

The Messenger

Central United Methodist Church

Joseph Easley, Senior Pastor
300 Mary Street
Evansville, Indiana 47710-1292
July 2009

WHAT A DIFFERENCE “ABUNDANT LIFE” MAKES

July is a very special month for **Patti** and me. We both have parents celebrating 90th birthdays, 13 days apart. The parties for each are only 6 days apart, so our sons and their wives can be present for each.

Patti's mother, Virginia Schurger, turns 90 on July 3. She lives in Decatur, Indiana, near Fort Wayne. We will be driving up that morning to take her out that evening for a small birthday dinner. On the Fourth there is a reunion of **Patti's** father's family. On Sunday, July 5th **Patti** and her brother have organized an open house for the family and friends to celebrate with Virginia, who from her contacts seems to know everyone in town! She worked at the courthouse for many years, first as an abstractor and later in the recorder's office. After she retired, she became a volunteer at the hospital in town for over 20 years. All through her life she has been very active in her Catholic church, including volunteering at the Rectory. She is physically and mentally healthy and active. Thanks be to God!

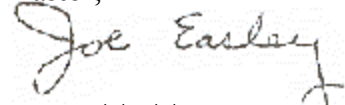
My dad, John Easley lives in Terre Haute. His birthday is July 16, but we are celebrating on the prior weekend, so Dylan and Fabiola can fly in from San Francisco, stay 9 days and attend both events. We go up July 10 for an evening cookout out at my sister's. His main celebration is a big family luncheon on Saturday, with a program planned by my younger sister from Marietta, GA. On Sunday, the family will go to church together at UM Temple, where he, my first sister and her family are active, and I will assist in the baptism on one of her grandchildren. My dad has also had a very good life, even though he has been a widower over 10 years. He has always been active in his church, volunteered in the community a lot since retirement and went out of his way for people. He has many friends, including one special woman friend of the past 3 years. **Patti** and I are blessed to have such vibrant parents!

(While I am sharing good news, I will also brag that I had my best ever Father's Day! My son Micah and his wife Christina surprised me by driving over from New Albany and meeting us for lunch at my favorite restaurant, where he even picked up the tab! He had worked only two out of the six months since Thanksgiving, when he returned from 11 months of active duty (called up from Naval Reserves), and it was at the factory where he had worked before, but four weeks ago he began a new, better paying, more interesting job at the Census Bureau in Jeffersonville. Everything about him said he felt much happier. He and Christina will be at both parties, and Dylan and Fabiola get to stay with us a couple extra days.)

As a pastor I have known people of all ages, including many older persons. My unscientific survey shows there is a great deal of difference between people who have an active religious faith and a strong connection with a church family and those who do not. By and large, people who practice their faith in God are healthier and happier. Even if they face illness and problems their faith gives them joy to live better than their circumstances. Jesus said he came that people “may have life...more abundantly.” (John 10:10) He was talking about not only life after death but also fullness of life now. Abundant life is also not primarily about quantity of life (although I have seen a lot of 90+ year olds in church), but it is more about quality of life whatever the age.

This came home to me in a new way last month when on one day I had two funerals. That evening I had a service for a lady with no church connection. She seemed like a nice person, who was described by her daughter as “a people person.” The photo display showed her as very active, and she worked at a bank into her 70's, but she had not attended a church in years. Before her death at 82 she had been in a nursing home five years with Alzheimer's, which is certainly hard. About twenty people came during visitation. Six attended the memorial service: her daughter, the daughter's husband, 3 granddaughters and 1 son-in-law. They were nice, but I felt as sad for them as I ever have at a funeral. To think, in 82 years so few people cared about the lady. That morning I had an opposite experience in the service for **Florence Heuring**. At 99 she had outlived her contemporaries, had been confined to a nursing home for two years and was very limited in what she could do for a couple of years before that. But, there were 25 people at her service, including nearly all her UMW Circle, and there were many tears shed! They were not sad for **Florence**, who was ready to go and glad to be released from her broken-down body, but grieved their loss of one who lived abundantly, with whom they had become deeply connected and for whom they had cared. That is abundant and significant life—and another reason I am a Christian!

Your Pastor,



REV. EASLEY OFF DUTY THROUGH JULY 12

Rev. Easley began two weeks away from church duties, upon return from Annual Conference on Sunday evening June 28. One week is vacation (his last for the 2008-09 Conference year) and the other is a week away from regular pastoral duties to finish up some filing work. He will actually be gone both weekends for special family occasions, celebrations of the 90th birthdays of **Patti's** mother and **Joe's** father. During each week he will be working on the filing some at church and some at home. Shane O'Neill will preach and celebrate communion on July 5. **Mike Warneke** will preach again July 12.

IN WORSHIP THIS MONTH

- July 5 Independence Sunday Communion
Shane O'Neill preaching
Scriptures: Deuteronomy 6:4-15 & Matthew 4:1, 8-11
Sermon: "A Right Patriotism"
- July 12 **Mike Warneke** preaching
Scriptures: Galatians 6:1-10
Sermon: "The Comparison Trap"
- July 19 Scriptures: John 6:1-21
Sermon: "Fed Abundantly"
- July 26 Scriptures: John 6:22-40, 66-69
Sermon: "More than Food: The Bread of Life"

PICK UP VISION 2012 ENVELOPES

Vision 2012 Envelopes for this second year (July 2009-June 2010) are available for pick-up in the Church Parlor. Central's goal in this capital campaign (beyond annual church budget giving) is to be "debt-free and growing" by the end of 2012. 10% of gifts support growth by funding the new Director of Outreach Ministries staff position, 1% is a Conference Tithe on this 10%, and 89% of the gifts goes to reduce our building debt. We are progressing well on these, as **Linda Tribble** reported June 28. A full one-year report will also be given shortly. Please pick up your envelopes to save mailing costs. If you want these envelopes but find none out with your name on them, please request them through the church office.


ENDOWMENT REQUESTS DUE IN JULY

Each year, the Endowment Fund Committee meets to distribute earnings from the Endowment. As designated in the by-laws, the earnings will be divided between two funds. These funds are: Property Maintenance Fund (Fund A) and Service to Others Fund (Fund B). Fund A shall be used for capital improvements and additions to the land and buildings of Central United Methodist Church or major or infrequent repairs. Fund B is established to provide income for programs that give service to others with special consideration given to providing services to those in our community.

The Endowment Fund Committee invites requests for funds from the earnings of our endowment. Please submit the amount of the request, along with a statement of intent no later than July 31 to the church office to the attention of Endowment Fund Requests.

We are blessed that our members and friends of Central United Methodist Church have been generous contributors to our Endowment Fund. This generosity enables us to give back to the ministries of our church and to provide financial support to groups and organizations within our community.

HOLIDAY WORLD/SPLASHIN' SAFARI TICKETS

 Holiday World/Splashin' Safari tickets are still available in the church office. The \$28 tickets are good July 3 - July 20. Their sales will help benefit the Santa Claus Campground Trust. As always drinks at the park are FREE.

VBS

Vacation Bible School is July 6th through 9th and there is still time to register. We will start with dinner for the kids at 5:30 p.m. and be finished by 8:00 p.m. We would love to have the kids preregistered and we would be happy to have more volunteers. Also, we will be a little more strict with our safety issues this year. Although the children have always had name tags, this year the adults will also wear nametags. If you have a part in VBS, you will receive a name tag; however, anyone who does not have a name tag will not be permitted to stay. Please call **Nancy** in the church office (or e-mail me at nreid@central-church.org) or **Amanda Schreiber** if you have questions or want to register.

FAMILY LIFE CENTER DOORS REDONE AND EXTERIOR CHURCH LOCKS CHANGED

Please be aware of two changes in our exterior doors during June. It is especially important that you know this, if you have a church key and/or are in charge of a meeting or program outside of regular Sunday morning worship hours or on Monday through Thursday evenings, when a custodian is here.



The main Family Life Center entrances now have a different locking system with a panic bar. There are two different ways to unlock them; you need to know both ways to open them and relock them. If you are going to ever be in the position to either open these doors for an event or need to close up the church at the end of an event, please have **Rev. Easley, Nancy Reid, Lisa Miner** or a custodian show how to do this both with the key and with the small tool hanging beside each door. Also, the locks on the Nolte Meeting Room have been changed to a "K" key for security reasons, since during December Angel Tree presents are stored in this room, but otherwise this room will normally be left unlocked.

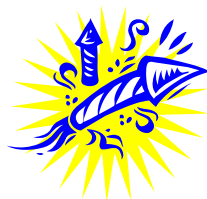
The locks on church and Child Care exterior doors have been changed as a security measure. Members who need a building key should contact the church office, return their old key (unless needed for *interior doors, which locks have not been changed*), and sign the form to get a new one. The new key to the outer church doors (with an "M", "K" or "GM" on it) will also open the outer doors of the Family Life Center. Some people who had keys to both church and FLC will need only one key now. Keys that work only in the FLC outer doors (with an "O" on them) will not open church and Child Care doors, so they will be given to groups renting the gym. Please return any church keys you no longer need.

RACE FOR THE CURE BACK TO SATURDAY— AND DOWNTOWN

The Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure returns to Saturday this fall, September 19. For the first time this benefit to fight breast cancer will be held downtown, along the riverfront, through the historic district, up Main Street and around the Civic Center. **Ruth Randall** has agreed to help organize a church team for the Race this year. If interested in participating, call her (425-0326) for details. We'll post info on the Race as it becomes available.

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Nick Randall
Haley Worland
- 3 Lisa Boberg
Dan O'Bryan
- 4 Stephanie Bonenberger
Stacy Worland
- 5 Ryan Lynch
Ethan Schreiber
- 6 Beau Brandt
Jennifer Pusateri
- 7 Chase Boberg
Jessica Kluesner
Dixie Parker
- 9 Darren Halbig
Helen Lowey
Elmer Paulson
- 10 Jeanne Brockelman
Joshua Hendrickson
Steve Sanders
- 11 Lucille Gooch
- 12 Barbara Beck
Joy Halbig
Jane Ann Hines
- 13 Elveda Beal
- 14 Geri Armstrong
Hazel Cantrell
Kevin East
Karen Moore
Scott Tribble
- 15 Rebekah Koves
Teenie Ann Kratzer
- 16 Jayne Dillow
Hilda Higgs
Jim Myers
Marilyn Patterson
Sheri Seymour
- 17 Betty Sue Roth
Evelyth Wright
- 19 Susie Sanders
- 20 Daryel Harris
Michelle Muller
Katherine Smith
- 22 Abbie Wilson
- 23 Charles Long
Andrea Wiley
- 25 Doug Duncan
James Herring
- 26 David Miller
Aubrey Schucker
- 27 Trenton Herring
Christopher Millay
- 28 Virgil Ellerbruck
Bettye Hendrickson
Jo Anne Wilson
- 29 Charles Giesman
Bennett Mullins
- 30 Donald Hillyard
Ronald Hames



PARK IN MARKED SPACES, LEAVE DRIVE CLEAR HONOR HANDICAPPED MARKING ON SUNDAYS

On Sunday morning please honor the handicapped marking, so folks who need these spots can have them. More than 10 spaces in the parking lot off of Franklin Street are marked for handicapped use, so persons who have trouble walking distances and/or going up steps can have the shortest possible distance into the building and can use the elevator at the west entrance to the church. This entrance also has the canopy where people coming to the church or FLC can be dropped off. It is important to keep this drive clear so vehicles can pull through it. Please park only in spaces marked for parking.

YOUNG ADULT SMALL GROUP UPDATE

A men's and women's young adult small group study will continue to meet during the month of July. We will be meeting at the church on July 10th and 31st from 5:30 until 7:00 PM. We will begin each meeting by sharing a meal at 5:30 and breaking up into our small groups at 6:00 PM. Childcare will be provided here at the church at the cost of \$2 per child. We will continue our first study on the book **Soul Cravings**, by Erwin McManus and begin a new study at the end of the month. Please talk to **Mike Warneke** if you would like more information on upcoming studies.

FIRST ANNUAL MEN'S CREATION EXPERIENCE

It is time to hit the road and enjoy the beauty and grace of West Virginia. The men of the church are invited to attend an action packed weekend in the New River Gorge area of West Virginia. This will be a time of getting in touch with God through his creation and building fellowship and accountability with one another through Bible study and shared experiences. We will be spending some time white water rafting, taking a canopy tour through the beautiful surroundings, and enjoy time spent in God's creation. The dates of this trip will be September 10-13, and the cost will depend upon the number of those attending. Please talk with **Mike Warneke** if you are interested in pursuing this venture, and get your name on the list as soon as possible. The trip roster will need to be finalized by the end of July to ensure reservations for all activities.

THANK YOU

Thank you for the expression of sympathy in the death of **Florence Heuring**. Thanks to everyone for the visits, cards, moral support and concern during her last few years.

Kay Conder

YOUTH GIVE THANKS

The Youth Sunday School class would like to thank everyone who provided donations for the United Methodist Youth Home. Three large boxes of goods were delivered to the home and will be put to good use.

YOUR SUGGESTIONS ARE WELCOME

The Trustees welcome suggestions on the building or reports of building problems. These may be placed in the box in southeast corner of the Parlor. It is on the table between the doors to the main entrance and folding doors into the Sanctuary.

THANK YOU for all the support and sympathy, **Pastor Joe Easley** and the congregation of Central UMC gave to me when my mother, Earline Stricker, passed away. She died in Georgia and I was unable to be with her. She was brought back here to be buried in Evansville. It would be impossible to adequately thank you and all my friends for the moral support and sympathy you have given to me.

God Bless,
Debbie Wagner

PRAY FOR CLUSTER CONGREGATIONS

When you pray for Central, remember to pray for the other churches in our Center City Cluster: Fairlawn UMC, St. John's UMC, St. Lucas UCC and Trinity UMC.

SWEET SLEEP COLLECTION

As many of you know, **Michael Warneke**, will be traveling to Uganda during the 20-29 of July to help build beds with Sweet Sleep, Inc. We will be taking a special collection following services on Sunday, July 12th to help in this worthy cause. All monies collected will be sent to Sweet Sleep to help provide a tangible reminder to orphans in Uganda that there is a God who loves them, and they are valuable to Him. Please talk to **Mike Warneke** if you would like to learn more about this trip, and you can follow the team's journey to Africa and back at sweetsleep.blogspot.com.

LADIES' BOOK CLUB

The **Literary Ladies** will meet again on Tuesday, July 21st at 11:15 a.m. at the Kennel Club on Kratzville Rd. **Doris Kaltoffen** has arranged for us to meet in the library of the Kennel Club. Please bring a list of your favorite books (up to 10) and a few books to swap if you would like. We will not be dissecting books for style and content; rather, we will simply be recommending books that we have enjoyed and offering a very brief synopsis. We are planning to meet on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. If you like to read and you like to eat (and if you wear make-up), you'll enjoy our group. If you have questions, please call **Nancy** in the church office.

FRIED CHICKEN DINNER AND GOSPEL MUSIC

Saturday, July 11, Salem Church of Darmstadt, 14134 Darmstadt Rd, will have a fried chicken dinner and gospel music concert to benefit the Weekday Christian Education. Dinner will be from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. The Southlanders Gospel Quartet will be singing at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$12.00 for adults (meal and concert), \$8:00 adult meal only, \$4.00 (concert only), and \$5.00 child (10 & under no extra charge for the concert). See **Jo Wilson** for tickets.

SENIOR CITIZEN'S LUNCHEON

The Senior Citizen's Luncheon will be Thursday, July 16 at 12 noon, in the Garden Room. Everyone is to bring a covered dish. The speaker will be Autumn Craig with the Evansville Teachers Credit Union. Please call **Velma Berry** if you have any questions, 477-5871.

OUR SYMPATHY is extended to the family and friends of **Betty Daniel**, who died Wednesday after a 1½ year battle with cancer. **Betty** joined Central in 2003 and attended the 8:30 service regularly unless she was out of town or unable because of her illness or treatments....and to the family of **Florence Heuring** and also **Kay Conder**. **Florence** died Monday, June 8, and her funeral was held Thursday, June 11, at Brown-ing Funeral Home.

UNITED METHODIST YOUTH HOME UPDATE:

The CUMC Youth Sunday School class would like to thank everyone who provided donations for the Spring United Methodist Youth Home drive. Three large boxes of goods were delivered to the home and will be put to good use. There are currently 15 young women, 2 little ones and a baby on the way residing there.

The Youth Home is busy preparing for an array of summer activities. The area UM churches are needed to "Adopt a Day Activity" and can do so by purchasing tickets, gift cards or securing donations for admissions to places such as pools, miniature golf, Otters games, ice cream shops, etc.

Also, a new "wish list" of items has been published. The Home is in need of the following items:

Sun Screen
Beach Towels
G or PG movies (VHS or DVD can be used)
Socks
Slippers
Games/puzzles
Coloring books
Side walk chalk
Water balloons
Bubbles

If any Central individual or group is interested in helping by "Adopting a Day Activity" or by bringing in wish list items, please see **Kim White**.



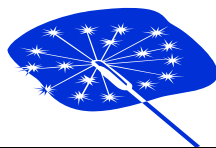
WELCOME to **Callum Elijah Renner** who was born to **Rhaechel and Joe Renner** Saturday, May 30. He weighed 5 lbs 12 oz is 18 inches long and was welcomed home by Gabriel and Max.... and to **Abel Dumisani Warneke** who was born to **Abbey, Mike and Gideon Warneke** on Tuesday, June 9. He weighed 8 lb. 2 oz. and is 21 inches.

CONGRATULATIONS TO Joy Noel Halbig and **Aaron McDowell** who were married at Central on May 30. They will be living in Merrillville, Indiana, near where Aaron works for US Steel....and to **Melissa McCoy and Adam Dimmett** who were married by Rev. Easley at Burdette Park on May 30. Melissa who attends Central is also the granddaughter of **Paul Waterson**....and to **Brent Alexander Huey** and Lisa Royster. Their wedding was Saturday, June 20, at St. James West UMC. Brent's mother is **Peggy Huey**. They will be making their home at 2588 Union Dr. Newburgh, Indiana....and to **Emily Peterson** and Matt Hartz. Their wedding was Saturday, June 20, at Central. **Emily** is **Steve and Cathy Early's** daughter and **Robert and Emma East's** granddaughter.

UM MEN'S GATHERING – JULY 10-12

The 10th National Gathering of the United Methodist Men will be held July 10-12 at Belmont University in Nashville. Among the speakers will be Dr. Patrick Morley, founder of Man in the Mirror. Among the artists sharing music is Vince Gill. For more information on the event or to register go to their website: www.gcumm.org.

FYI....Mental Health America is holding a Postpartum Support Group the first and third Tuesday evenings of each month. This will continue for the next three-months. This meeting is open to the public. For more information, contact clandmark@usieagles.org.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>JULY 2009</h1>  						
<p>Services Every Sunday: 8:30 A. M. Contemporary Service 9:30 A.M. Sunday School 10:30 A.M. Traditional Service</p>						
		Rev. Easley on vacation →	1 1 1:00 Wednesday Friends - Trinity Room 6:15 <u>John</u> Study - Library	2 9:00 Quilting 9:30-11:30 Food Pantry 10:00-1:00 Rack Shack 6:00 Worship Team – Library	3 Church Office Closed due to the 4 th of July	4 4 th of July 
5 Communion Sunday	6 9:30-11:30 Food Pantry 10:00-1:00 Rack Shack 5:30 -8:00 VBS 6:00 Trustee Meeting- Church Office Rev. Easley on vacation →	7 10:00 Martha Elizabeth Cir. Library 5:30 – 8:00 VBS 6:00 Post Partum Sup. – Lib. 6:00 Finance Com. - Ch – O 6:30 Emmaus Prayer Group	8 5:30 – 8:00 VBS	9 7:30 JACC Mtg. Library 9:00 Quilting 9:30-11:30 Food Pantry 10:00-1:00 Rack Shack 2:00 Mary-Barb Brooks Cir. -Library 5:30-8:00 VBS	10 5:30-8:00 VBS 5:30 Young Adult Small Group – Trinity Room	11 9:00-12:00 Indoor Playground 12:00 NA Meeting - Library
12	13 9:30-11:30 Food Pantry 10:00-1:00 Rack Shack 4:30 Outreach Mtg. - Trinity 6:00 Church Council - Trinity	14 9:00 Staff Meeting 2:00 Small Accountability 6:30 Emmaus Prayer Group	15 11:00 Wednesday Friends - Trinity Room 6:30 Center City Cluster Meeting – St. Lucas	16 9:00 Quilting 9:30-11:30 Food Pantry 10:00-1:00 Rack Shack 12:00 Senior Citizens - Garden Room 5:15 Flood of Justice - Ch-O	17 12:00 MESSENGER DEADLINE	18 9:00-12:00 Indoor Playground 12:00 NA Meeting - Library
19	20 9:30-11:30 Food Pantry 10:00-1:00 Rack Shack 7:00 Bea Conder Circle Host: Evelyth Wright	21 9:00 Full Church Staff Mtg. 5:45 Nurture - Church Office 6:00 Post Partum Sup. – Lib. 6:30 Emmaus Prayer Group	22	23 9:00 Quilting 9:30-11:30 Food Pantry 10:00-1:00 Rack Shack 5:00 FLC rented for Basketball	24	25 9:00-12:00 Indoor Playground 12:00 NA Meeting - Library
26 5:00 Shalom Neighborhood Dinner - Central	27 9:30-11:30 Food Pantry 10:00-1:00 Rack Shack 6:30 CAJE Team Meeting - Library	28 9:00 Church Staff Mtg. 6:30 Emmaus Prayer Group	29	30 9:00 Quilting 9:30-11:30 Food Pantry 10:00-1:00 Rack Shack	31 5:30 Young Adult Small Group – Trinity Room	