

MAY 2024 Keeping in Touch



INDIAN HEIGHTS UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

Dear Siblings in Christ -

**“But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream”**

Amos 5: 24

Dear Siblings in Christ,

We are a few days away from the Nehemiah Assembly being held by the members of the Good Faith Network. The Nehemiah Assembly is a time that the people of Johnson County will be coming together seeking justice for those in our community who are hurting. People experiencing a mental health crisis, people who are homeless, and those who can not afford housing in the community they live and work in.

Did you know that there are currently almost 300 people unhoused in our county? That 40% of the people who WORK for Johnson County cannot afford to live in Johnson County? And that nearly 8,000 people seek emergency care for a mental health episode every year? Change is needed. Justice is needed. YOU are needed to stand up for all of these people and more.

The Good Faith Network will gather over 1,500 people across three faith traditions seeking justice. When there is people power, justice can not be ignored.

Our faith calls us to seek justice and to change the systems in place. Recently, I have been intrigued by the good trouble that Jesus

and the prophets got into: turning over tables, disrupting the systems in place and seeking radical change.

As followers of Christ, we are called to seek justice. We are called to work with one another in a community where all people know their worth and feel valued. We can do that together with the Good Faith Network.

The Good Faith Network will be asking County Commissioners and Tim DeWeese, Executive Director of Johnson County Mental Health, to commit to making change in our community. We can no longer keep placing Band-Aids over the issues in front of us, but to do what the Lord requires.

IHUMC is part of the Good Faith Network and you are invited to come to the Nehemiah Assembly and see what this is all about. The event will be held at Church of The Resurrection at 6:00pm on May 7. COR's address is 13720 Roe Blvd, Leawood, KS. Tickets are free and you can get one from one of our team leaders and/or Pastor Ali, they use the tickets to track numbers and church involvement.

Show up.

Seek Justice and tell the people of our county that they are worthy of love, respect and equality.

Let justice roll.

-Pastor Ali

SAVE THE DATE 2024 NEHEMIAH ACTION

Join your Johnson County neighbors of faith on

May 7, 2024
6:00 - 7:30 PM

as we use our collective voice to bring God's
justice to our community.



Resurrection - Main Sanctuary
(13720 Roe Ave, Leawood)



***Doors open at 5:30!**
For more information, visit:
www.thegoodfaithnetwork.org

Tuesday, May 7th
ONE NIGHT.
ONE VOICE.
2024 Nehemiah Action
Doors open at 5:15 PM
Resurrection (Leawood)



MUSIC NOTES

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 soon.

Parkwood Day School Updates

I wanted to take a moment to give you all updates on what is happening with Parkwood Day School. Parkwood will officially be moving over to IHUMC on June 1st. As most projects go, the inside of the house (our old parsonage) is taking longer than expected. Our One Board had initially approved for Parkwood to use four classrooms in the church until the addition is built. Due to the amount of work being done, they are unsure if the classrooms in the house will be ready by June 1. With that being said, the One Board has approved additional, temporary use of our Fellowship Hall for the preschool to use until the rooms in the house are ready. So what does that mean?

Beginning June 1, the church will be the primary location for the school. All groups impacted by this have been notified and arrangements are being made to accommodate all. The school meets Monday-Friday, from 7am-6pm.

Once the 5 classrooms are done inside the house, the majority of the kids will move over there, hopefully by the end of summer. Parkwood will still rent 4 classrooms, as initially planned, from IHUMC until the addition is completed. Then all children will move over to

the house and use the church building for big group activities as agreed upon already.

Parkwood has graciously offered to do the following updates to the church:

- New flooring, paint, and dividers in the fellowship hall
- New doors going out of the fellowship hall onto the playground
- New playground equipment
- Landscaping around the church, labyrinth, and garden

Change is coming and we all know change can add stress. However, I want us to all welcome this change with generous and excited spirits! While this was not the full original plan, we are in this with Parkwood and have to be willing to adapt as necessary. This partnership is wonderful for our church family, and I truly believe it will only continue to strengthen.

Feel free to come to me with any questions you may have.

-Pastor Ali

P.S. With the preschool comes an increased need in building security. Please watch for important updates regarding building access as access will be changing.



Youth Group News

Last fall we created a group for youth, 4th grade and older. We meet in a lower level classroom at 9:30 Sunday mornings. We've completed a 12-week study of the Bible that took us from the creation story to the beginning of the early Church. We've learned about the Church calendar, completed an Advent study and Lenten study, dug into the four gospels, shared two large tubs of cheese balls, and gotten to know each other better. We're finding and reading scripture together, sometimes we don't even need our bookmarks to find the scripture! We will finish this school year with a pre-teen curriculum called "Messy" about the messy, brokenness of Bible characters, (and us), and God's forgiveness. We'll take a break for the summer and spend time in service each month. Next fall, we'll begin a study "A United Methodist Is..." which will be a great introduction to Wesleyan theology and a primer for confirmation.

I'd like to thank Mark Adams, Sophie Johnson, Jerry Muth and John Wagner for helping lead this group. Thanks also to Ken and Sherri McAlpin for donating a new smart TV for our room, John and Emily Wagner for the TV stand and Dick Weiss for getting everything mounted and hooked up.

There's always room at our table for more youth. Please reach out to Pastor Ali or myself with any questions or suggestions.

Peace, Laura Harvey

KINGDOM KIDS

Indian Heights United Methodist Church



Sundays at 10:30am



Vacation Bible School
July 29-August 1
6-8p m

Sunday, June 2
Follo wing church we'll have an informational/volunteer sign-up luncheon. Lunch w ill be provided. All are invited!

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

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.



Memorial Day Remembrance Garden

When Memorial Day comes, we think of taking flowers to the graves of our family and friends but may not be near enough to these sites to do so. In 1987, Indian Heights UMC began the tradition of creating a Memorial Day Remembrance Garden where you may place a flower in memory of your loved ones. The Remembrance gift you give may be any amount and will be a lasting gift that will keep on giving through the years.

On Sunday, May 19 and May 26, artificial flowers will be available after worship to place on a bulletin board display to remember your loved ones and the display will be left up until after Memorial Day. You can place flowers on the bulletin boards along with the name of the person honoree and your name. If the honoree was a veteran, please also place a flag on the card. Donations to the Memorial Garden can be made as Designated Funds or to the Memorial Endowment Fund, which permanently grows. The principal is never spent, and only the interest created can be used for church projects.

Items the Memorial fund has purchased over the years include our Advent candle holder and accessories, card tables, altar candlesticks, the labyrinth, Bibles, hymnals, chimes, sign on 103rd & Nall, candle lighter, cross and flame signage, the Church Office computer, 50th anniversary celebration, Quilts of Valor materials, and the projection/sound system in the Sanctuary.

We hope you enjoy our “garden” and that it makes your Memorial Day more memorable.



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 open our food pantry. 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. **Note that the pantry will probably move into our Library space during the summer as we share space with Parkwood Day School.** 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 Garden

Our little garden is now being tended to by Parkwood Day School. Keep an eye on the garden to see what's growing in it this summer! They are also helping maintain our labyrinth.

Yard Care

Love to weed? Please pitch in and pull weeds around our church yard this summer. Just drop by whenever you can to help out. Help with some pruning is also appreciated. See our Trustees with questions.



Graduation Celebration Sunday: May 19

We will celebrate our graduates during worship on Sunday, May 19. If you are graduating from any type of school program/training, or have a relative you would like us to celebrate with, please submit their names to Suzette by May 13. Please include the student's full name, where they studied, what they studied/degree obtained, future plans, etc. Let us know how you are related to them if necessary (grandchild, niece, etc.).

*May 19 is also Pentecost Sunday. All are encouraged to wear RED!



Your Donations are appreciated. They help support our ministries.

Giving is secure and easy on our website:
indianheightsumc.org/donate

Woven Women

On April 19 and 20, Pastor Ali and Pastor Bailey Amtower (Lifebridge Shawnee) hosted the third annual Woven Women's Retreat. This year focused on how we are called by God to live a wholehearted life. As women, we are woven by the threads of grace that calls us all beloved and connects us to one another.

Over 50 women from 8 different congregations gathered for this event. Guest speakers were Rev. Shelly McNaughton-Lawrence (Aldersgate UMC) and Rev. Nancy Pauls (Old Mission UMC). There was laughter, tears and way too much food! Here are a few pictures from the event.







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

**Saturday, May 4,
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?

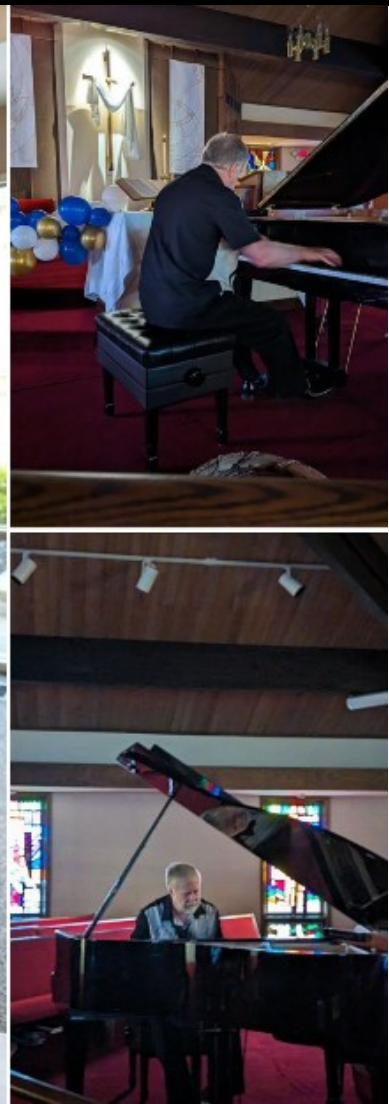
What?: It's a free diaper distribution to those in need in our community

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



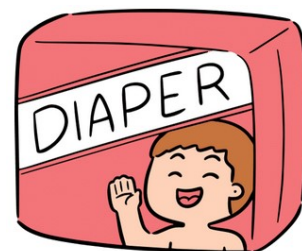
THANK YOU

The Baby Grace Benefit Concert was a huge success! We raised \$1957.00! Thank you to everyone who attended – we hope you had a great evening and appreciate your support. We also want to say thank you to everyone who donated in other ways like purchasing raffle tickets, donating items to be raffled, baking desserts, helping with setup/cleanup/planning, etc.

This event was a success because of all of you! And, of course a special thank you to our pianist, Dave Schnackenberg for generously sharing

his gift with us.

Indian Heights Baby Grace is growing every month (52 families served in April!) so the funds raised are greatly needed. They will allow us to continue providing diapers and other essential items to families in need. We will continue to keep you updated on the growth of Baby Grace and appreciate your ongoing support.





UPLIFTING PRAYERS FOR
THOSE WHO HUNGER

PARTNER WITH US AS WE WORK GLOBALLY TO MAKE LESS LEAST OF THESE

We look to partner with ministries around the world so that we can equip them with the resources they need to continue in their work. We search for groups that are working to make disciples of Jesus Christ as they perform acts of justice and compassion.

PRAYER CATEGORIES



FEEDING
THE HUNGRY



WATER FOR
THE THIRSTY



HEALING
THE SICK



WELCOME
THE STRANGER



FREE THE
CAPTIVE



CLOTHE
THE NEEDY

LEARN MORE: WWW.THE25GROUP.ORG



QUESTIONS? GET IN CONTACT WITH
LAUREN ROSENTHAL, BOARD SECRETARY



Men's Breakfast

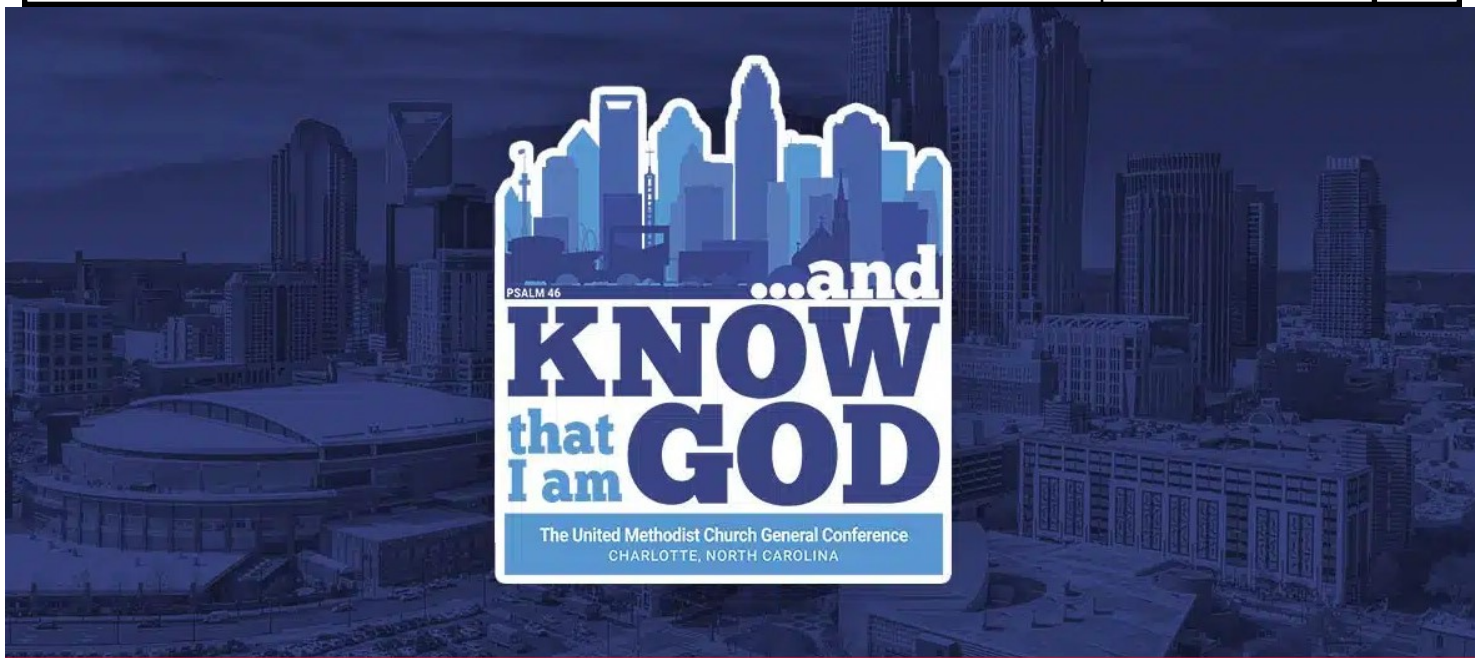
Weekly on Thursdays, 7am

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

Creative Souls

Is on Summer vacation until September...
Watch the calendar for some all-day,
Saturday sew days during the summer!!
You can still work on community projects.





General Conference

April 23 - May 3

General Conference is April 23-May 3, 2024, at the Charlotte Convention Center in Charlotte, North Carolina. Learn more about GBHEM's agency reports and legislation:

gbhem.org/connect/gc2024/

Prayer Shawls

You are invited to make prayer shawls that we give to those in need of a "hug" from friends and a reminder that God is there, even when life gets tough. If you or someone you know needs a shawl, please let us know.



Upcoming Events:

- **May 4** - Baby Grace Distribution, 9-11am
- **May 7** - Nehemiah Action, 6pm (Church of the Resurrection, 13720 Roe Ave)
- **May 12** – Mothers' Day
- **May 19** - Graduation Celebration Sunday & Pentecost (Wear RED!!)
- **May 19 & 26:** Memorial Day Remembrance Garden Opportunities
- **June 2** - VBS Informational & Volunteer Sign-Up Luncheon

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 (Sept-May)
- **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!!

