



Dear Siblings in Christ -

Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen Indeed! We have spent the last 40 days and Holy Week remembering all the ways that Christ foolishly loves us. Christ loves us so much that even in the end, Christ forgave us for all that was happening to him. What love is better than that? I am not sure I know of one.

What do we do now? Knowing that Christ suffered and died for us, how do we go out and LIVE for Christ?

It's a complicated question with perhaps the simplest answer. We go out and live in love. Love who? All. Every single person you encounter.

Love can be hard. I am not always the best at loving everyone around me. I struggle to love those who disagree with me, I struggle to love those who hurt others, I struggle to love anyone who would harm my family but Christ calls us to love. And perhaps it is the ones that are the hardest to love that will bring us even closer to Christ. I do not have all the answers nor do I have a set plan on how to do this but I am truly convinced that

when we love, truly love, we will change the world for the better.

So how do we love all those that are hard for us to love? We start by seeing each person as a child of God and go from there. Love is not about letting someone wrong you or harm another. Love is about loving someone enough to tell them they too are loved by God and that God so loved the world God gave us God's only son and we are to live a life like his. I don't have a checklist or a timeline for learning to love all, I just simply try my best everyday. And when I encounter someone that pushes all my buttons, I close my eyes, invite God in and say "The child of God in me, sees and loves the child of God in you".

Try it sometime. Because each time I do, it begins to soften my heart just a little more, making more and more room for love.

So what do we do now that Christ has risen? We go love and set the world on fire with the transforming power of the Holy Spirit.

Blessings to you all,

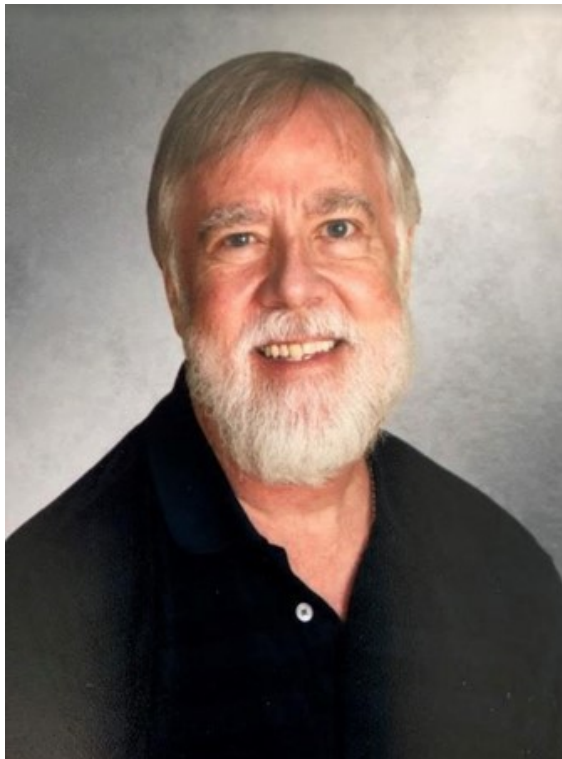
Pastor Ali



Palm Sunday

Baby Grace Benefit Concert Featuring Pianist *Dave Schnackenberg*

Join us Saturday, April 13 at 6pm at Indian Heights UMC for a very special concert with pianist Dave Schnackenberg. All proceeds will benefit Indian Heights Baby Grace.



Dave Schnackenberg began studying the piano at age seven and has continued throughout the past 61 years. He began playing for worship services at age 12 and has been playing in the church ever since. For several decades Dave worked as a composer, arranger and pianist with Artists of Indian America out of Albuquerque, NM. In 2018 one of his compositions was performed in Carnegie Hall, NYC.

Tickets are \$25 each and can be purchased from the donation link on our website (indianheightsumc.org/donate). Please check the "Baby Grace Benefit Concert" fund. You can also purchase tickets via check (note "Baby Grace Benefit Concert" on the memo line) and at the door the night of the event.

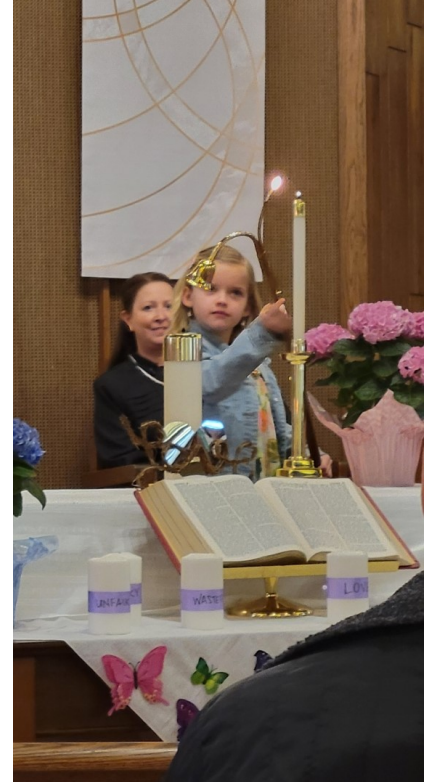
Kids will have a pizza party during the concert; RSVP your child(ren) to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4EAAA729ABFCC07-48011565-baby> so we have enough food. The cost is \$10 per child (pay at the door).

Dave has also performed solo and duo piano concerts throughout a seven-state region. Most of those concerts were for charitable organizations or to aid people facing medical situations. He has enjoyed bringing sacred and classical piano music to people. Soli Deo Gloria – to God be the Glory – is the backbone of each concert as he truly believes that, what talent he has, was given by God.

He also taught music for 41 years with the Bureau of Indian Education on the Turtle Mt. Chippewa reservation in Belcourt, ND, becoming an honorary member within the tribe. He then spent four years teaching in the public school system before retiring from education in 2023. Dave has also been the pianist for two community musical theatre groups since 2008 and has accompanied 40+ Missoula Children's Theatre productions, which is a group that brings theatre into schools across the nation and around the globe. In 2010 Dave also began recording music digitally for use in worship services, to provide music for churches who are without musicians.

Dave is currently the full-time lay pastor for the Presbyterian churches of Rolla and St. John in North Dakota. This concert is Dave's way of thanking God for all He has done. May you feel His love through this performance.

Easter 2024



Easter 2024





Woven Women

"Weaving together our stories, our environments, and our families to create transformative and powerful places to encounter God."

*April 19th and 20th, 2024
at Monticello UMC and LifeBridge KC*

*Led by Pastors Bailey Amtower and Ali Haynes
with guest speakers: Rev. Shelly McNaughton-Lawrence
and Rev. Nancy Pauls*

Join us April 19 and 20 for Woven Women: A time to encounter God with friends through prayer, worship, art and words from guests. The retreat will be facilitated by Rev. Bailey Amtower and Rev. Ali Haynes, with guest speakers Rev. Shelly McNaughton-Lawrence and Nancy Pauls.

Time: Gather with us Friday from 6pm-9pm and Saturday from 9am-3pm. If you can't come for the whole retreat, that is okay, still come!

Cost: \$50/person. Once you register, you will receive a confirmation email from revalihaynes@gmail.com with instructions on how to submit payment. The cost will go toward food, music and presenters. If you are in need of a scholarship please contact Bailey or Ali.

Food: Dinner Friday night, Breakfast and Lunch provided on Saturday. Snacks and refreshments will be available throughout the event.

****IF YOU HAVE A DIETARY RESTRICTION PLEASE INDICATE THAT IN THE COMMENTS OF THE SIGN UP.**

Logistics: Wear comfy clothes. Bring anything you need to be comfortable.

We will be collecting diapers, all sizes, for Baby Grace. Learn more about Baby Grace at www.babygrace.org

Link for more information and registration:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0D4DA4A623A0FC1-47565058-woven#/>



MUSIC NOTES

78

NEW BRITAIN. C.M.

John Newton

Arr. by William Walker

1. A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, Was blind, but now I see.
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fear re-lieved; How pre-cious did that grace ap - pear, The hour I first be-lieved.
3. Thru man - y dan-gers, toils, and snares, I have al - read - y come; 'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.
4. When we've been there ten thou-sand years, Bright shin-ing as the sun; We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we first be-gun.

Have you ever wondered how a hymn or praise song is born? It starts with the text. Every day, new songs are written in praise of God and all that the risen Christ and Holy Spirit has done for us. In the late 19th century, texts and hymn tunes were two separate things. The song leader would call out a text (Example: "Amazing Grace") and a tune name (Example: New Britain) and sometimes even a meter, and the congregation would find the words in their hymnals and just know the tunes. In the early 20th century when the first American hymnal was printed, it looked very different than notation of today.

While I won't go into a lesson on shape note singing, I will point out that the melody is in the *tenor* and not the soprano, as we are used to now. Many musicologists pine that the reason for this is partly because of the patriarchal society, and because so many of the best-known tunes started in places of lesser repute, such as taverns, where church-going ladies did not dare show their faces. (Yes, Amazing Grace started as a drinking song.)

This summer, all of you who may have penned -- or feel called to pen -- words of that may be a hymn, psalm, or song will be asked to submit them for consideration to

Summer Choir

The Chancel Choir season ends on Pentecost, which this year falls on May 19. After that, we'll be on hiatus, sorta. The choir will transition to Summer Choir, which will meet about one Wednesday every 3-4 weeks to rehearse a couple of easy anthems, and sing maybe 1-2x a month. If you've ever considered joining the choir but don't want to make a long-term commitment, consider the Summer Choir. The rehearsal schedule will be posted in May's newsletter.



PARKWOOD

— DAY SCHOOL —

New Faces, New Spaces

Starting in May, the Parkwood Day School will be borrowing space at Indian Heights UMC as renovations continue on our old Parsonage building. We are all very excited, but also realize that there will be some challenges. It is vital that you [contact Suzette](#) in the Church Office to reserve space for your events so we do not double-book a room. If you need to set up for your Sunday School class or other group, you will have to work around Parkwood's schedule. They will be in session M-F, 7am-6pm. Please see Pastor Ali or Suzette with questions.

Coins for Lent

During the season of Lent, everyone was invited to add cash to our "Lent Piggy Bank".

We collected \$209.77!!

This will all be donated to our Baby Grace ministry. Thank you for all the donations.



Petting Zoo & Trunk or Treat

Saturday, October 26

11am-1pm

Planning Meeting
June 12
6pm



FREE FAMILY FUN!

Wear Your Costume!!

Have you been wondering why you haven't heard any news about the annual Petting Zoo? Well, we are doing something different this year. With so much going on at the parsonage this spring, it was decided to schedule the **Petting Zoo** for the fall and combine it with our planned **Trunk or Treat** event on Saturday, October 26, from 11am to 1pm. Although October may seem like a long way off, we want to get a jump on planning this fun-filled event.

Be on the watch for sign-up sheets for team leaders. We'll be looking for help with Vehicles for Trunk or Treat, event Parking, the IHUMC Visitor Tent and Raffle area, helpers with Food, Vendors, Set-up and Clean-up, and with Communications. The first planning meeting is Tuesday, June 12 at 6pm at the church. So, remember to mark your calendars for October 26, join in on the kick off meeting on June 12, and help IHUMC host another fun family event for our community.

Next, block out **the evening of Saturday, November 16** in your calendar. This is our annual Fall Auction event. It's going to be all about **Thanksgiving** this year and is going to be the BEST AUCTION ever! Watch for more details.



KINGDOM KIDS

Indian Heights United Methodist Church

Sundays at 10:30am



**Easter was
Amazing!**



**Thank you
for all the
donations
for our
Easter Egg
Hunt!!**

Vacation Bible School is Coming!



Vacation Bible School
July 29-August 1
6-8pm

Watch for
Volunteer Sign-Ups, Planning
Meetings & Enrollment Info.

Kingdom Kids is held at 10:30am during the church service. We also have a fun kids zone time at 9:30 during the adult Sunday School time. A light snack is provided during the 10:30 hour.



Follow our Facebook Page:
www.facebook.com/indianheightsumc.org

Haley Broockerd and Aby Peoples,
Children and Family Ministry
Coordinators
umcihkids@gmail.com



Our Little Food Pantry

**The Pantry is open the 1st Saturday of every month, from 9-11am
Wednesdays, Noon-2pm
(and by appointment)**

Saturday's food pantry hours overlap with Baby Grace, making it the perfect time to add this outreach. A special thank you to our new helpers with this ministry, Carol Woods and Jewell Thomas. They are working alongside staff to help this ministry continue to feed the community. Donations are always appreciated. Just leave items on the floor by the pantry or by Suzette's office so we can sort and date them. Donations to our Good Shepherd fund (see below) are also appreciated. We will take this money and shop for needed items, helping to keep the food pantry well stocked with popular items.

The Good Shepherd Fund

Did you know we have a "Good Shepherd Fund" at Indian Heights UMC? This fund was established several years ago when we realized there was a need from the community for a special fund that helps pay for things like utility bills, rent, food, car repairs, and more. The money in this fund is being focused on our Little Food Pantry right now, but can be used for other things as needs arise. You can give cash or check, or give via our website. Please note the fund this is for with your payment.



Community Opportunities

Good Faith Network

This organization offices in our church and many of you are familiar with them. They are always looking for more people to join their efforts as they advocate for people throughout Johnson County. See Pastor Ali for more details about the Good Faith Network and how you can be part of this growing ministry.

Upcoming Opportunity: 2024 Nehemiah Action

May 7, 6-7:30pm

At Resurrection - Main Sanctuary
13720 Roe Ave, Leawood

Join your Johnson County neighbors of faith as we use our collective voice to bring God's justice to our community. See Pastor Ali with questions.

Westridge Middle School

The Caring for Kids team met at Westridge on February 15. Hard to believe, but the school year is drawing to a close. Westridge's focus has been on attendance and reading. Both of those areas have improved. The next Family Engagement night centers around Diversity. Teacher Appreciation week is May 6-10. Indian Heights will be honoring the staff on one of those days, and we will also sponsor the school supply drive in the summer. If you would like to get involved with Caring for Kids, please contact IHUMC member Lynn Reilly.

The Hub Argentine

Thank you to all who helped with Serve Day at the Hub in March. Several IHUMC friends showed up to help paint a room. There are ongoing volunteer needs at this outreach center located in Kansas City, Kansas.





**The next Baby
Grace diaper
distribution is:**

**Saturday, April 6,
from 9-11am**

We are so excited to be able to continue providing this vital service to our community. Donations are always needed and appreciated. There are containers to collect diapers at the church, or you can give a donation online (mark the Baby Grace fund):

www.indianheightsumc.org/donate

Keep up with our latest news on our Facebook page (Indian Heights Baby Grace). Contact us at

babygraceihumc@gmail.com

*Diaper distributions are the 1st Saturday of every month, from 9-11am; clothing distributions are 1st Saturdays in March, May, August and November.

What is Baby Grace?

What?: It's a free diaper distribution to those in need in our community

When? First Saturdays of every month, from 9-11am

Where?: At Indian Heights UMC, 10211 Nall Ave (Overland Park)

Who?: We can always use volunteers; check ahead by emailing babygraceihumc@gmail.com. If you need diapers, just show up.

Why?: Because dry bottoms make for happy, healthy kids



Creative Souls

Meets the 1st and 3rd Thursdays, from 2-5pm

Bring your own creative project
or join in a community project!

Creative Souls
will take a
break , May-
August. Watch
for possible
special
summer
Saturday
events!!

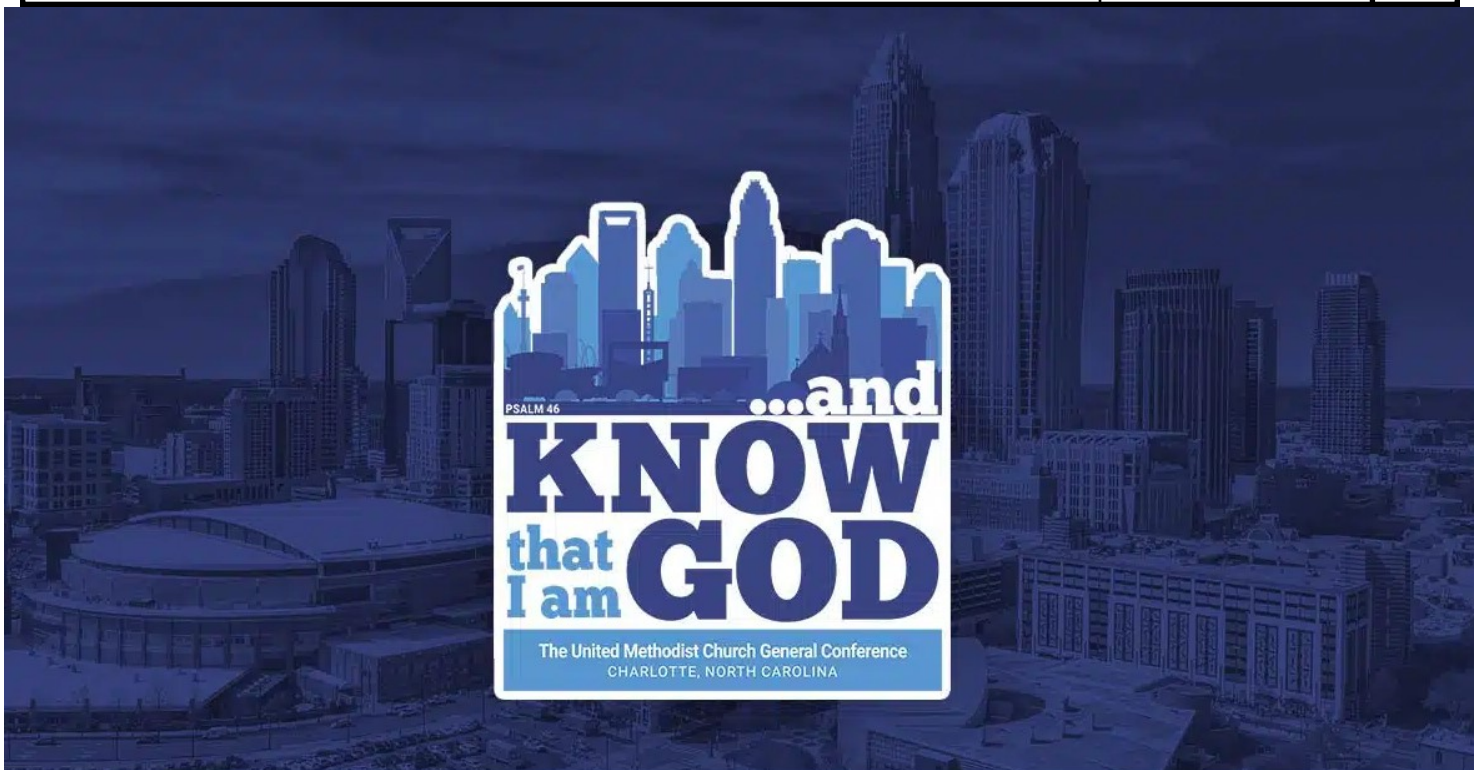
Contact Jackie
Johnson with
questions.

Men's Breakfast



Weekly on Thursdays, 7am

Location: Flapjacks (7552 W 119th St/OP)



General Conference

April 23 - May 3

General Conference is scheduled for April 23-May 3, 2024, at the Charlotte Convention Center in Charlotte, North Carolina. Learn more about GBHEM's agency reports and legislation here: gbhem.org/connect/gc2024/

Planning a big family wedding with dozens of people coming in for a weekend is challenge enough.

But imagine trying to bring more than a thousand people together from four continents for a gathering that lasts two weeks.

They speak 10 languages, have various dietary needs, require multiple hotel rooms and must be able to come together to pray, worship and make decisions that affect millions of United Methodists. Hundreds of these visitors also need visas just to attend.

Making sure United Methodist delegates, bishops and others can come together for the denomination's top legislative assembly is the responsibility of the Commission on the General Conference.

Your support of The [General Administration Fund](#) apportionment implements trustworthy administrative oversight like the General Conference sessions.

That international commission gathered May 21-24 for its first in-person meeting [since 2019](#) to determine some of the final details for next year's General Conference. The theme for the gathering will be ["...and know that I am God" from Psalm 46](#).

Kim Simpson, the commission's chair, said that focus on God is critical, especially in this tumultuous time. (cont. on next page)

General Conference, Cont...

For the past three years, the commission's planning has been hampered by the COVID pandemic and resulting travel complications — leading the commission to postpone General Conference three times. The assembly, originally planned for 2020 in Minneapolis, is now scheduled for April 23-May 3, 2024, in Charlotte, North Carolina.

The Judicial Council, The United Methodist Church's top court, opened the door for more General Conference delegate elections this year.

The Rev. Gary Graves, the secretary of General Conference, is still receiving information about how many such vacancies currently exist worldwide. At this point, he told UM News he is aware of seven General Conference delegation vacancies in the U.S.

General Conference delegates also can expect stricter requirements for their credentials after an investigation in 2019 found four ineligible people cast votes during that year's special General Conference using credentials of absent delegates.

Because of disaffiliations, deaths, resignations and other changes within delegations, a number of annual conferences — the denomination's regional bodies — are holding elections this year to fill vacancies in their General Conference delegations.

The coming General Conference is to have 862 voting delegates — 55.9% from the U.S., 32% from Africa, 6% from the Philippines, 4.6% from Europe and the remainder from concordat churches that have close ties to The United Methodist Church. Half are to be clergy and half lay. Bishops preside at General Conference sessions but do not have a vote.

Amid all the shifts, the commission still has planning to do. To that end, the group addressed logistical details for delegates elected to General Conference.

Even under normal circumstances, General Conference often can be a grueling experience where people spend weeks far from home, relying on interpreters for communication and debating issues of faith that they hold dear.

But commission members, throughout their May meeting, remarked that they expected the coming General Conference — with a denominational separation already happening — not to be business as usual.

With that in mind, the commission approved a motion by member Marie Kuch-Stanovsky to have Simpson, its chair, form a “think tank” with other denominational leaders on ideas for conducting General Conference.

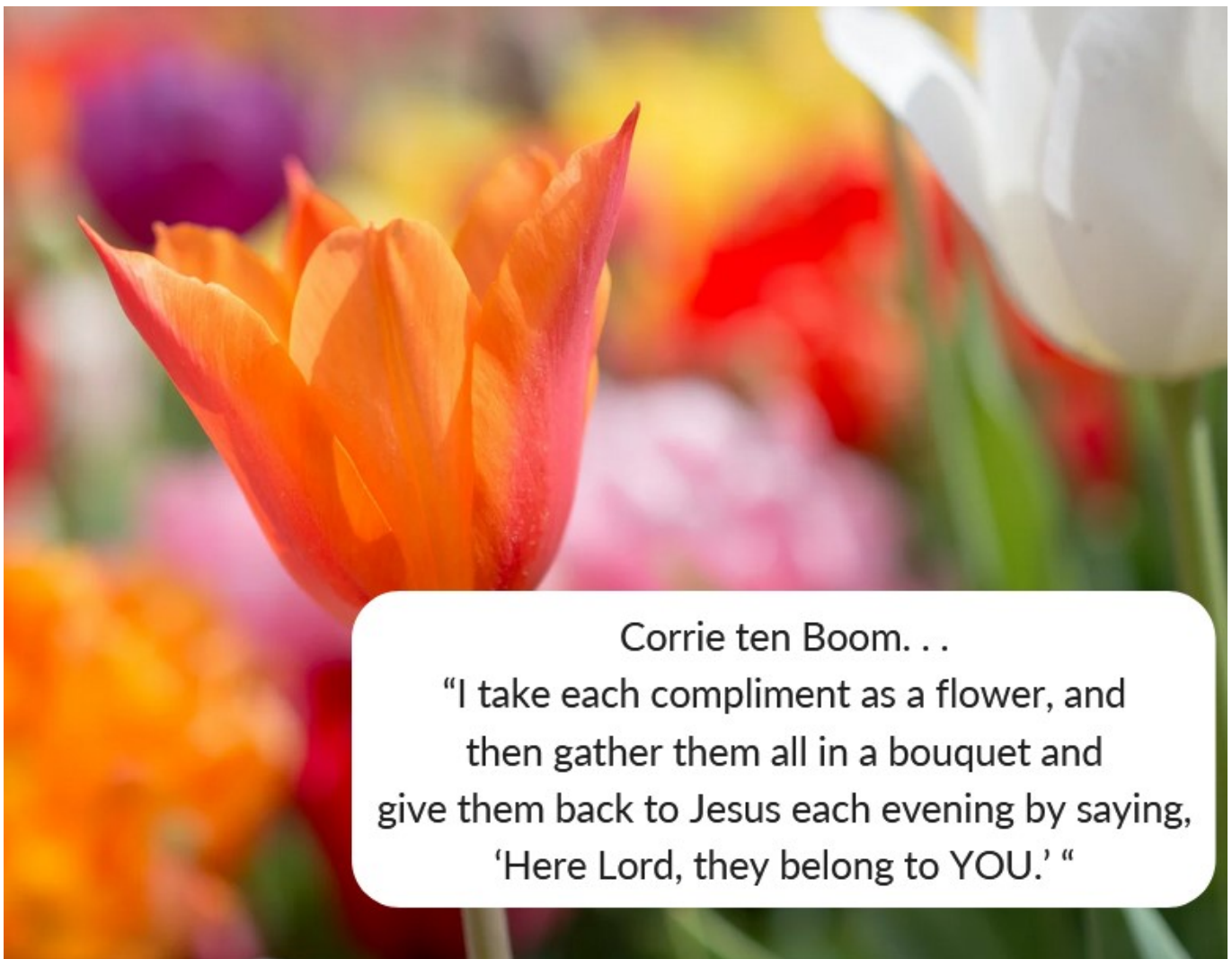
Specifically, those other leaders are to be from the Council of Bishops; the Connectional Table, which coordinates denominational resources and ministries; and the General Council on Finance and Administration, the denomination's finance agency.

Johnson, a new commission member from the Texas Conference, said he hopes such a “high-level” think tank might make recommendations for helping the General Conference delegates do their best work.

*excerpt from a story by **Heather Hahn**, assistant news editor, UMNews.*

<https://www.umc.org/en/content/the-expectations-for-general-conference-2024-gaf>

Upcoming Sermon Series:



Corrie ten Boom. . .

“I take each compliment as a flower, and then gather them all in a bouquet and give them back to Jesus each evening by saying, ‘Here Lord, they belong to YOU.’ “



Upcoming Events:

- **Monday, April 1**– Church Closed (Easter Monday)
- **Saturday, April 6** - Baby Grace and Food Pantry Distribution (9-11am)
- **Saturday, April 13** - Baby Grace Fundraiser Concert (6pm)
- **Tuesday, April 16** - One Board (6:30pm)
- **Friday & Saturday, April 19-20**, Woven Women Retreat (Off Site)

Events & Room Use:

Please contact the Church Office to reserve rooms and with questions about building use: ihumc66207@gmail.com.

Check our online calendar for all events.

Ongoing:

- * **Sunday Worship:** 10:30am (in person & live via Facebook). Videos of Worship are on our website the following Monday.
- **Adult Sunday School Groups:** Sundays, 9:00am and 9:30am (childcare at 9:30)
- **Youth Group:** 9:30am
- **Kingdom Kids:** Sundays, 10:30am
- **Creative Souls:** 1st & 3rd Thursdays, 2pm
- **Women's Theology:** 2nd & 4th Wed. 9:30am
- **Men's Breakfast:** Thursdays, 7am @ Flapjacks
- **Choir Rehearsals:** Wednesdays, 7pm
- **Baby Grace Distributions:** 1st Saturdays of the month, from 9-11am
- **Food Pantry:** Wed, 12-2pm; 1st Saturdays, 9-11am (or by appointment)

Support Groups:

- AlaNon: Wednesdays, Noon
- OA: Fridays, 6:30pm

Need to Reach Us?

Indian Heights United Methodist Church
 10211 Nall Avenue,
 Overland Park, KS, 66207
 913-649-9040
Office Hours: Mon-Thurs, 9:30am-2:30pm
ihumc66207@gmail.com
www.indianheightsumc.org

Church Staff

Senior Pastor, Ali Haynes
revalihaynes@gmail.com
 913-710-2661
 (pastoral emergencies)

Music & Worship Coordinator
Suzanne Isbell
Suzanne.isbell75@gmail.com

Haley Broockerd & Aby Peoples,
Children & Families Ministry
Coordinators
umclHkids@gmail.com

Bill Schnackenberg,
Treasurer
financeihumc@gmail.com

Suzette Mack,
Administrative Assistant
ihumc66207@gmail.com

Our mission is to worship God,
 to follow Jesus joyfully, and to build
 community and mend the world
 through the power of the Holy Spirit.
 As Christians, we are seeking, sowing,
 loving and serving all people!



Making a donation to IHUMC is easy; just scan this code with your phone's camera and it will take you to our donation page. Thank you!!

