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The MESSENGER

## June Scripture Readings

**June 6:** 1 Samuel 8:4-20; Psalm 138; 2 Corinthians 4:13—5:1; Mark 3:20-35

**June 13:** 1 Samuel 15:34—16:13; Psalm 20; 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17; Mark 4:26-34

**June 20:** 1 Samuel 17:32-49; Psalm 9:9-20; 2 Corinthians 6:1-13; Mark 4:35-41

**June 27:** 2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27; Psalm 130; 2 Corinthians 8:7-15; Mark 5:21-43

## Good Reads

Book recommendations from Pastor Tom:

- Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis
- Knowing God by J.J.Packer
- The Cost of Discipleship by Dietrich Bonhoeffer
- Basic Christianity by John Stott
- The Practice of the Presence of God by Brother Lawrence
- My Utmost for His Highest by Oswald Chambers



THE GRASS WITHERS,  
THE FLOWER FADES ...  
... BUT THE WORD OF  
OUR GOD WILL STAND  
FOR EVER.

Isaiah 40:7-8, NRSV

MAY—JUNE 2021

# The MESSENGER

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## HAVE POCKET CHANGE?

We are collecting coins for Karla Singer's mission work with Ability Tree in Arkansas. We've placed the coin collector in the Narthex for your convenience.

**Thank you for your generosity!**

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for your generous donation through the pill bottle campaign. I'm so thankful to know that my church family in Indiana is praying for and supporting me! It was so good to see so many of you at church!

Love & blessings,  
*Karla Singer*

thank  
you.

## A publication of Christ United Methodist Church

*A special message from Pastor Tom*

## Connecting with God's Word

Do you know someone struggling to connect with God's Word? Maybe they're experiencing pain or loss. Perhaps they're involved in something they shouldn't be. Maybe they just don't see how the Bible is relevant to them. Whether it's an aunt, uncle, parent, child, or a friend you consider family — how can we, as followers of Christ, help loved ones experience the transformative Word of God for themselves?

Here are three ways you can help your family get into God's Word:

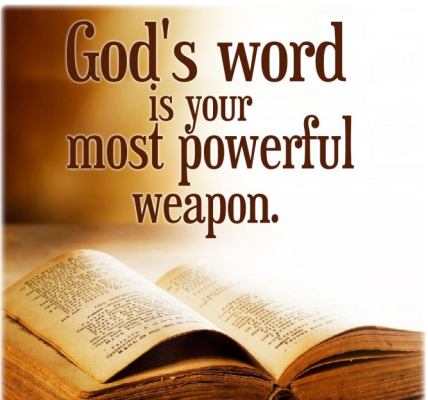
**First, be an example.** God's Word encourages us to set an example in what we say, how we act, and how we love. Why? Because how we choose to act and react has a lasting impact. How can you set an example? Agree on a time each day when you'll study the Bible together. (You could even memorize the Bible App's Verse of the Day together). Talk about Scripture whenever you have time

together: at breakfast, on the way to school or work, and in the evening. Your interaction with God's Word will influence how your family perceives God's Word.

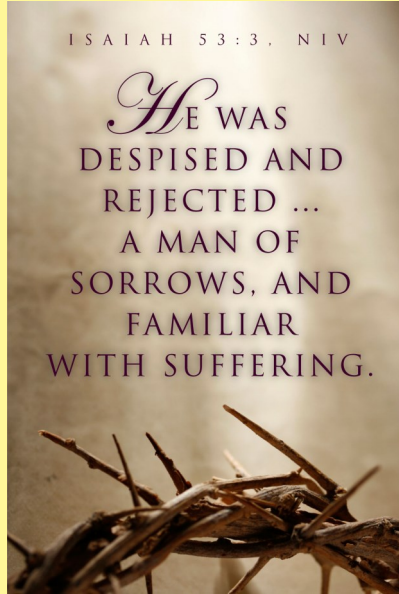
**Next, make God's Word personal.** You can't force your family to care about the Bible, but you can help them discover the value God's Word can add to their lives. Consider sharing a Verse Image from the Bible App with someone who needs encouragement or wisdom. If you have kids in your life, download the Bible App for Kids and complete a story together. Try reading from a Bible version your family can enjoy together. When you help your family see how they can apply God's Word to their lives, they'll be more likely to own their spiritual growth.

**Finally, keep showing up.** If growth doesn't happen immediately, it's normal to get discouraged. Remind yourself why you're doing this: these are your people, and you love them. You know how much better your life is with God's Word in it, and you want that for them.

In Christ's service,  
*Pastor Tom Richards*







### Sunday School Opportunity

Every Sunday morning at 9am, Jeani Richards leads Sunday School for anyone interested in learning more about the Christian faith. This is a great way to learn with fellow members and to grow spiritually together.

If you haven't come yet, consider starting now. You won't regret it.



**Monday—Friday**

**8:30 am—Noon**

The church office will be *closed* on *Monday, May 31* in observance of Memorial Day.

## Congratulations to our Graduates

We are thrilled to recognize *three* recent graduates. **Tara Leland** continued her nursing degree to become a Nurse Practitioner earlier this year.

**Natasha Leland**, daughter of Tara Leland, recently finished her Bachelor's degree at Ball State University with a concentration in Journalism & Telecommunications, with a minor in Meteorology. Natasha has accepted a producer position with Fort Wayne's ABC21-WPTA, starting in June.

**Makiah Richards**, granddaughter of Pastor Tom and Jeani Richards, will graduate from Wabash High school in May and plans to further her education with a major in fashion marketing.

Congratulations to all our graduates for their hard work and dedication!

May the Lord be with you and guide you while you begin your new chapter.

## Summer Church Camp

Summer Camps are offered for school aged children, K-High School. If you are interested in getting more information about summer church camps contact the church office. **Christ Church provides half of the fee for anyone attending camp!** Go online to [impact2818.org/camps/](http://impact2818.org/camps/) for more information.



## Scholarship Recipients

Every year the Scholarship Committee selects young adults earning a higher education to receive the Rice Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship was started by Dorothy & William Rice.

This year we have selected three students to receive \$500 each. They are **Luke Mattern**, **Lindsey Mattern**, and **Makiah**

**Richards**. Luke continues to pursue a Pharmacy degree at Purdue University, while his sister Lindsey attends Indiana University-Bloomington for a Nursing degree.

**Makiah Richards** graduates high school in May then will continue her education at Savannah College of Art and Design.

## Prayer for Father's Day

*Dear God,  
Bless all the fathers in the world. Father, we ask that You guide them to be good role models and loving to their children. We also ask that you help them be a father like You are. Give them grace and patience to handle situations in a loving way. Amen.*



## Accepting Donations

The LIFE Center greatly appreciates donations. Currently, their needs are as follows:

- Diapers—large sizes (4,5,6)
- Formula—Gerber Gentle & Soothe
- Prenatal vitamins
- Boys 6m-9m summer clothes
- Boys 12m-18m long sleeve shirts
- Boys 2T & 5T pants
- Boys 3T clothing
- Girls 12m-18m long sleeve shirts
- Girls 4T & 5T pants
- Gender neutral baby blankets

Donations can be dropped off during business hours or put in their donation box at the back of the building.

*“Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.”*

*2 Corinthians 9:6*

## Mission Project

As part of the “*5th Sunday Collection*,” a project sponsored by Lighthouse Missions in Wabash, this month's theme is **Gift Cards**.

Please consider being a part of this mission by donating gift cards for groceries, and gas that can be handed out to those in need. (ex: Walmart gift card, Speedway, Shell, Marathon, Bechtol Grocery, Kroger)

Gift cards can be placed on the Missions table or given to Mary Ellen Clark directly.

**All donations must be brought to church no later than Sunday, May 30.**

Thank you for your generosity and helping those in need.



## Coming Soon

Got a favorite hymn? Starting in June and running through July the worship committee will replace special music with an opportunity for members to pick a favorite hymn that will be sung during worship service.

So...open up your hymnal and search for

your favorite ones to share with your church family.



## Prayer Requests

Please continue to pray for our shut-ins: Deloris Anderson, Dean Fouts, Betty Herron, Christine Brown, Phyllis Shambaugh, Janet Ross, Beverly Grey, Jack Paxton, Marjorie Sparling, Lowell Karns, Janet Titus, & Mary Davenport.

Also keep in your prayers Ned Woodward, Bette Boyer, & Jerry Krause.

## Holy Land Trip

Ever consider taking a trip to the Holy Land? If you are interested and would like more information, check out the itinerary and registration on the bulletin board near the garden doors. The office has more copies if needed.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Every Tuesday evening at 7 pm Christ Church hosts an Al-Anon meeting.

Al-Anon groups are a fellowship of relatives & friends of alcoholics who share their experience, strength, & hope in order to solve common problems.

If you, or someone you know would be interested in attending, feel free to join the group.



It's unfortunate but we had to cancel Vacation Bible School for this year.

We are hoping to resume VBS next summer.