

# #THE CONTACT

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM CARMEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH // JUNE 2025



## June 2025

- Summer Worship Times
- Celebration Sunday on June 8 with Luncheon
- Vacation Bible School - True North
- Mission of the Month: Vacation Bible School
- Youth Wednesdays - Join us & bring a friend or two!
- Renovate & Elevate

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## A Note from Pastor Tim Burchill

I came across a quote from one of my favorite authors, C.S. Lewis: ***“Nothing that you have not given away will ever be really yours.”*** *I’m working on a sermon about sacrifice and this quote just stayed lodged in my brain. You can’t take it with you, is the popular phrase which either means, “spend it if you’ve got it” or “make the biggest difference you can with what God has entrusted to you.” But I’m intrigued with the idea that for something to really be ours we have to give it away.*

*If we try to hold on tightly to material things there is much in life that will try and wrestle it from our grip, and in the end those things we hold so closely will be left to someone else. If we give to another what we’ve been blessed with, we get to enjoy the pleasure and joy it gives them here and now as well as knowing that we have fulfilled our calling as good and faithful stewards of God.*

*There was a successful billionaire Charles “Chuck” Feeney who was the co-founder of Duty Free Shoppers. At some point Feeney realized that he didn’t so much need 8 billion dollars and made it his great project to give the money away in order to help others. This wasn’t a radical change since Feeney lived very modestly—no car, no house of his own, and he wore a \$10 watch. His philosophy was captured in his motto: “Giving while living.”*

Feeney believed in making a difference during his lifetime rather than waiting until death. By the time he officially closed The Atlantic Philanthropies in 2020, he had achieved his goal of giving away his entire fortune. And he had a ball doing it.

As we move toward making commitments to our Capital Campaign these are the ideas that are rattling around in my head. If we want to keep something, really have it forever, then we have to give away.

We give it away with love. We give it away out of gratitude for what we’ve received. We give it away because generosity is part of the image of God that lies within us. Finally, we give it away because blessing others brings us freedom and joy.

I don’t think you can go down this road very long without considering the words of Jesus from Luke 17: “Whoever tries to keep their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life will preserve it.” It’s a paradoxical teaching, but I think it is about surrender and about finding in God so much more than we could ever provide for ourselves.

I am a proud pastor of a passionate and generous congregation of women and men. Whatever the outcome of our Renovate and Elevate campaign, I know that I am surrounded by folks who love one another and love their church. Honestly, I don’t worry that we won’t reach our goal. I’m already starting to think of improvements to make with the money that is given above and beyond our campaign goal!



Pastor Tim



Renovating Our Spaces, Elevating Our Future



# CHURCH UPDATES

## Joys & Concerns

There are no reported joys or concerns for this issue.

## PRAYER CONCERNS

**CUMC E-PRAYER CHAIN:** If you would like to receive the list of prayer needs, and be a prayer warrior for CUMC, please [CLICK HERE](#) for a simple form, adding you to the list of **PRAYING PEOPLE**.

If you have a prayer request for the team to pray for, send it in email to Ed King, [edking722@gmail.com](mailto:edking722@gmail.com). These prayer concern are for the e-list only. If it is a concern you would wish to have announced in worship, see NEXT info.

**PRAYER MENTIONS in WORSHIP** are separate. You must let Sue Burchill, [sburchill@carmelumc.org](mailto:sburchill@carmelumc.org), know the concern, and we must have permission from the immediate family in order to mention any prayer concerns during worship.



Join us for....  
**Summer Online Worship Livestream**

**TRAD: 10:30am & CONTEMP: 10:45am**  
Through the entire summer \*ex: June 8

[carmelumc.org/sermons](http://carmelumc.org/sermons)

**2025 Summer Worship Schedule**  
(begins on SUNDAY May 25, 2025)\*

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

\* June 8: we will have **TWO** blended services at 9:00am & 10:30am for our celebration Sunday.

## Renovate & Elevate

Renovating Our Spaces, Elevating Our Future

[carmelumc.org/capitalcampaign](http://carmelumc.org/capitalcampaign)

Our capital campaign website has links to all the information we have sent out, and the devotional that we gave to everyone last week.

## Celebration Sunday

Join us on **June 8** for 9am worship or 10:30am worship and join us for lunch afterwards. RSVP by June 2, so we can order enough dinners for everyone!

**RSVP by June 2 for a FREE LUNCH on June 8.**

Click this graphic, or the link below to RSVP NOW!

**CELEBRATION SUNDAY**  
**Sunday June 8**

9:00am - Blended Service  
10:30am - Blended Service

Both services will be in the sanctuary




**SUNDAY, JUNE 8**  
**ALL CHURCH CELEBRATION**  
Come join us! No cost to anyone!  
Sunday, June 8  
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Family Life Center Open  
Questions? See Clerk Rhonda or Pam Thomas  
Half price BBQ chicken, pit barbeque, rolls, green beans, coleslaw & drinks

**Remember to RSVP by 6/2 for the meal at**  
[carmelumc.org/events](http://carmelumc.org/events)

### June 8: Commitment Sunday

Commitment cards will be returned during worship as we offer the response God has led us to make.

### June 22: Announcement Sunday

We will celebrate the faithfulness of God and the collective generosity of our church family as we announce the grand total of three-year commitments.

| JUNE |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Su   | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
| 1    | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 8    | 9  | 13 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15   | 16 | 20 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22   | 23 | 27 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29   | 30 | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |

### June 29 & July 6: First Fruit Offerings

All will be invited to make a first-portion gift to go towards their commitment. This is the official start of the giving period.

| JULY |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Su   | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
| 29   | 30 | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 6    | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13   | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20   | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27   | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |



# SUMMER

# 2025

## Children's Ministry

CARMEL  
— UNITED METHODIST —  
CHURCH

**Summer Sunday School**  
**Jun 15 - Aug 3, 10:45am-11:30am**  
Preschool Age 3+ and Elementary

**Preschool Playground - OPEN\*\***  
**Tuesdays 9:00am-10:30am**  
June 3 - July 29

**Garden Group & Gaga Ball\*\***  
**Thursdays 6:00pm-7:30pm**  
June 5 - July 31

**Preschool Playground - OPEN\*\***  
**Thursdays 6:00pm-7:30pm**  
June 5 - July 31

**\*\*Weather Permitting - Check Carmel UMC  
social media for weather cancellations**

**\*\*this is not a drop-off event, responsible  
adult will need to stay & supervise their kid/s**

*Welcome to*  
**Summer  
Sunday School**

**June 15 - August 3  
10:45am-11:30am**





**JUNE 8-11, 2025**

**Sunday - Wednesday**

**6:00pm-8:30pm**

Age 5 by June 8, 2025  
through Current 4th  
graders

Leadership Training for  
current 5th and 6th  
graders

Current 7th grade  
through adults can  
Volunteer for station and  
crew leaders!

Childcare available for  
Infants through  
Preschool so parents can  
participate in VBS



**[carmelumc.org/vbs](http://carmelumc.org/vbs)**

**DONATE**

THANK YOU for the  
donations that make VBS  
possible! Christmas Trees,  
snacks, supplies - and most  
importantly - thank you for  
your time!

\*\* During the week of VBS, starting on Sunday, we will be talking about how we can help others, and we will have boxes in the Gathering Place to collect: CEREAL (for the Food Pantry), New or Gently used BOOKS (for ages toddler through middle school), New or gently used COATS, hats, mittens, gloves, scarves (all sizes), and NEW STUFFED ANIMALS. You, or your child, can bring these in ANY EVENING and place them in the donation boxes all week.





## SEEKING Part Time Teaching Assistant

The Carmel UMC Preschool is seeking a Part Time Teaching Assistant. Interested candidates should email resumes to ([sholl@carmelumc.org](mailto:sholl@carmelumc.org)).

From all of us at CUMC Preschool,  
we wish you a **VERY HAPPY SUMMER!!!**

## REGISTRATION FOR 2025-26

### Carmel UMC Preschool

We still have a few openings remaining  
in our BUNNIES class (18 mos.)

Contact Stephanie Holl at [sholl@carmelumc.org](mailto:sholl@carmelumc.org)  
if you would like to enroll your child.

[carmelumc.org/preschool](http://carmelumc.org/preschool)



If you or someone you know is interested in joining our CUMC Preschool family, please contact us at **317-844-1958** or Stephanie Holl at [sholl@carmelumc.org](mailto:sholl@carmelumc.org). Information about our class offerings and registration process is on our website:

[carmelumc.org/preschool](http://carmelumc.org/preschool).

# THANK YOU to CUMC for a great year!



# ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

Rev. Jessica Stevens • [jstevens@carmelumc.org](mailto:jstevens@carmelumc.org)

## Lebanon Children's Home Tour

The *RuthAnna Circle* will have their final meeting **on Tuesday, June 10**. We will be traveling by fifteen passenger vans to the Lebanon Children's home for a tour of the facilities. Jessica Stevens and Rick Belbutoski, our new youth minister, will be our drivers.. There will be a **ten dollar charge** and you must have a reservation to attend. **RSVP by June 7** to one of the emails below. We will meet at the church at 9:15am and embark by 9:30am. The tour will take approximately one hour and a half. **RSVP:** Members should contact Katie Kessler ([gmacovi@aol.com](mailto:gmacovi@aol.com)), or Donna Skeens ([donnaskeens@gmail.com](mailto:donnaskeens@gmail.com)) for reservations. Lunch arrangements to be determined.

## GARDEN GROUP

The Garden Group is meeting on Thursdays throughout the summer. We meet every week, and if the weather is bad, we meet inside the food pantry. Join us any time. ♥ If you have questions or want to help on another day of the week, contact Stephanie Fairfield at [sjfairfield@comcast.net](mailto:sjfairfield@comcast.net)



## MISSIONS MINISTRY

Carol Outland • [missions@carmelumc.org](mailto:missions@carmelumc.org)

## June 2025

## June is "VBS" Month

June 2025-MISSION FOCUS: Loose coins will go to:

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Loose coins will go directly towards VBS, and anything that you specifically mark for VBS ("VBS" on the memo line or on the envelope).

## VBS Needs Our Love!

Vacation Bible School is the largest outreach in attendance & budget in Children's Ministry. Carmel UMC continues to offer **free registration** for VBS. We can do this because of the support of the annual operating budget, donations (supplies, snacks, loose change) and volunteers! Thank you for your loose coins, volunteering, cash donations, and snack donations! VBS is fun for the whole family!

All **SIMPLY GIVE** cards that are scanned until June 28 at the **CARMEL Meijer** will benefit the CUMC food Pantry. Tell everyone!! **DOUBLE MATCH DAY** is June 14!!



[Click here to learn more...](#)



**FOOD PANTRY NEEDS: TOILET PAPER!**

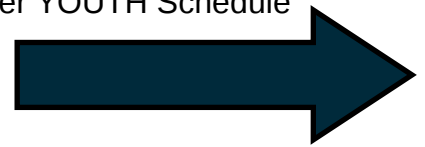
This will be the biggest need at the pantry this month



# Rick BELBUTOSKI



Summer YOUTH Schedule



"God's timing is perfect." That's a phrase I've heard since I was in youth group as a teen. And if I haven't yet, I hope to meet you soon.

I was driving my five year old, Maddie, to pre-school one morning when she asked, "Am I going to get to go Bible camp again this summer?" After five years in Minneapolis, MN, my little family of three returned, now a family of five, to Hamilton County. We were ready to find a church home, as Carmel UMC was looking for its next Youth Director. Perfect timing.

Both Maddie, and her sister, Olivia, age 9, signed up VBS this month. My wife, Erin, and I are glad that our youngest, one-year-old, Will, does fine in the nursery. And my first few weeks on the job have been great.

Joining in the End of the Year celebration with the youth has been an early highlight. As Ryan prepares to transition to his appointment in New Mexico, I told the youth, "This isn't my youth group, it's theirs, and they're the ones who are going to make this next chapter of CUMC's youth program special." I'm excited to spend the summer developing relationships with youth and parents, and am excited for a great kickoff in the fall.

In the meantime, June is going to be an exciting month for Carmel Youth. The Cross Missions trip is underway, and the youth are returning to a summer schedule, with programming offered on Wednesday nights from 6-8 pm, and will be doing another parking lot fundraiser during Carmel Fest.

Gratefully,

Rick



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

# YOUTH MINISTRY

Rick Belbutoski • [youth@carmelumc.org](mailto:youth@carmelumc.org)



## SUMMER SCHEDULE

*June* 18

*June* 25

*July* 9

*July* 16

*July* 23

*July* 30

6PM | DOOR 3



## WILDERNESS TRAIL

Our Wilderness Trail trip is being opened to our young adults! Contact Rick for more information!



## WANNA VOLUNTEER?

DO YOU ENJOY THE SWEET AROMA OF FAST FOOD IN A 15-PASSENGER VAN AND THE THRILL OF BEING PELTED BY DODGEBALLS? DO YOU THRIVE ON CAFFEINE, CHAOS, AND CONTROLLED MAYHEM? CONGRATULATIONS—YOU MIGHT JUST BE YOUTH LEADER MATERIAL.



JOIN US ON JUNE 29TH FOR  
CIRCLE CITY RELIEF  
MEET AT THE CHURCH AT 9AM

*Contact Rick:*

[rbelbutoski@carmelumc.org](mailto:rbelbutoski@carmelumc.org)

# Ever wonder what is above when you are worshiping in the Sanctuary?

Well of course there is the ceiling, the sky and God.

Between the sanctuary ceiling and roof is a very large attic that provides for weather proofing, attic ventilation, down spot lighting, audio/video wiring and insulation.

In the past, Warren (our maintenance saint) and others have had to carefully walk across steel i-beams in a dark attic to replace lights or run new AV wiring or check for roof leaks.

| No sanctuary attic board walk  | With NEW sanctuary attic board walk   |
|--|---|
|  |  |

In early May, Carmel United Methodist Church Building Trustees approved use of \$3,297 in operating reserve funds to build a front to back sanctuary board walk. After the main walk was built, 90 degree branching sidewalks were built to service and replace all ceiling mounted lights. In addition, long life LEDs were strung along the board to provide lighting.

As a result of this investment in reducing deadly fall risk, the church will see lower costs for installing new sanctuary ceiling lights, running A/V wiring and increasing insulation in attic to R-49 (a higher insulation value).







## New A/I System Installed at CUMC's Preschool Door #6!

Stephanie Holl, Director of the CUMC Preschool, and her dedicated staff are excited to announce the installation of a new A/I Door Phone (video intercom station) at Door #6. This important security upgrade, costing \$4,207, enhances the safety of the Preschool wing and mirrors the existing system at Door #3 (entrance to the Gathering Space).

The new system provides clear visual and audio communication with all visitors during preschool hours, ensuring a safer environment for our children, families, and staff.

This upgrade was made possible through the generous support of the **Ruth Lindsey Preschool Endowment Fund**, named in honor of Ruth Lindsey, the Preschool's first Director. Established over 20 years ago, this fund continues to play a vital role in supporting the Preschool's mission.

The Preschool staff extend their heartfelt thanks to all who have contributed to the Ruth Lindsey Fund. Your generosity has had a direct and meaningful impact—thank you for helping to keep our children safe and our community strong.



A/I system monitor in office



S. Holl at outside camera



Outside Preschool Door 6

If you wish to make a gift (or Planned Gift) to the Ruth Lindsey Preschool Endowment Fund, contact the church office or our Financial Secretary, Dale Hughes.

*But Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 19:14 ESV*

**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: [plannedgiving@carmelumc.org](mailto:plannedgiving@carmelumc.org) or pick up a brochure at the Welcome Center for more information.**





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*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

# Renovate & Elevate

Renovating Our Spaces, Elevating Our Future

Join us for Celebration Sunday!

June 8, Meal following—[RSVP Please!](#)

## THE CONTACT JUNE 2025

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