

#THE CONTACT

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM CARMEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH // MAY 2024

Shane Claiborne

WILL BE IN OUR NECK OF THE WOODS...

Sunday May 19 at 5pm, Pitch-In Dinner and Talk. RSVP



Carmel United Methodist Church
621 S. Rangeline Rd.
Carmel, IN 46032

Phone: 317-844-7275
Email: Caremail@carmelumc.org
www.carmelumc.org



Outstanding Speaker on May 19 at Carmel UMC

On May 19, Carmel United Methodist Church will host nationally known and sought after speaker, Shane Claiborne. He will speak during a covered dish meal in the FLC and then spend time with our youth.

Claiborne is a provocative and dynamic follower of Jesus whose passion for living the Christian life has led him to move to inner city Philadelphia and establish the Simple Way community of like minded disciples. Author of several popular books, I'm familiar with *Jesus For President* and the *Irresistible Revolution* (both of which I recommend, by the way). Claiborne is best known for putting his faith into practice with an emphasis on peace—most recently turning swords into plowshares (or guns into farm implements).

Under the leadership of our Ryan Remington, it is quite a coup to have Mr. Claiborne spend the day with us. In some ways he reminds me of an Old Testament prophet. He is uncompromising in his beliefs, passionate about his faith, and creative in finding unique ways of capturing the church's attention. Let me say it this plainly: **You might not agree with everything Shane has to say, but you will regret not being there to hear him say it.**

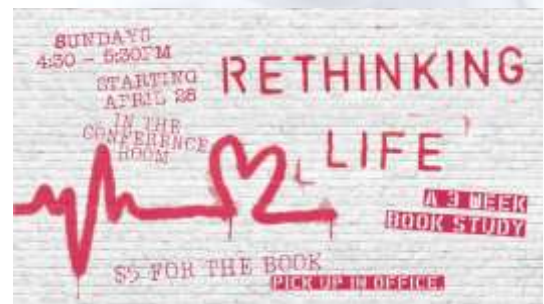
Here is the schedule for Sunday, May 19.

Pitch In Dinner at 5 p.m. in FLC

Claiborne Talk at 6 p.m. in FLC

Claiborne spends time with youth at 7 p.m.

Come and have your mind stretched, your heart touched, and your hope for the future of Christ's church renewed! **You can RSVP by [clicking here!](#)**



And if you are interested Ryan will be leading a book study of Mr. Claiborne's *Rethinking Life: Embracing the Sacredness of Every Person* on Sunday afternoons at 4:30, beginning on April 28, May 5, and May 12 in the conference room. Copies of the book are available in the church office.



Pastor Tim

CHURCH UPDATES

OPERATIONS GIVING:

These numbers reflect the amounts received vs. budgeted for the OPERATIONS of the church.

March 2024

Budgeted Giving: **\$89,102.83**

Actual Giving: **\$108,489.90**

SUMMER WORSHIP AT CUMC

Have you noticed that people are starting to wear shorts? That it's not already dark by the time you get home from work? Yep, summer is coming up soon, and many exciting things will be happening at CUMC.

We've got the Henderson Mission trip, VBS, summer camps, a youth mission trip, hiking the Appalachian Trail, Carmel Fest hospitality, our partnership with the local Spanish-speaking community, and so many opportunities to deepen your faith.

Naturally we have some exciting events planned for worship this summer. Here are some important dates to take note of:

Our summer worship schedule begins

Sunday, May 26. This schedule will be the same as last summer, with traditional worship at 10:30 and contemporary worship at 10:45.

We will celebrate the ministry and retirement of Pastor Aj in worship on June 23 (it is also the first day of VBS!).

We'll have our KICKOFF celebration worship on August 11. This will have ONE blended service at 10:30 am with an all-church picnic following.

August 11 also kicks off a **new sermon series** which will use the Ray Bradbury book, *Fahrenheit 451*. We'll all be encouraged to read and discuss this classic over the course of the summer before beginning this series.

With Sympathy to the family of...

○ **Stephen (Steve) Cobb**, who passed away April 11, 2024, husband of Cindy Cobb and member of CUMC.

In Celebration of the...

○ **BAPTISM** of Hayden Franklin on April 13, 2024

○ **CONFIRMATION** (April 13, 2024) of:

Annie Lothamer

Ben Goguen

Ethan Collins

Hayden Franklin

Jake Donaldson

Julia Wingfield

Lizzy LeVora

Luke Jordan

We'll resume our standard worship schedule on August 18, with traditional worship at 9:00 and 10:30 and contemporary worship at 10:45.

Of course, it goes without saying that all of our worship is prayerfully considered, thoughtfully planned, and hopefully will lead you to an encounter with the living God. Come join us!



SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

May 26, 2024 - August 4, 2024

10:30am - Traditional Worship
10:45am - Contemporary Worship

Sunday school for children is still at 10:45am.
Coffee & Fellowship is still at 10am-10:45am
Online Livestream is at Trad:10:30am & Cont:10:45am

CARMEL CHURCH

PRESCHOOL MINISTRY

Stephanie Holl, Preschool Director • sholl@carmelumc.org

ALMOST SUMMERTIME! We are ready for summer! It has been such a fun and exciting year here at CUMC Preschool! We want to say THANK YOU so much to all of our preschool families for sharing your wonderful kiddos with us this past school year. It has been such a blessing! Enjoy your summer break! See you in the Fall!

REGISTRATION FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR IS WRAPPING UP!

We still have just a few spots left for the 2024-25 school year so don't delay! We have openings in our 3's, 4's, and ALT K! Contact Stephanie Holl (sholl@carmelumc.org) or Paula Foster (pfoster@carmelumc.org) or call our office (317-844-1958) for more information! We would love to have you as part of our preschool family!



WE ARE HIRING

JOB POSITION :

PRESCHOOL TEACHERS

SEVERAL POSITIONS ARE OPEN.

Contact Stephanie Holl at sholl@carmelumc.org or visit our **employment page** to learn more.

INFO HERE
carmelumc.org/employment

 **CARMEL CHURCH**
621 S. Rangeline Rd.
Carmel, IN 46032
317-844-7275



May 2024

FAMILY PROMISE

MISSIONS MINISTRY

Linda Withrow • missions@carmelumc.org

Family Promise

by: Don & Carla Bennett

Homelessness can happen to anyone. It can be the result of the loss of a job, divorce, mental illness, addiction, large medical bills, an uninhabitable apartment or a variety of other reasons. It is more prevalent in Indianapolis because Indiana law favors landlords more than any other state. Because of these laws, Indianapolis has one of the highest number of evictions in the country. This is tragic because once a landlord brings an eviction proceeding against a person, that person will have an extremely difficult time finding a landlord who will lease him an apartment.



Family Promise's goal is to assist homeless families in a way that will solve the immediate problem of homelessness and provide a path to self sufficiency. The apartment shelter initiative is the primary program to accomplish that objective. Currently, Family Promise has 20 apartments which it makes available to families for a period of 30-90 days. During that period, families receive a number of services including job counseling, budgeting, help with child care and school enrollment, arrangements for health care including physicals, immunizations, and mental health services. In many cases, if the parents have stable income, they can take over the lease of that apartment after the trial period. Then the family is permitted to keep the furnishings in that apartment. In other cases, the family moves to another location, usually because the parents want to be closer to a job or family. If a family chooses to stay in that Family Promise apartment, then the organization will lease another apartment and place a new family in that apartment.



CUMC supports Family Promise in three ways. First, once a year CUMC solicits household items (other than furniture) to furnish an apartment. Then CUMC volunteers set up an apartment using the donated items. Second, one month a year, CUMC volunteers prepare and

deliver a meal to a family every Thursday. Typically, the volunteers who prepare the meal are not the same as the volunteers who deliver the meal. This program enables CUMC volunteers to have interaction with the family that we are helping. Finally, CUMC provides financial support to Family Promise from its Missions Fund.



LOOSE CHANGE OFFERING for MAY:

Loose change goes to: **FAMILY PROMISE.**

Loose change is COINs, but you can specify with a check or cash by writing "LOOSE CHANGE OFFERING" or "**Family Promise**" in the memo line or on the outside of the giving envelope.

One thing that motivates CUMC volunteers is that Family Promise has a phenomenal success rate: over 80% of families who complete the Family Promise program continue to be independent during the subsequent two years. This is truly life changing for a family that once was homeless.

In May, 2023, CUMC collected over 120 household items from 40 members to furnish a two-bedroom apartment. We filled every shelf in the Missions Closet! In addition, two CUMC families donated furniture to Mustard Seed, to be placed in future apartments. In June, 2023, Carla Bennett used Mission funds to purchase additional items to complete the furnishings list. In July, 2023, six CUMC volunteers loaded the Family Promise van as well as two cars to deliver goods to the apartment. Ron and Jeannine Williams joined the Bennetts to unload the vehicles and set up the apartment. A homeless family moved into the apartment at the end of July.



We are looking forward to the CUMC apartment furnishings drive in May, 2024. A needy family is awaiting our donations! [Please click on this link to donate.](#)

CLICK HERE for the LIST of ITEMS NEEDED

Any questions? Please contact Don or Carla Bennett.
317- 566-1421(home)
carlabennett1947@gmail.com

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

Rev. Jessica Stevens • jstevens@carmelumc.org

Click images [in some cases] for links

Putting our faith into action...

SHANE Claiborne

SUNDAY
May 19, 2024
5pm - Pitch-in dinner
6pm - Shane Speaks

 CARMEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
RSVP: carmelumc.org/events
621 S. Rangeline Rd. Carmel, IN



General Conference 2024

Charlotte, North Carolina

April 23 – May 3, 2024

Friday, May 3, 2024 at 12pm
Booth Tarkington Theater
Carmel, IN

A Call to Remember

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY



 CARMEL CHURCH

Carmel United Methodist Church

GARDEN GROUP

 CARMEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
FOOD PANTRY GARDENS

THURSDAYS

6PM-7:30PM

Meets at the GARDEN.
(NE PARKING LOT)
(Rain location: Food Pantry)


 CARMEL CHURCH

SUNDAYS
4:30 - 5:30PM
STARTING
APRIL 28
IN THE
CONFERENCE
ROOM

RETHINKING LIFE

A 3 WEEK BOOK STUDY

\$5 FOR THE BOOK
PICKUP IN OFFICE



Prayer Shawl Circle

Every Tuesday

12:30pm-2:30pm

CONTACT:
Katie Kessler
gmacovi@aol.com



Are you looking for a way to join in, but don't know where to start? Send me an email, and I will be glad to help you join a group, or form a new one! - Pastor Jessica Stevens

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP
Rev. Jessica Stevens • jstevens@carmelumc.org

Adult Ministry is vibrant with activities, and you can join!



* Please note that many of our groups do not meet during the summer (June&July), so check with the group contact, or the office, if you do not know.

Learn more about Unidos en Fe

Unidos en Fe is fellowship and worship in Spanish!

- We meet MONDAYS in the Chapel at 7pm for fellowship & worship
- Each time we meet there is an ice-breaker activity to meet new people
- We sing Methodist HYMNS and WORSHIP SONGS in Spanish that you already know
- We will start ENGLISH classes at 6pm prior to worship on April 15

Have you taken more than 2 years of Spanish? Are you interested in practicing?

We have 20 adults and children joining us on Monday nights for fellowship and worship in Spanish. All are new immigrants from Venezuela and are eager to learn and practice their English. We are looking for people to help with conversational classes!



MEET Guillermo & Mary!

Guillermo and his wife, Mari Diaz, moved to Carmel at the beginning of the year and have answered God's call to serve the Venezuelan immigrant community here. **Unidos en Fe** is open to all people and is a similar outreach to one that they developed with the Methodist Church of Mexico and outreach missions that address the needs of the community in their hometown of Querétaro, México.

* Friends in Faith will meet through May 22, then break for the summer.



Friends in Faith
Every Wednesday
from 3:30pm to 5pm

At church in the conference room.

CONTACT: NANCY ADAMS
nadams35@aatt.net

Youth

chrysalis
THE UPPER ROOM®

SAVE THE DATE!
2024 Chrysalis Flight 55 & 56
June 3 - 5, 2024 (M-W)

Chrysalis is the high school youth version of the "Walk to Emmaus"

Taking place at:
Emmanuel United Methodist Church, Noblesville, IN

Questions? Contact:

Margie Nichols margiedellnichols@gmail.com 317-697-3161
or Lori Redman lahoberty@gmail.com 317-998-1893

For registration information or to be on team, contact one of the Lay Directors.

World Lay Director: Kirsten Jones
kjones27@yahoo.com 317-373-8866
Regional Lay Director: Mark Mayden
mark_mayden@yahoo.com 317-716-4886



indyemmaus.org

SCHOLAR DOLLARS

SENIOR SUNDAY
May 12, 2024
SCHOLAR DOLLAR SUNDAY



[Click this image to donate to SCHOLAR DOLLARS.](#)

YOUTH MINISTRY

Ryan Remington • youth@carmelumc.org



YOUTH

Click [here](#) to visit the [Youth Ministries Page!](#) Sign up forms, and updated info on all events are available online.



GRADUATION
SUNDAY
MAY 12TH

JOIN US IN
CELEBRATING
OUR SENIORS &
SCHOLARSHIP
WINNERS!

2024

CONFIRMANDS:

ANNIE LOTHAMER

BEN GOGUEN

ETHAN COLLINS

HAYDEN FRANKLIN

JAKE DONALDSON

JULIA WINGFIELD

LIZZY LEVORA

LUKE JORDAN



CONTACT RYAN:
[RREMINGTON@CARMELUMC.ORG](mailto:rremington@carmelumc.org)
OR
260.888.6911



Middle School Students, sign up for King's Island today! (click image) by 5/30. The trip date is June 8. Link is also on the Youth Ministries web page.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Ryan Remington • youth@carmelumc.org

All Youth will begin meeting every other Wednesday starting May 26th

CALENDAR
MAY 5: RECONNECT
MAY 12: NO YOUTH
MAY 19: LAST YOUTH OF SEMESTER

JUNE 17/22 SLAM



SHANE CLAIBORNE

SUNDAY, MAY 19TH, 2024
PITCH-IN DINNER AT 5PM
SHANE'S TALK AT 6PM
YOUTH AT 7PM



CARMEL UMC
MISSIONS

CARMEL
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH
621 S. RANGELINE RD.
CARMEL, IN 46032



Scholar Dollars



On Sunday, May 12th, we will be collecting money for next year's scholarship recipients. Make sure that you mark your checks for Scholar Dollars or place them in the given envelopes.

Thank You!!

[Click this image to donate to SCHOLAR DOLLARS now.](#)



CHILDRENS

LOOKING FORWARD to SUMMER

Encourage every kid you know to attend! This is a great way to invite a buddy and spend some fun time each night together.

Vacation Bible School

is June 23-27 (Sun-Thu) at 6pm-8:30pm



Click the banner above to visit the **VBS WEBPAGE!**

AMAZON WISH LIST

Take a peek at what the VBS crew needs to create an underwater adventure here at Carmel United Methodist Church! The list will change, so make sure to keep an eye out for what we need. We appreciate our AMAZON SHOPPING warriors! The list can

be found here: <https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/4GZK0NFZ0JO5> or scan the QR code here with your phone's camera.

OTHER ITEMS to collect and bring in: pool noodles, ribbon, coffee filters, underwater effects.



VBS AMAZON LIST



our VBS week.

Click this button to **SIGN UP your kid/s** and read more about



rewarding volunteer jobs to do.

Click this button to **VOLUNTEER** for VBS. There are many



Tuesdays anytime from 4pm-7:30pm

Summertime Day Camps for Kids

Looking for something fun for your kids to do this summer? Carmel UMC is offering 3 weeks of different day camps in July Mondays through Thursdays! At Carmel United Methodist Church-Kids Summer Day Camp Program- we believe that children are one of the greatest gifts of life and believe that each child is special. Our summer day camp provides an action packed, fun-filled summer for your camper with a wide variety of age appropriate activities and experiences for Preschoolers (3 years by 6/1/24) to Kindergarten and 1st-4th grades (current grades). Our all-inclusive camp program provides your camper with quality programming at a great rate. Our camp day begins at 9am-12pm or 1pm-4pm campers may stay the 12pm-1pm hour for a small additional fee (\$25). Each week is planned based on a central theme. Campers will travel with a small group with kids their same age to each of the different activities.

SIGN UP NOW BY CLICKING here or on the image!

Carmel United Methodist Church

SUMMER DAY CAMPS

Looking for something fun for your kids to do this summer?

Carmel UMC is offering 3 weeks of different day camps in July 2024 Mondays through Thursdays each week! 9am through 4pm each day.

WHEN:	COST:
July 8-11, July 15-18, and July 22-25	Camp Fee: \$75/week per session (includes a snack & supplies)
MORNING sessions: 9am-12pm	MasterChef Junior camp (ADD: \$10 fee for cooking materials)
AFTERNOON sessions: 1pm-4pm	Lunch Bunch Fee: \$25/week

CARMEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



"For all things come from You, and from Your hand we have given to You."

1 Chronicles 29:14, NASB

PLANNED GIVING

plannedgiving@carmelumc.org

Preschool Gets a New Laminator!

The Preschool laminator, an important piece of equipment, had become unusable. The laminator is a key resource to not just the preschool staff, but VBS, Children's ministry, and other entities of the church as well! Our teachers prepare crafts, room signs, curriculum and use the laminator to put protective sheeting over those items so that we can reuse them year after year! The laminator will become a much used and appreciated resource for years to come.



The Preschool Director, Stephanie Holl, approved the use of \$2,500 from the **Mike Miller Preschool Endowment Fund** to pay for the expense of a new laminator. An expense well worth supporting. The Mike Miller Fund is a

restricted Endowment fund to be used only to support Preschool needs including Preschool scholarships for ESL children.

Use your IRA to Help Support CUMC!

Many generous ministry partners have seen the benefits of contributing to CUMC from a traditional IRA by utilizing a tool called a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) to support the Church. A QCD always delivers tax benefits, while "regular" charitable donations might not, depending on your tax situation.

A QCD is a direct transfer from your traditional IRA to a qualified charity, like CUMC. At 70½, you may transfer up to \$105,000 annually from your IRA for charitable purposes without adding one penny to your taxable income. Your spouse may also do the same from his or her IRA.

At age 73, the IRS requires you to distribute a certain amount, called the required minimum distribution (RMD), from your IRA whether you need the funds or not. For many IRA account holders, the taxes on this distribution can be a significant burden. But with a QCD, the amount you give may count toward your RMD. **If you are required to take income from your retirement account, please consider directing some of that to support CUMC and its various ministries.** Two of the benefits include: (1) You don't pay taxes on the QCD distribution and (2) It helps keep your tax bracket, Medicare premium, and costs of Social Security benefits lower.

If you choose to include CUMC's Endowment Fund in your QCD, your gift will make an ongoing difference for years to come. Your connection with the church's ministries and/or missions goes beyond the present and becomes a part of you forever because **your gift works forever!**

For more information about the Endowment Fund or if you would like to make a gift or participate in "Planned Giving" to the Fund through your will, trust, estate, life insurance, IRA, or other bequest, email: giving@carmelumc.org or pick up a brochure at the Welcome Center for more information.



621 S. Range Line Road
Carmel, IN 46032

Phone: 317-844-7275
E-mail: caremail@carmelumc.org
www.carmelumc.org



At Carmel UMC we are connecting with God and others, growing in faith and love through Biblical learning, and serving our community and world as followers of Jesus Christ.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

THE CONTACT MAY 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS

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PRESCHOOL LAMINATOR

LOOK INSIDE

for more information about all the happenings at CUMC!

Mission Focus: Family Promise

Summer Worship Schedule

Shane Claiborne - Sunday 5/19 - 5pm

Seniors & Scholarships Sunday 5/12