Sunday night from 6:-7:30 is youth group!

We have a couple HUGE dates coming up in October that I want all your students to be apart of! God will transform their lives through these amazing weekends we have planned! Our middle school and high school fall retreats are going to be incredible and they are both at Camp Adventure!

- Middle School Fall Retreat is October 10-12<sup>th</sup> and is \$85 per student. Checks can be made out to IMPACT 2818. Permission forms can be found in the Shoreline room or by contacting me. Money and Permission forms are due by Sept 28!
- High School Fall Retreat is October 17-19<sup>th</sup> and is \$105 per student! Checks can be made out to Dyer UMC. Permission forms can be found in the Shoreline room or by contacting me! Money and permission forms are due by September 14!

## Church News

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CALLING ALL SINGERS, ALL AGES! The choir has begun preparations for their participation in the 8:30am service and YOU are invited to join us! We'd love to see this be a multi-generational choir just like our bell choir is – and there's an opening for YOU in the choir loft! The more, the merrier! See Juanita or Carol for questions or additional information.

CALLING ALL RINGERS, ALL AGES! Our handbell choir will also be meeting again soon, Monday evenings at 6pm, starting September 8<sup>th</sup>. No experience is necessary, just come and be a part of this fantastic group! We'll provide all that you need, just come with a willing spirit and eager mind. Again, the more, the merrier! See Carol for questions or additional information.

Vicki Polyak would like to start a Fundraising Committee within the church. If you're interested in being on this committee, we would love to hear your ideas! Please call Vicki at 219-365-2857 for more information!

Join us for a Backyard Bible Study! We'll be meeting on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8 at the Cornets' home for a study led by Debi Mitchell. Call the office for information and directions!

## Thank You

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On behalf of the youth of Campagna, I thank you and your church members for the generous donation once again this year or the wonderful school back packs for our kids that they so desperately needed.

As you may know, more than 300 at-risk youth utilize Campagna Academy's residential services, alternative day treatment programs, outpatient counseling center, and charter school. The opportunities afforded them through the generosity of caring individuals like you to *restore hope* and *build dreams* will help them on their journey to become successful and productive adults.

Thank you again to all of you for the thoughtful donation and for your commitment to our mission.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Wojcikowski  
Sr. Director of Development and Public Relations

## Thank You

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Thank you to Nancy Kennedy from Bozo's Hotdogs for the generous donation of hotdogs and buns for the church picnic on July 13! Also, thank you to everyone that helped cook, clean, or set up.

Lynnette

## From the Finance Committee

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School has now started and we're reminded that the year is moving right along. Keeping up with our giving to the church throughout the summer months can be challenging with the vacations and many other summer activities affecting our church attendance. Through the end of June, our giving to the Operating Fund for the year is \$11,000 behind our pledges for the same six-month period.

More important than the dollars and cents is our personal commitment and sacrifice to God's work and purpose. Yes, God continues to love us and provide for us unconditionally, but we must be reminded of our personal pledges to God as well as to our church through the summer and winter - in good times and bad. Thanks for your continued faithfulness and support of our church and God's Work.

The Finance Committee

Our Thoughts &  
Prayers  
are with...

Our Service Members    Eldon Johnson Sr.  
Debbie Busch                Jackie Smith  
Linda Crowder                Eileen Stiemart  
Tom Fizer                        Kris Thomas  
Rollin Flanagin                Nyetia Waterstraat  
Toni Flanagin  
Melba Fixter  
Pat Grisham



## Prayer Requests

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If you have a prayer need that you would like to add to the prayer chain, please call the church office, Cathy Millard at 365-3954 or send email to Roseann Piercy at: rr\_piercy@comcast.net

## Here to Serve...

**Pastor Ken Puent**

[pastorken@dyerumc.org](mailto:pastorken@dyerumc.org)

**Director of Student Ministries**

**Mike D'Attoma**

[miked@dyerumc.org](mailto:miked@dyerumc.org)

**Office Administrator**

**Char Szulewski**

[office@dyerumc.org](mailto:office@dyerumc.org)

**Office Assistant**

**Mary Jayme**

[finance@dyerumc.org](mailto:finance@dyerumc.org)

**Music Director**

**Juanita Jarecki**

**Coordinator of Christian Education**

**Maureen VanSwol**

[children@dyerumc.org](mailto:children@dyerumc.org)

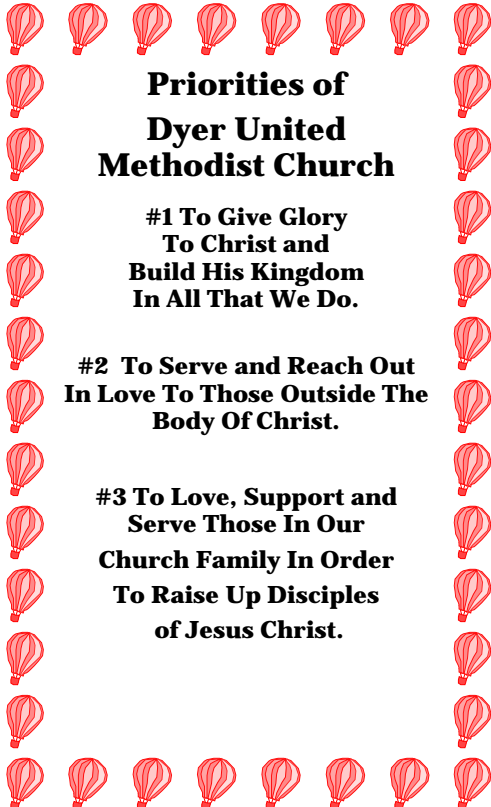
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Dyer United Methodist Church  
... *When the adventure begins* ...  
2016 Church Street  
Dyer, Indiana 46311



## Upcoming Events



### **Priorities of Dyer United Methodist Church**

**#1 To Give Glory  
To Christ and  
Build His Kingdom  
In All That We Do.**

**#2 To Serve and Reach Out  
In Love To Those Outside The  
Body Of Christ.**

**#3 To Love, Support and  
Serve Those In Our  
Church Family In Order  
To Raise Up Disciples  
of Jesus Christ.**

- SAVE THE DATE for Mike and Sarah's wedding shower. The dinner shower will be Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 5pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please sign up in the Narthex if you plan to attend, can make a dish or dessert to share, or can help. All members of the church are invited. Mike and Sarah are registered at Target, Macy's, and Bed, Bath & Beyond. Contact Gayle Podowski or Nancy Gray with any questions.
- PJ Parties will resume on Friday September 12th and will be held on the second Friday of the month. Please watch for further details.
- Our annual church hayride will be Sunday, October 12, at Southlake Stables. Watch for additional information!
- Trick or Trunk will be on Friday, October 31st. Please watch for further details.
- Our annual Christmas Program will be on Sunday, December 7th at 6:00PM.