

Sunday School Kickoff

Our full-blown "Kickoff" for a new year of Sunday School for children, youth and adults will be **Sunday, September 16!** Join us in **Fellowship Hall at 9:15** for the Sunday School Kickoff with singing, a story and introduction of teachers and classes. Bibles will be presented in worship to our new 5th graders. Worship & Wonder also enters a new year. Children's Choir and Sunday evening youth groups will also be back to their regular gatherings on September 16.



CWF Appreciation Sunday

Sunday, September 16 will be CWF (Christian Women's Fellowship) Appreciation Sunday. Envelopes will be available if you would like to contribute to our projects for the upcoming year. Envelopes will be located in the Hall of Light and on the Welcome Tables in the Narthex and at the rear parking lot entrance. One of our future projects include replacing the white tablecloths in Fellowship Hall. Every dollar received goes toward helping the church. We thank you for your help.



~ Teresa Gorrell, CWF

Children's Choir

The Children's Choir will begin practicing on **Sunday, September 16 @ 4:30 pm!** Children from pre-K through 5th grade are welcome to be part of the choir. If you have questions, please call Marge at the church 317-244-7656. Rehearsals run about 45 minutes. If you are interested in helping, also let Marge know. Being a part of the music ministry at church is very important to our children. We will welcome all!!



All Church Picnic

Please mark your calendar for this year's ALL church picnic: **Sunday, September 23** after the 10:15 service. We plan to have the picnic in the green space next to the church (or in Fellowship Hall in the case of rain). We hope that by doing the picnic a little later we may have more pleasant weather. As always it will be a pitch-in function with the meat provided by the Hospitality, Evangelism and Membership Committee (HEM).



We hope you can join us!

~ Hannah McDonald

The Nominating Committee is at Work

The Nominating Committee has begun their work of filling leadership positions in the church for 2019. If you receive a phone call from one of the members of the committee, please give prayerful consideration to the request to serve. Know that the committee takes their work seriously. They give thought and prayer to the process, and they see in the persons they contact gifts that the committee feels will help fulfill the mission of the church of ministering to each other and ministering to the world. If you say "Yes," you will find great joy in serving. Your church needs you!

CWF Bake Sale

CWF (Christian Women's Fellowship) will be having a bake sale on **Sunday, September 30** in the Hall of Light! Our new year for projects is beginning and we are excited to jump in and get started. So, look for the homemade goodies to take home and share.



~ Teresa Gorrell, CWF

Elder Meeting

Attention All Elders! Please plan to attend an **Elder Meeting** with Scott Cox on **Sunday, September 16 at 9:15 am.** We will meet in the back of the sanctuary, and we will keep our meeting very brief. Please come prepared with dates you are not available to serve in October, November, and December so the Q4 schedule can be put together.

Disciples of Christ Reconciliation Offering to be received September 30 & October 7

The Special Offering is used to fund our Church's mission imperative to become a pro-reconciling and anti-racist church utilizing experiential education, inclusive worship and intentional dialogue. Our efforts to promote healing, relationship and restoration in the whole family of God are enlivened by funds from this offering. Through it we are able to provide programs for leadership development, curriculum for dialogue and learning, and partnerships within the Church and our communities. Reconciliation Ministry is transforming lives and strengthening Christ's witness in the world showing that we love one another, even as Christ continues to love us!

Please keep in Prayer

Liz Foster	George Mayo
Reta Kaiser	Sue Moeller
Dorothy Dotlich	Charlene Hoyt
Shirley Westrick	Don Greer
Linda Carter	Carolyn Fuller
Jody Johnson (Dottie Phillips' daughter)	
Mary Carter (Bill Carter's mother)	
Dave Carter (Bil Carter's brother)	
Karen Dobson (Gyneth Hedrick's sister)	
Haddie Noblet (Marjorie Miskoweic's great-granddaughter)	



My thanks to Scott and all for your calls, cards and prayers, during my recent illness. ~ Pat Realey

Farewell

What a fine day with Sunday's celebration of my years of ministry with Speedway Christian Church and beyond as I retire. Much thanks to Scott and Marge for worship leadership and for Marge's solo, to the choir for "having my back" so to speak, to Evan for his improv, and to our regional minister, Rick Spleth for his kind words. Thanks to all who came to celebrate in worship and for the celebration downstairs afterward. (Much thanks as well to many who, unable to be present due to holiday weekend conflicts, took time to reach out with a kind word or card ahead of time.)

I don't know all those involved "behind the scenes" with the luncheon festivities, but thank you for very fun table décor, fine food, and a fabulous on-stage cast. Ray's M.C. role was impeccable, and the sharing by my friend, Roger, and by Jerry, Hannah, David, Michi, and the crew of children and youth with their Randy-thru-the-years sketch brought moments of hilarity and of heart. Thank you to Reta, Leslie, and the rest of the Personnel Committee, to Bobbi and Heather and others setting up and serving and more. Thanks to those who participated in The Goat Contest. Money raised will help our youth as well as the DYMN and DPF groups I work with elsewhere. (Good job on the shaving, too, Henry! No blood was spilled!) And much thanks for the generous gifts of the plaque from the youth, the photo book and certainly the quite generous check! Those will be well enjoyed!

Words and time fail to express proper thanks to all, so let me just say again how grateful I am for thirteen years of walking together and working together. I move on from SCC knowing there are so many amazing children and youth here, such incredible parent support, committed teachers and storytellers and coordinators and sponsors that will carry strong ministries forward far down the road ahead. I remain ever grateful to count you all among so many companions I have had on the Way. A special word of thanks to Scott and to Marge, most excellent colleagues in ministry these years. Be Well, Speedway Christian Church, in your Witness and your Walk in the Way of Jesus.

Randy

Thinking Out Loud...

Beyond Tolerating

I first read the news on Facebook that Senator John McCain had died. Even though I haven't always agreed with John McCain's policies, I can't deny that he was a faithful servant of his country, both as a senator and as a soldier.

A video that is making the rounds on Facebook is of McCain at a town hall meeting during his presidential bid against Barack Obama. A woman in the audience noted that Obama was Arab. McCain gently took the microphone away from her and said, "No Mam, no Mam; he's a decent family man and citizen that I just happen to have disagreements with on fundamental issues, and that's what this campaign is all about."

To some extent, I admire McCain's response, but I don't think he went far enough. McCain could have expanded his thoughts to say, "What if Obama were of Arab descent, would that make a difference in his qualifications to run for the office of President of the United States? We live in a country where, as Martin Luther King Jr. said, we should not be judged by the color of our skin (or ethnicity) but by the content of our character."

Unfortunately, the woman's statement reflects the views of many non-Arab U.S. citizens. They don't necessarily think that Barack Obama is Arab but that Arab persons are less than those of other descents. Her views reflect the division that unfortunately is at the core of our nation. Sadly, those who consider themselves religious have often been part of the reason for this division. No wonder so many are turned off by religion.

Roman Catholic theologian Hans Küng has said that there can never be peace between the nations until there is peace between the religions. As a minister, I have an obligation to advocate for peace between the religions. I happen to be a Christian minister, but I agree with a professor I had in seminary who used to say that the validity of one's experience of God in Jesus was not dependent on the invalidity of the experiences of God that those of other religions have had.

This means that we are to move beyond merely tolerating. *Tolerating* isn't enough. This word is too tame. We need to move beyond tolerating to *celebrating* our differences. As a person of faith, I believe that these differences are a creation of God. Each human being, each nation, each religion is unique. *Vive la difference!*

As most of you know, I took advantage of a sabbatical grant to travel extensively. As a lover of cities, I chose to go to larger cities in the United States and overseas. One of the reasons that I enjoy cities is the rich diversity that is found there. A highlight of my travels was worshipping at St. Paul's Cathedral in London. When we said the Lord's Prayer, worshippers spoke in their native language. This was a powerful experience. It reminded me that together we were a microcosm of what the world can be. We can be united by our common humanity.

Continue on next page

Thinking Out Loud... Continued

If only this unity could be displayed beyond worship. Whether we are persons of faith or not, I cling to the hope that the voices of all those of goodwill, religious and otherwise, can be brought together to promote unity, peace, and justice. Let us do our part each day.

Scott

The E.D.G.E.

Elders Delivering God's Encouragement Morning Meditations

From early spring to late fall I like to begin my day with a cup of coffee and some quiet time on the back porch. Our narrow yard—not more than twelve feet from our house to the edge of the yard-- drops off into a deep ravine leading to the White Lick Tributary. In winter the trees are bare and I can see the sky on the western side of the ravine. When it snows, it looks like someone has put cake icing on the branches. In springtime it is a joy to see bare branches take on a green haze as leaves begin to emerge. By summertime the ravine is filled with leaves of every description, and sitting on the porch is almost like being in a tree house. By late summer the leaves begin to turn, and by October the ravine looks like a basket of gold shimmering in the sunlight. Then winter comes again and the cycle begins anew. "Peace be still and know that I am God."

As I quietly sip my coffee and watch, a whole world of God's creatures goes about their morning activities. Squirrels, acrobats fit for any circus, scamper up and down and around the trees and take flying leaps from one branch to another. Somewhere high up they have hidden nests that will be visible after all the leaves have fallen.

This summer for the first time deer have come for breakfast among the hostas I planted at the edge of the yard to create a "fence" to keep my little dog from wandering into the ravine. Baby rabbits have taken shelter under the broad leaves hidden, they hope, from deer and dog.

Birds fly in an out among the trees calling out with their various and distinctive cries. I've kept the hummingbird feeders filled with sugar water and been rewarded with having the hummers come so close to the porch that I can see their eyes. Such tiny little creatures that can fly forward, backward and up and down like small helicopters. Last week I noticed one unusually small hummer, little more than a baby, making short, tentative flights from one branch to another while a larger bird, perhaps the mother, watched and followed along. Flight training, I decided! Then the baby took off with no branch nearby. Suddenly with wings fluttering, it dropped down and out of sight. Mother bird dove after it. I lost sight of them, but am sure that I saw them both the following day.

Like the little hummingbird, how often do we too need rescuing? Thanks be to God. ~ Dorothy Webb, Elder

THANKS to our Youth Lake Day hosts!! The Heaviland, Cork, Chaplin, and Burrell families hosted the Chi Rho at Lake Lemon on August 12. The Hartman family hosted the CYF on August 26. Great times with food, friends, and time on and in the water. Meanwhile, youth sponsors have great plans ahead for the Fall!!



Looking ahead:

Penrod Fundraiser, Saturday, September 8 – Our biggest fundraiser of the year! *Lots of help needed from youth AND parents.* Two work shifts. Contact Randy, Melanie Heaviland, or David Salima to sign up for a shift.

Sunday School Kickoff – Sunday, September 16 – Journey in Faith for 6th graders plus our Youth Class for 7th–12th graders begin with an event in Fellowship Hall at 9:15 am.

Youth Groups Kickoff – September 16 – Sunday evening youth groups start up again with Snack Supper at 5:45 p.m. and youth groups following – Chi Rho for 6th–8th grades and CYF for 9th–12th.

Parents Nite – September 16 – Parents of 6th–12th graders are invited to our first Sunday evening gathering to join us for a light meal together, a preview of the year ahead, and to complete necessary paperwork.

Season of Prayer

Our annual observance of *Light a Candle for Children* begins on **Sunday, September 9**, keeping our own children in prayer and praying for all of God's children. You will find daily Light a Candle prayer concerns on our September Prayer Calendar. Make time to be involved in the lives of children. Let the candle of their lives inspire you and light your path as you work and pray on their behalf. We will conclude this season of prayer on September 30.



Official Board Meeting
Tuesday, September 11, 2018
6:30 p.m. - Meet in B1

Stewardship/Finance

2018 Approved Budget: \$497,289

2018 Required to Date (9/2/2018).....	\$ 334,713.75
(to meet approved budget)	
2018 Received to Date (9/2/2018).....	\$ 317,718.17
2018 Year to Date (Shortfall as of 9/2/2018) \$	16,995.58

	<u>Offering</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
August 12, 2018	\$ 6,421.00	210
August 19, 2018	\$ 12,303.00	182
August 26, 2018	\$ 6,258.10	194
September 2, 2018	\$ 6,547.00	203

Speedway Christian Church
5110 West 14th Street
Speedway, Indiana 46224

Children's Literature Ministry

A new piece of our children's ministry began on Sunday, September 2. In the narthex (main sanctuary entrance), there is a children's book rack stocked with great books for the kids to enjoy. As families come to worship, children are invited pick up a book to enjoy during the service and return it to the book rack afterward. The books will be rotated to fit the season of church life during Advent, Lent and Easter. Along with the Children's Activity Bags, this will offer additional enrichment opportunities for children in worship.



Indianapolis Brass Choir Concert @ SCC Sunday, October 7

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend a performance of the Indianapolis Brass Choir that will be held in our sanctuary at 4:00 pm. This group performed here a couple of years ago, and it was a delightful concert. They are a large brass ensemble "who volunteer their time, talent, and effort, to provide music for area churches and to aid local charities." The IBC was founded in 1986 and consists of professional and semi-professional musicians. The choir includes trumpets, trombones, horns, euphoniums, tubas and percussion. The group is directed by Darin Sorley.

Regional Assembly

The Regional Assembly for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Indiana will be October 5-6 at Light of the World Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) here in Indianapolis. The theme for the Assembly is "Can We Talk?" There will be workshops in which direction will be given as to how to have civil conversations around some hot button issues. The purpose of these workshops is not to convince anyone to change her or his mind on any particular issue but to learn how to better engage in productive conversations. In addition to the workshops, Dr. Ron Allen, Professor of Preaching and Gospels and Letters at Christian Theological Seminary, will be preaching at Saturday's closing worship service.

Our congregation is eligible to have eight voting representatives, plus three additional voting representatives under the age of 30. Also, all ministers with standing in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Indiana have voting privileges. Those who first contact Scott Cox will have voting privileges. Registration cost is \$75 for adults and \$55 for students age 12 and up (this includes seminary students). Registration cost includes Friday's all assembly dinner, and Saturday's continental breakfast and lunch. There is no charge for childcare if a parent is registered. The SCC Board unanimously approved paying the registration fee for any person for whom the registration is cost prohibitive. Registration deadline is September 21. Please let Scott know if you are interested.

Spirit Newsletter Publication Schedule

Publication Date: October 2, 2018

*All articles are to be submitted by Thursday
(prior to publication date).*

Information Need Updated?

Work has begun on 2019 church guide book & directory. **Does the church office have your -**

- ◆ **Correct address?**
- ◆ **Correct telephone #?**
- ◆ **Correct email address?**



If not, please let the church office know by September 21.

Church - Emergency on Call Contact

Friday, September 14 — Sunday, September 16
Marge Graham 317-313-5337

Friday, September 21 — Sunday, September 23
Scott Cox 502-316-3085

Friday, September 28 — Sunday, September 30
Marge Graham 317-313-5337

Friday, October 5 — Sunday, October 7
Scott Cox 502-316-3085