

Here for You!

**Website:**

[www.eheights.org](http://www.eheights.org)

**Facebook:**

[www.facebook.com/evangelheightsumc](http://www.facebook.com/evangelheightsumc)

**YouTube:**

<https://www.youtube.com/@evangelheightsumc>

**Church Office**

574-234-8379  
114 N. Ironwood Drive  
South Bend, IN 46615

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:**

MONDAY - THURSDAY  
9:30 AM - 1:30 PM

**Pastor Michelle Cobb**

extension 1  
[michelle.cobb@inumc.org](mailto:michelle.cobb@inumc.org)

**Mrs. Katy Monroe**

**Music Director**

[Katy@eheights.org](mailto:Katy@eheights.org)

**Rob Parker**

**Office Manager**

extension 2  
[EvangelHeightsUMC@gmail.com](mailto:EvangelHeightsUMC@gmail.com)

**Brooke Holdeman**

**PDO Director**

574-232-6480  
[parentsdayoff@gmail.com](mailto:parentsdayoff@gmail.com)

# The Beacon

News from  
Evangel Heights United Methodist Church  
*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*  
December 24, 2023



The Mission of  
Evangel Heights United Methodist Church:  
To equip, nurture, and reach out  
to make disciples of Jesus Christ  
for the transformation of the world.

## Beacon Highlights

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## Christmas Eve Service

7:00 pm on Sunday, December 24





**The Mission of Evangel Heights United Methodist Church: To equip, nurture, and reach out in order to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.**

Evangel Heights Family and Friends, *"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you..."*  
(Philippians 1:6 NRSV)

**A Service of Peace.** The Service of Peace is tonight. Join other SB Clergy and Laity as we invite congregations and the Community to gather for an evening of music, readings, and prayer on the longest night of the year. See the announcement in the Beacon for further information.

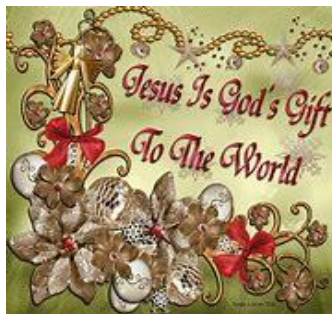
**Bible Sunday.** On Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, we will distribute Bibles to our third and fourth graders who have not received Bibles from Evangel Heights UMC. Parents, please submit the names of your child to the Office by January 2, 2023.

**Homelessness.** Thank you for your ongoing donations of coats and blankets for the guests at Broadway Christian Parish.

**Thank you.** Evangel Heights Family and Friends. Your prayer support is appreciated. I am thankful for the opportunity to serve as your pastor. Thank you, too, for your commitment to Jesus Christ which is demonstrated by your involvement at Evangel Heights United Methodist Church through the sharing of your gifts and time within and beyond the four walls of our congregation.

As we move forward, let us pray, "Lord, interrupt us to be fearlessly obedient to your plans; challenge us to act on those opportunities." Let us continue to trust God for the impossible! *"Jesus looked at them and said, 'With man this is impossible, but **with God all things are possible.**'"* (Matthew 19:26)

**Remember.** *Our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.* (Ephesians 6:12, NRSV)



*"It is not our differences that divide us. It is our inability to recognize, accept and celebrate those differences."* - Audre Lorde

Joy in the Journey,

*Pastor Michelle*

## Gratitude from Sarah Greenawalt

Thank you for such a wonderful experience as your Office Manager! The welcome, generosity, and kindness that my family and I experienced through EHUMC will have a lifelong impact. May God continue to bless, guide, and interrupt you as a congregation! I look forward to staying in touch!

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## Office Manager Announcement

I am very happy to announce we have filled the office manager opening. Our own Rob Parker has accepted the position. Rob brings us many years of office management experience, computer skills, kindness, and a desire to serve in his home church. We so sincerely welcome Rob Parker to our Evangel Heights staff.  
- The SPRC

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## Welcome, Rob Parker!



Rob has many years of hospitality experience in the restaurant and hotel industries. Rob has been semi-retired for the last several years and works a part time position to stay busy. Most recently he filled the role of office manager for Sunnyside Presbyterian Church here in South Bend.

Rob is excited about his new role here at Evangel Heights helping his church family and mission field.

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## Volunteer Opportunity in the Church Office



Are you interested in volunteering in the church office? Whether it's once a week or once a month, your generosity of time and presence is appreciated! Support with answering phones, sending mailings, contributing to the Beacon, and assisting the Office Manager with other projects is a tremendous help to the church. Please contact Rob if you are interested (574-234-8379, [evangelheightsumc@gmail.com](mailto:evangelheightsumc@gmail.com))!

# DISMANTLING RACISM

**S** - See others as human beings who are made in the image of God (Genesis 2:27)

<sup>27</sup> God created humanity in God's own image,  
in the divine image God created them,<sup>[a]</sup>  
male and female God created them.

**T** - Talk to others who are different from you, i.e., culture, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation  
(Acts 10:28; 34, *Common English Bible*)

<sup>28</sup> He said to them, "You all realize that it is forbidden for a Jew to associate or visit with outsiders. However, God has shown me that I should never call a person impure or unclean."

**O** - Be open to learning something new about the God who has been revealed through Jesus Christ, yourself, and/or the other person (Acts 10:34, *Common English Bible*)

<sup>34</sup> Peter said, "I really am learning that God doesn't show partiality to one group of people over another."

**P** - Practice curiosity and hospitality whenever you find yourself in a different environment.  
(Hebrews 13:12, *Common English Bible*)

<sup>12</sup> Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to **angels** without knowing it.

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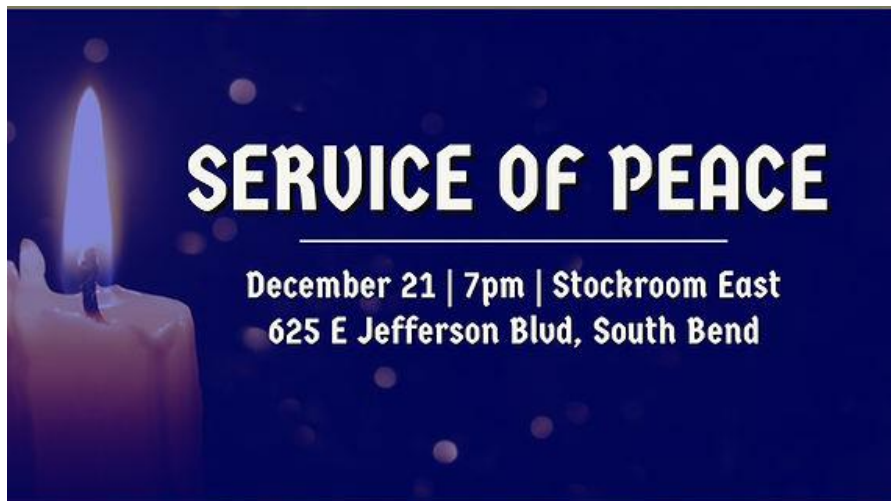
## I, Too

BY LANGSTON HUGHES

I, too, sing America.  
I am the darker brother.  
They send me to eat in the kitchen  
When company comes,  
But I laugh,  
And eat well,  
And grow strong.  
Tomorrow,  
I'll be at the table  
When company comes.  
Nobody'll dare  
Say to me,  
"Eat in the kitchen,"  
Then.  
Besides,  
They'll see how beautiful I am  
And be ashamed—  
I, too, am America.



## Please continue to pray for McKinley Elementary and PDO Preschool!



All are invited to this collaborative community gathering led by local United Methodist Churches. There will be readings, music, and prayer, designed to provide peace and hope for all who find the holidays difficult, stressful, or grief-filled. *(Across from the Howard Park Public House)*

### Reverse Advent Calendar

Each day, add an item to a box. On Christmas Eve, donate the contents to the Broadway Christian Parish food pantry. If you need an empty box, help yourself to one in the church work room.

#### December:



- |                            |                         |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1: box of cereal           | 13: can of beans        |
| 2: peanut butter           | 14: box of crackers     |
| 3: stuffing mix            | 15: package of rice     |
| 4: boxed potatoes          | 16: oatmeal             |
| 5: mac and cheese          | 17: package of pasta    |
| 6: can of fruit            | 18: spaghetti sauce     |
| 7: can of tomatoes         | 19: chicken noodle soup |
| 8: can of tuna             | 20: tomato soup         |
| 9: dessert mix             | 21: can of corn         |
| 10: jar of applesauce      | 22: mixed vegetables    |
| 11: can of sweet potatoes  | 23: can of carrots      |
| 12: can of cranberry sauce | 24: can of green beans  |

*Thank you to those who contributed towards poinsettias to make the sanctuary beautiful in honor or memory of loved ones...*

David & Bobbie Anderson	In memory of our family members
Pam Bliley	In memory of John, Dan, and parents
Crystal Clear	In honor of her family
Dennis & Christy Clements	
Pastor Michelle	In honor of Mrs. Lovella Tindal & family, In honor of The Evangel Heights Community of Faith
Donna Hill	In memory of Willard Hill
Nan Hussey	In memory of Charles & Alice Hussey
David J. Irwin and Stacey E. Irwin	In memory of David C. Irwin and Merrus E. Irwin, Ned and Elsie Sowle, and John and Vivian Hoctel
Kent & Edna Kaeppler	In honor of our families and grandchildren
Marilyn Moutray	In honor of my children
Lee Rarick and Karen O'Shea	In appreciation of Pastor Michelle
Sande Stanley	In memory of Jessie Richards
Andrew & Elizabeth Turba	In honor of Don & Gene Bennion, In memory of Lydia Turba
Shirley Wise	In honor of Christ





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## Calling all Third and Fourth Graders!

Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup> will be Bible Sunday!  
On this day, Bibles will be presented to all third and fourth grade children of Evangel Heights United Methodist Church.  
Please notify the church office by January 2<sup>nd</sup> if you have a third or fourth grader in your family. Thank you!

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**EVERY CHILD HAS A CHANCE. IT'S YOU!**

**WHEN:** JANUARY 13 - FEBRUARY 17, 2024  
SATURDAYS FROM 9:00 AM TO 3:00PM

**WHERE:** JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER  
1000 S. MICHIGAN STREET  
SOUTH BEND, IN 46601

### WHAT IS A CASA?

CASA stands for **C**ourt **A**ppointed **S**pecial **A**dvocate.



📞 574-235-5375

🌐 [sjccasa.org](http://sjccasa.org)

✉️ [casa@jjconline.org](mailto:casa@jjconline.org)

**A CASA is an everyday citizen who volunteers their time to advocate for children in foster care. CASA volunteers are the child's voice in court.**

**CASA volunteers are required to pass various background checks and must successfully complete a 35 hour pre-service training prior to receiving a case.**

**Please join us in praying for our congregation  
and these specific concerns...**



- **Becky-** grieving the passing of her daughter, [Jeanette](#)
- **Ernest and Dawn K.-** Good health for brother-in-law, Rick, and 96 year old mother, Betty
- **Julie** – Jill’s sister, who is struggling with her health
- **Anthony B.-** grieving the loss of his 54 year old nephew, Christopher, who recently passed away
- **Chris-** awaiting news on his disability income eligibility
- **Lorraine** – Rod’s sister who has transitioned to hospice care
- **Candice D.-** friend of Kathie’s who is going through radiation for cancer
- **Danielle and family (a friend of Nan’s)-** asking God for one more Christmas with their mom, Denise, who has brain cancer
- **Melodi, Edward and Pete** – as they grieve the passing of [Vera Orr](#)
- **The family of Jan S.** – as they grieve her passing
- **Pearl S.-** for her time in Indianapolis with her daughter over the winter
- **Nancy H.-** praise God that she is getting stronger
- **Ken S.-** continued prayers for his recovery
- **Brian and Christine and Kaeppler family**
- **Barbara S.-** She welcomes prayers, cards & visits
- **Friedman family-** various medical issues
- **Reid S. and family-** health and peace
- **Pray for Our Pastor**

### Ongoing Prayer Concerns

David Anderson	Tony DeMarco
James Craige in TN	Marge Chomyn
Anne Gongwer	Grace McBeth
David King	Amy D. & sons
Caylor Gongwer	Lizabeth
Bishop Julius Trimble	
Rev. Dr. Marti Lundy	

### International Prayer Concerns

**Lindsey and Steve Poulson,**  
Proyecto Alas in Honduras. Read their updates [here](#) or on the bulletin board!  
**Doug Clements,** Auckland, NZ

### North District UMC Pastor and Churches

**Inwood UMC and Bremen Riverside UMC-** Rev. Becky Baker  
**Knox UMC** – Rev. Dee Miller  
**LaCrosse UMC-** Rev. Randy Schrock  
**Lakeville UMC** – Rev. Ed McCutchan  
**LaPorte First UMC** – Rev. Tim Ahlemeyer and Rev. Joy Ahlemeyer

### School Prayer Concerns

**PDO Preschool**      **McKinley Elementary**  
**Adams High School**  
For safety and parental/volunteer support


## **MAY I PRAY WITH YOU?**

Our Stephen Ministers and prayer team members are available for a private, confidential prayer time with you after the worship service. If you are in need of prayer, look for a volunteer with a yellow tag that says “May I Pray With You?”  
Evangel Heights is a praying church.

*Praise be to God!*



# December/January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				21 7:00 Service of Peace at Stockroom East in SB	22 Church office closed	23
24 9:30 Worship, No Sunday School, No confirmation 7:00 Christmas Eve Service	25 <b>Church office closed this week</b>	26	27	28	29 Church office closed	30
31 9:30 Worship, No confirmation, No Sunday School	1 Church office closed	2 9:30 Men's Breakfast  9:30 Staff Meeting  11:00 Intercessory Prayer	3	4 6:30 Bells 7:30 Choir	5 Church office closed	6
7 9:30 Worship, Sunday School, Confirmation with Mentors	8 PDO Returns 3:00 Abigail Sisters	9 11:00 Intercessory Prayer	10 6:30 SPRC	11 6:30 Bells 7:30 Choir	12 Church office closed	13
14 9:30 Worship, Human Relations Sunday and Bible Sunday, Confirmation and Sunday School	15 Church office and PDO closed  6:00 Finance meeting on Zoom	16 11:00 Intercessory Prayer  6:30 Church Council	17 9:30 PDO Chapel 6:30 Trustees	18 8:45 PDO Staff Meeting  6:30 Bells 7:30 Choir	19 Church office closed	20
21 9:30 Worship, Leadership Sunday, Sunday School, Confirmation	22 3:00 Abigail Sisters	23 11:00 Intercessory Prayer	24	25	2 Church Office Closed	27

# Serving in Jesus Name

## Prayers and Liturgy

12/24 Brian Clear  
12/31 Nan Hussey  
1/7 Heather Hetler

## Greeters

12/24 Terri Keirnan and Shirley Wise  
12/31 Sande Stanley  
1/7

## Happy Birthday!



12/22 Grace McBeth  
12/23 Claudia Berlincourt  
12/27 Mary Fredenburg  
12/27 Judy Bradford



## Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministry is a lay caring ministry offered by thousands of congregations to care for hurting people. Through Stephen Ministry, congregations equip and empower a team of Stephen Ministers who provide one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people experiencing grief, unemployment, hospitalization, loneliness, divorce, financial stress, a terminal illness, or other life difficulties.

We want to care for people at Evangel Heights United Methodist Church.

*To learn more, contact Pastor Michelle.*

## Last Week's Worship Service:

We are so glad to celebrate with 61 people in in-person worship and 39 people through YouTube.

**Please subscribe to our YouTube channel!**

<https://www.youtube.com/@evangelheightsumc>

**December  
Coin Offering**

Gongwer  
Mission