

Greenwood United Methodist Church
 525 N Madison Avenue
 Greenwood IN 46142-4048

Non-Profit Organization
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Permit No. 80
 Greenwood Indiana

JANUARY 2012



The Spire

Greenwood United Methodist Church

SUNDAY SCHEDULE
 Sunday School for all ages 9:00 am
 Worship 10:15 am
 Youth Group (grades 6-12) 3-5 pm
 Need a ride? Call the office 317-881-1653
 Monday-Friday, 9 am to 1 pm

January Dates of Interest

- 1 Sunday School, 9 am
 Epiphany Sunday, 10:15 am
 No Youth Group
- 2 Office & preschool closed
- 3 Beth Moore Part II begins
- 4 Pre-K classes resume
- 5 3s & 4s classes resumes
- 8 Sunday School, 9 am
 Worship, 10:15 am
 Missions, 11:15 am
 Youth Group, 3 pm
- 15 Sunday School, 9 am
 Worship, 10:15 am
 Youth Group, 3 pm
- 16 MLK—Office & preschool closed
- 17 Trustees, 7 pm
- 18 Prime Timers to Incredible Pizza
- 20 UMW Exec. Council, 9:30 am
- 22 Sunday School, 9 am
 Worship, 10:15 am
 Youth Group, 3 pm
- 28 UMM at Greenwood Village, 8 am
- 29 Sunday School, 9 am
 Worship, 10:15 am
 Ad Council, 11:30 am
 Youth Group, 3 pm
- 30 Small Group Leader/Host Retreat

**Johnson County UM Churches
 3rd ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE
 for
 Local Food Pantries
 January 15-February 26**




For seven Sundays each of the JoCo UM cluster churches will collect specific items for local food pantries. There is always a great need to restock the pantry after the holidays. GUMC will collect paper products & hygiene items. Pick up a list of suggested items in the Gathering Place.

We will have a Collection Celebration & Concert of Prayer at the end of the drive at Smith Valley UMC on Sunday, February 26 at 5 p.m. All items will be collected before the concert from 3-5 p.m.

GREENWOOD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 IN THE ♥ OF THE COMMUNITY WITH THE COMMUNITY IN ITS ♥

525 North Madison Avenue
 Greenwood, Indiana 46142
 Phone: 317-881-1653
 Fax: 317-881-1660
 E-mail: office@greenwoodumc.org

PREVIEW OF COMING EVENTS

	February 6	Pre-K Classes Trip to National Institute for Fitness & Sport
	12	International Missions Dinner & Concert Benefit
	22	Ash Wednesday
	26	Concert of Prayer for Food Drive at Franklin Grace UMC

THE SPIRE
 IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY
 BY GREENWOOD UMC

DEADLINE FOR COPY: THE FIRST BUSINESS DAY
 BEFORE THE 15TH OF MONTH.

EDITOR: CAROL MACMILLAN
 CAROLMAC@GREENWOODUMC.ORG

PASTOR: REV. IN SUK PEEBLES
 INSUKPEEBLES@GREENWOODUMC.ORG

THE SHEPHERD'S TABLE



**The Shepherd's Table
 Tuesdays, 11 am to 1 pm
 Free Lunch & Fellowship
 Everyone is welcome!**

Everyone is invited to come and enjoy a warm meal. Need a ride? Any GUMC member is encouraged to call the office and we'll arrange pick up and return.

Who's coming to the Table? Our most important guests are those in need. We are so happy to serve them. Other diners include staff members, volunteers, outside groups who meet at our church, preschool parents and Faithful Esther Circle members. Come to the table!

Want to help? Check out the bulletin board next to the kitchen door to sign up to volunteer or shop for needed luncheon ingredients. Monetary donations are always appreciated, as well. Questions? See Julie Penoff or Jane Stillely.

While I'm away...



I am leaving for Seoul, South Korea on January 9 to visit my parents whom I haven't seen in five years. I will return January 23. Usually when people go away for an extended period of time they ask a friend to take care of things while they're away. I have asked Rev. David Mark Owens, Rev. David V.W. Owen (Executive Assistant to Bishop Mike Coyner) and Rev. Bob Coleman to celebrate worship with you until I return. Rev. David Mark Owens will be the pastoral emergency back-up. Always call the office first if possible, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. If it is an after-hours true pastoral emergency, call Rev. Owens cell number: 317-919-1131.

I am asking you, dear friends, to take care of a few things for me, too. David and Faith will be staying here. Please watch after them and give them some extra TLC while I'm gone. As well, please take care of each other—checking in on our homebound, visiting those that may be in the hospital, helping out our new youth director as well as all staff and committee members who will carry on the day-to-day operations of the church.

Something else you could do for me is turn in your commitment card if you have not yet done so. We really wanted to set the 2012 budget based on your extravagant generosity before I left for Korea. We are half-way to our \$300,000 operating budget goal and that is from less than one-fourth of the families who are church members. Please help us continue the work of God's kingdom here at GUMC. If we all do a little, it will be enough. For any questions contact: 317-881-1653; office@greenwoodumc.org.

We are setting more than monetary goals for 2012. We want to grow attendance. All churches in the district must now report their attendance weekly to the central office as a part of the Vital Congregations* charge from Bishop Coyner. How can we grow church attendance? In October 2010 The Institute for American Church Growth surveyed over 10,000 people and asked: "What was responsible for your coming to Christ and this church?" Here are the results:

- I attended a gospel meeting -0.5%
- I visited there -1%
- I had a special need -2%
- I just walked in -3%
- I liked the programs -3%
- I like the Bible classes -5%
- I like the minister -6%
- A friend or relative invited me -79%



So this is my last request. Invite family or friends to church—to worship or Sunday School or a Bible Study. Ask a family member to volunteer with you at The Shepherd's Table. Bring a friend to a youth group meeting. All you need to do is ask. Let the Holy Spirit take over from there and guide them.

Happy New Year to each of you! May your year include His Grace in all your endeavors.

Love in Christ,

Pastor In Suk

*To learn more about Vital Congregations, visit www.umvitalcongregations.org.

NEW!

Beth Moore Bible Study Daniel Part II

Begins Tuesday, January 3 @ 5:30 pm and goes for 6 weeks in the library. We will be using the same book as Part I. If you need a book, please call me as soon as possible. Gloria Hubbuch @ 709-0939.

New Small Groups Coming

The Financial Peace University program and a Health & Fitness small group are in the works! Want to know more? Call Gloria Hubbuch @ 709-0939.

A Consideration of the Days of Holy Week

Rev. David Mark Owens will lead this Bible study on Sundays @ 9 am beginning February 19. The study will continue until Easter Sunday, April 8.



Central District Leadership Training for New & Experienced Committee Members

For SPRC members*, Worship, Missions, Finance, Ad Council, Social media and communication & clergy spouses.

Three sessions offered:

Thursday Jan. 26, 7-8:30 pm
Plainfield UMC

Sunday Jan. 29, 1:30-5 pm
Avon UMC (2 sessions)

Free; call 317-924-4140 to register.

*SPRC is offered on Sunday only and will be led by Rev. Bert Kite.

Want some help with those New Year resolutions?

OASIS CLASSES

The new OASIS catalogs are at the Welcome Center desk. Exercise classes at GUMC are on Tuesdays & Thursdays. For more information visit their website at oasisnet.org/indianapolis or call their office: 317-396-3751.

BRICKS-TO-BRICKS TRAINING

This 15-week training program meets on Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m. It is for walkers & runners—beginners to advanced—and starts Wednesday, January 25. The training is free to all GUMC members since they use our church as a training site. For more details, visit their website: www.kenlongassoc.com/events/bricks11.php

TOPS—Take Off Pounds Sensibly

Fridays at GUMC
Weigh-In: 9-9:30 am
Meeting & Program: 9:30-10:30 am

Many thanks!

Thank you for remembering us with cookies, fudge, cakes, noodles, baklava, gifts, cards and many heartfelt Christmas greetings! Your kindness is overwhelming!
Many blessings!
Pastor In Suk & Staff

Thanks to you, thirty-one people had a wonderful Christmas. Bless each of you for taking ornaments from the Angel Tree and making wishes come true for five Johnson County families. You are the angels!
GUMC Missions Committee

We want to thank all donors, cooks, servers, greeters, shoppers & diners who make The Shepherd's Table possible each week! A special thank you to Greg Stillely for building the new shelves in the Suter Hall closet and to Monty Sprong who has done so many things for us from mopping the floors to making sure we are up to code for kitchen inspections.
In His Service,
Julie Penoff & Jane Stillely

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN NEWS



If you are weeding out any Christmas decorations, cleaning out your garage or closets, please consider donating your still useable items to us. Take larger items to Tom Anthony's

State Farm Office (825 N. Madison.) Bring smaller items to the stage area in choir room. The UMW Rummage Sale is set for March 22 & 23.

There are no UMW general meetings during January or February.

The next Executive Committee meeting is Friday, January 20 at 9:30 a.m.

Do you use Campbells' products? Please remember to save your product labels for Red Bird Missions. It's an easy thing to do! A brochure listing participating products is available in the Gathering Place. Pick one up and keep it in your kitchen. You'd be surprised how many products you use Every day that can help the children in the Appalachian region.

Faithful Esther Circle does not meet in January or February. Stay warm! Come to the Shepherd's Table for lunch!



"Men growing in Christ, so others may know Christ."

Please join us at our next meeting:

**Saturday, January 28
8 a.m.
Greenwood Village South Arms**

Breakfast is available for \$7.00. Please sign up in the Gathering Place or call the office to add your name. I

Thanks to everyone who donated cookies for our service men and women!



We collected over 1,000 dozen cookies! The cookies were enjoyed by troops at two USOs, Camp Muscatatuck Training Center and Camp Atterbury.

Rev. Owens said they were very much appreciated and the troops ate them as fast as they came in!



**Dinner & Concert Benefit
Sunday, February 12**

Benefit for international missions: Heifer Project, Laura Steed & Gail LeRoy. Mark your calendar now and plan to attend to support these worthwhile missions.

Next Missions Committee meeting is January 8 after worship.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

James Davis

Jim & Janet Davis were members of GUMC before moving south. They still have many family & friends here. There will be a memorial service for Jim here on Saturday, January 28 at 2 p.m.

GUMC Annual Statements

It will take us a week or so to 'close the books' and then print out the 2011 Giving Statements. You should receive them on or before January 31. If there are any discrepancies in your statement, contact Carol Macmillan at 881-1653.

IMPORTANT: If you are new or have moved this past year please call the office to verify your address in our database.

Mission Giving Record

We don't have the final numbers for 2011 yet but we can look back at 2010 and be very proud of the good works we accomplished. We tithe faithfully to the conference mission and 2% to the district mission. The following is over and above!

UMW	3,847.10
Faith Promise	16,844.90
General Mission	3,747.00
Brightwood	251.00
Advance Specials	1,227.00
UMCOR	512.00
Special Offerings	<u>772.00</u>
TOTAL	27,165.85

You do make a difference in this world!

Fruitful Congregations Journey Phase II—It's for everyone!

Taking a long, hard look at ourselves

Thanks to everyone who turned in the Fruitful Congregations Journey (FCJ) survey last month. What happens next? An FCJ consultant will be with us the weekend of March 2-4. Here's a brief description of the weekend:

- March 2 Staff interview; Pastor & spouse interview; interview with focus group of GUMC
- 3 Meeting with Ad Council; all church workshop followed by lunch
- 4 Worship; Town Hall meeting for everyone to hear the FCJ consultant's report

PRIME TIMERS go places!



Wednesday, January 18, 11:30 a.m.
Lunch at The Incredible Pizza Company. Call for a ride.

Wednesday, January 4, 1 p.m.
Trip planning meeting in the library.

Remember, everyone is welcome. There are no age requirements or restrictions. Call Missy Johnson, Virginia Dungan, Joyce Wall, Evelyn Cannon or Judy McKenzie if you have any other trip suggestions or questions.

Attendance History

2007	2008	2009	2010	2011*
7537	7197	7211	6894	6351*
145	138	139	133	127*

*year-to-date as of December 22

Attendance Goals

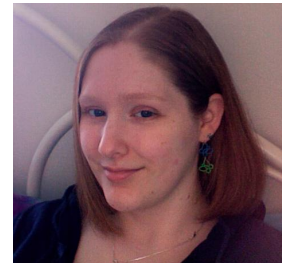
2012	2013	2014	2015
200	250	300	350

How would you increase attendance at Greenwood UMC? As noted in Pastor In Suk's monthly message the answer is simple. You invite someone to worship! Just ask! Let the Holy Spirit do the rest.

YOUTH NEWS

**G
O
G
Y
G**

Greenwood Youth Group (6th-12 graders)



From the New Youth Director:

I thought about starting this with statements like, "I am very excited about becoming a part of the Greenwood UMC ministry," and "I look forward to getting to know everyone." But while true, those often sound like insincere, canned statements at best.

And then I thought that maybe I should start with letting you know a bit about myself and tell you things like, "I grew up and still live in Mooresville," and "I have been a volunteer youth leader at Mooresville 1st UMC for the past four years." Or perhaps telling you that "I graduated from Ball State with a degree in advertising and minor in digital media." But those things don't seem, to me, to really tell you very much about myself.

I considered writing about my love of music and reading, my hobby of making jewelry, or my interest in graphic and image design. But all of that too seemed a bit trivial.

And so I settled upon a statement from a friend that, in many ways, expresses my life: "If we are to transform the world, it will not be through ideology but through a practice of a new way of being."

I know, it probably seems a strange statement to describe oneself with but I find it to be true. And it shapes me. To me, it means you need to have a life in faith...not just some faith in your life. To me, it means that you study and learn in order to do and not just in order to know. It doesn't do large amounts of good to only talk and dream about God's kingdom becoming reality in the world around me. I have to act. I have to live it out. Every day. In everything I do. I don't always get it right, but I'm following the one who did—Jesus Christ.

I am thrilled to come and be a part of living that out here with all of you. And I am excited to join in helping to lead the youth to learn what it means to live out their faith.

In Christ's Love,
Katie Esterline

Katie begins on January 1. She will be mentored by Jenny Weber, who currently serves as interim youth director, and Beth Hicks, chair of the Youth Advisory Council. Please welcome Katie to GUMC!

Many thanks to Jenny Weber who volunteered as interim youth director the past five months. Her dedication to the youth at GUMC through the youth group as well as Boy Scouting is exceptional. God bless you!

Greenwood Youth Group will continue to meet on Sundays, 3-5 p.m. in the GYG room.

**WELCOME,
KATIE!**

**THANKS,
JENNY!**

YOUTH NEWS



Confirmation Classes Begin January 29

Have you been confirmed? Are you ready to commit your life in faith? Pastor In Suk will lead the 2012 Confirmation Class. Join her Sundays 4:30-6 pm starting Jan. 29 through March 25. Anyone 6th grade and up is eligible to be confirmed. Sign up in the Gathering Place.



GUMC PRESCHOOL NEWS FOR JANUARY

This month we will be talking about winter and changes cold weather brings.

The 3s and 4s will be increasing their skill levels and be encouraged to do more independent work.

Pre-K classes will be working on recognizing alphabet letters and their sounds. The letters this month are Nn, Ww, and Hh. No letter the last week. Please reinforce these letters at home. Tuesdays are show & tell and your child is to bring in something that starts with the letter of the week.

10 Pre-K Field Trip to Clowes Hall*
*Both classes at 8:45 a.m.

16 No School—MLK Day
19 PJs Day—wear your pjs
23 Hat Day—wear a hat
24 Camping Day—bring a blanket or throw. No sleeping bags. Bring flashlights and/or binoculars if you have them.

26 Pre-K to Southern Bowl
27 3s & 4s to Southern Bowl*
*Both classes at 10 a.m.

We are learning to count to 20 in Spanish. Also, ask your child how we say 'thank you' and 'you're welcome' in Spanish.

Looking ahead: Pre-K classes will combine on Monday, Feb. 6 to go to the National Institute for Fitness & Sport. EVERYONE should be here at 9 am sharp!



Reminder: We follow the Center Grove close schedule in bad weather. We do not have delays though.



ACOLYTE & CROSS BEARER (CB) SCHEDULE



Month	Day	Names
January	1	Conner Terhune Maecee Terhune Garrett Terhune-CB
	8	Michael Loper Riley Weber Michael Stivers-CB
	15	Ryan Gribble Faith Peebles Margaret Stivers-CB
	22	Garrett Terhune A.J. Vleck Sam Hicks-CB
	29	Faith Peebles Alyssa Stilley Olivia Stilley-CB

All acolytes & cross bearers will be acknowledged on January 1 with a token of appreciation. Please attend if you are able. Questions? Call Jane Stilley.