

THE PLEASANT TRAVELER
November 2020

Pleasant Chapel
880 E 1100 N Roanoke, IN 46783
260-519-5324
www.pleasantchapel.org
Sunday School 9:00 am

Joel Yeager, pastor
260-229-4994
info@pleasantchapel.org
Worship 10:00am

*Gather together and ask
the Lord's Blessing*





Nov 4 Eden Wisel
 Nov 7 Solomon Fairchild
 Nov 10 Sara Michael
 Nov 14 Karen Sherbahn
 Nov 14 Hadley Parsons
 Nov 18 Olean Sheets
 Nov 19 Cindy Fairchild
 Nov 21 Karla Yeager
 Nov 24 Cory Ayers
 Nov 28 Larry Hand
 Nov 30 Samantha Sherbahn

November Greeters

Nov 1 Ryon and Gavin
 Nov 8 Aaron and Austin
 Nov 15 Reece and Lizzie
 Nov 22 Phil and Nicole
 Nov 29 Tom and Tammy L.

November Acolytes

Nov 1 Hands
 Nov 8 Ayers
 Nov 15 Hands
 Nov 22 Wisels
 Nov 29 Amicks

December Greeters

Dec 6 Larry and Joyce
 Dec 13 Julie and Lillian
 Dec 20 Brent and Matt
 Dec 27 Candy and Kevin

December Acolytes

Dec 6 Colclessers
 Dec 13 Magnusons
 Dec 20 Amicks
 Dec 27 Hands

Anniversaries

Nov 1 John and Betty Rogers
 Nov 5 Mark and Deanne Hoffman
 Nov 6 Andy and Andrea Amic
 Nov 16 Rev. Marvin and Sue Grooms
 Nov 27 John and Deloris Smith

NOVEMBER 2020

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 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 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

Events

Nov 2 – Bible study @ Parsons 6:30
Nov 8 – Charge Conference (Zoom meeting at Pleasant Chapel) 5:00 pm.
Nov 9 – Bible study @ Parsons 6:30
Nov 11 - UMW @Joann's home 1:00
Nov 15 – Please return Samaritan Purse shoe boxes to the church. Put them in the pew or on the floor near the organ
Nov 16 – Bible study @ Parsons 6:30
Nov 22 – Hanging of the Greens
Nov 23 – Bible study @ Parsons 6:30
Nov 26 - Have a blessed Thanksgiving
Nov 29 – Advent Begins
Nov 29 – Disaffiliation Informational Meeting 11:00 am
Nov 30 – Bible study @ Parsons 6:30
Dec 2 – Disaffiliation Informational Meeting 6:00 pm
Dec 6 – Church Conference to vote on disaffiliation

United Methodist Women

The Pleasant Chapel UMW met on October 7 at 9:00 am at the church. In preparation for Rally Day the following Sunday, cleaning was done. Those helping were Jill, Ellen, Joyce, Joann, Cynthia, Gayl, Vicki, Pam, and Joel.

At noon, we had our monthly business meeting.

Minutes were read and approved. Treasurer's report was given. Cards were signed for birthdays and to friends.

Advanced plans were made for our December meeting.

Joyce Hand served a delicious meal for lunch.

Thank you to each one who has furnished snacks for the coffee/cookie table. Everyone enjoys this (looking forward to getting back to this?)

Bible Studies - All are invited to Parson's home each Monday at 6:30 (unless otherwise announced) for an hour of study and discussion.



Thank you from "Blessings in a Backpack" for our donations for Huntington County Schools.

Samaritan Purse
 Each one that is filing a Samaritan Purse Operation Christmas Children Box, please

bring it to the church by Sunday, November 15 and put in the front pew or near the organ.



Thank you from Michelle and Mike Payton to the church for the opportunity they had to share their music with us at our Rally Day on October 11th during the worship service. They enjoyed the fellowship and also the meal that was served.

Church Growth Spurt

The intention of reprinting much of this is that all Pleasant Chapel stakeholders are informed of what is happening with the church and why.

(REPRINTED FROM SEPTEMBER *Traveler* - changes in RED, November additions in BLUE) The Executive Board has been meeting to discuss several things regarding the church and its overall ministries. The church is at a unique time since we went through several weeks where church service could not normally meet and current services are limited in time and attendance due to the restrictions COVID-19 has placed upon us.

But as we looking toward the other side of this, it is a great time to consider a *re-booting* of church. Now is

a great time to consider what the church could be doing differently in order that overall church would become more effective to those who attend as well as being attractive to the unchurched in our community.

The Executive Board is therefore discussing ideas regarding

- church affiliation with the United Methodist Church
- discipleship opportunities for youth and adults
- facility maintenance and upgrades (a new "life center" or "fellowship hall" addition to the existing building)
- improvements to Sunday morning worship service accommodating the styles of all attenders
- service projects beyond the walls of this church

One of the first areas of work is the decision to remain connected with the United Methodist Church or to explore other options. The committee believes that this one needs some resolution before continuing with the other items. Last fall the church had an exploratory committee to consider disaffiliation. At that time, that committee unanimously decide to pursue this. Then COVID hit. The topic is now up again with the Executive Board and they voted to take the step to have the Northeast District provide the church with the financial obligations Pleasant Chapel would have *if* the church did disaffiliate.

The committee is NOT deciding to disaffiliate, but rather find out what the church's cost would be to do

such. In order for the church to disaffiliate (at a later time) 2/3 of the voting members would have to agree to disaffiliation. If that happens, there will be opportunity for discussion from everyone regarding this important decision.

The Board has received from the District the financial cost to disaffiliate (not including any legal fees which the church may incur)

Therefore, the church will provide opportunities for the entire congregation to hear and discuss the pros and cons of United Methodist denominational affiliation.

Why the church is considering this at this time can be summed up in the form of two questions, each of which all Pleasant Chapel attenders should be praying about:

1. Can Pleasant Chapel be more effective as a church remaining in the denomination or disaffiliating from the UMC?

2. How important is it for Pleasant Chapel to use this opportunity to acquire and retain the church assets such as the building, the property and finances (currently all assets are held in trust by the Annual Conference)?

Please be prayerful through each of these questions. Talk to other people from the church in order for you to be able to ask questions at the informational meeting as well as make the best informed vote when the Church Conference is held.

The Board is currently scheduling a Church Conference which the District Superintendent will administer for the purpose of a church vote on

disaffiliation. There will be 2 informational meetings prior to the Church Conference for anyone to come to hear about disaffiliation, ask questions, and/or voice concerns.

BE WATCHING FOR THESE DATES.

It is important to keep a very high level of transparency about all of these items. The best improvements will occur when all people are informed and have input into what the church does. So as you hear discussions of things that are being proposed, ask questions. Talk to the Executive Board members (names below) so that great communication continues.

The bottom line is that Pleasant Chapel is called to be an inviting, attractive place where people feel **welcome to come** and be **connected with God and with fellow Christ followers**. The church should also be a place where people have opportunity to **grow spiritually** and to **serve** in the community. Not said to be negative or critical, but Pleasant Chapel can improve to become more effective in what it is we have been called to do.

It is the Board's goal to begin taking steps to do just that – to create a space where Pleasant Chapel can be most effective at worshipping God, making disciples and serving our communities.

The Board has been asked to consider each item and the discussion

prayerfully. They are seeking to discern God's will for Pleasant Chapel. You are asked to pray through this process as well. Pray for this church, pray that God would make known his purpose for the church. Pray that God would be gracious to this church in order for it to be most effective. Pray for the Executive Board as they work through this process.

2020 Executive Board Members

John Magnuson- Chairman
Jill Law – Lay Leader, Secretary
Andrea Amick
Vicki Giordano
Leona Bear
Deloris Smith
Aaron Amick
Joann Dolby
Mike Ayers
Troy Husband
Nicole Colclessor
Roger Colclessor
Joyce Hand
Heather Parsons

UPDATE

The Church Conference is set for Sunday December 6th at 1:00pm

Two informational, question/answer meetings are scheduled. It is recommended you attend at least one of the meetings

Those meeting dates/times are:

November 29th at 11:00 am

December 2nd at 6:00 pm
(both meetings at the church)

All church attenders are encouraged to pray for this church decision. All

are encouraged to attend the meetings. However, only voting members will be able to vote on the disaffiliation.

2021 Church Committees Last year in order to streamline the efficiency of the church committees, the five main committees of the church were combined to two. The Trustees and Finance combined to the Administrative Board. The Staff Parish Relations, Nominations, and Church Council combine to the Executive Board. Previously the same people served on more than one committee and since Pleasant Chapel is small, simplifying the organization makes sense. And then COVID hit and committees have not been able to meet. Therefore, the committees will remain with the same members for 2021 as in 2020. The exception would be that if you would like to be removed from a committee you are currently on, or if you would like to serve on one of the committees, this can be arranged. Contact Joel if you are interested.

Déjà vu all over again

There was a 60's band called *Buffalo Springfield* whose most popular song was "For What It's Worth." I recently heard that song and it struck me how a 50+ year old pop song has such relevance today

*There's something happening here
What it is ain't exactly clear
There's a man with a gun over there
Telling me I got to beware*

| | August 2, 2020 | August 9, 2020 | August 16, 2020 | August 23, 2020 | August 30, 2020 | September 6, 2020 | September 13, 2020 | September 20, 2020 | September 27, 2020 | October 4, 2020 | October 11, 2020 | October 18, 2020 | October 25, 2020 |
|------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Attendance | 31 | 36 | 38 | 29 | 42 | 27 | 36 | 32 | 25 | 25 | 60 | 25 | 25 |
| Giving | 2709 | 1556 | 606 | 986 | 966 | 1436 | 1462 | 491 | 723 | 1374 | 1241 | 2316 | 1672 |

*I think it's time we stop, children,
what's that sound
Everybody look what's
going down*

*There's battle lines being
drawn*

*Nobody's right if every-
body's wrong*

*Young people speaking their minds
Getting so much resistance from be-
hind*

*What a field-day for the heat
A thousand people in the street
Singing songs and carrying signs
Mostly say, hooray for our side*

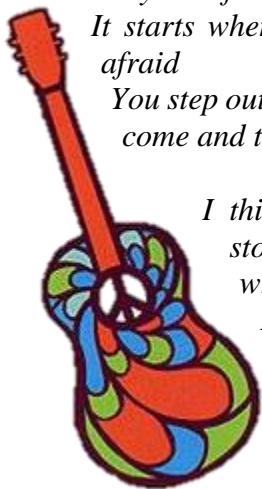
Paranoia strikes deep

Into your life it will creep

*It starts when you're always
afraid*

*You step out of line, the man
come and take you away*

*I think it's time we
stop, children,
what's that sound
Everybody look
what's going
down*



Be honest, some of you were tapping your foot singing through those familiar lyrics thinking of a more psychedelic, lava lamp, shag carpet, bell bottom, peace sign, mood ring, etc. time period!

But look again at the lyrics that were written in the middle of Vietnam War protests, racial upheaval, protests against authority, and free-spirited immorality. Do we not live in a time where there is violence and “battle lines being drawn?” Today’s news shows scenes of “people in the street
Singing songs and carrying signs



Mostly say, hooray for our side.”

Think about the signs for TRUMP or BIDEN or BLM or PROLIFE or LGBTQ. Then think about the paranoia that exists as the song says, “when you're always afraid.” Consider those who are so locked in fear and have reduced their lives to total isolation all because of what the Pandemic has done.

It really is kind of déjà vu isn't it? “There's something happening here and what it is” **is really pretty clear!** What is happening is what has been happening since Genesis 3! When humans decided they could choose to do and live in ways that were better than what their Creator had prescribed for them. That was sin then and it is sin now. It is what is at the root of the problems then, in 1967 when that song was written, and it is the problem we face today in society!

In Romans 1, Paul writes about the consequences humans have as a result of sin:

Romans 1:28–32 (NRSV)

²⁸ And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind and to things that should not be done. ²⁹ They were filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, covetousness, malice. Full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, craftiness, they are gossips, ³⁰ slanderers, God-haters, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, rebellious toward parents, ³¹ foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. ³² They know God's decree that those who practice such things deserve to die—yet they not

only do them but even applaud others who practice them.

THANKFULLY as followers of Christ, we have been freed from the penalty of being doomed by the effects of sin! AND we are given strength to live life away from the natural tendencies to do wrong and towards an abundant life that is found in Him! AND we are given the grace to see this world for what it really is. It is then we can hear songs like this, hear news stories like we hear, and see the problems facing our world but see them from an eternal perspective. Better is coming!

“What a field day for the” CHURCH! Really! What a great time to be a follower of Christ and part of a local body of believers whose goal is to proclaim Jesus and His good news.

I too think we all need to stop and ask “what's that sound” and see “what's going down.” We are in extraordinary times: soon to come through COVID, perhaps soon to have a different political landscape, and soon to make key decisions regarding the future of this church.

I say we all seek God to empower this church to come out of these times **stronger!** Let us come out reenergized to do church better, to be more focused and deliberate about connecting people with their creator. Let us be a place and space where people can grow and serve Him.

This is what those hippies in 1967 needed and it is what the people of our communities today need – a place and the means to encounter the love, mercy, and grace of Jesus Christ.



Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the lands. Serve the LORD with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing. Know that the LORD is God! It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him, bless his name! For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures for ever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Psalms 100:1-5 (RSV)

