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SUMMER 2020

news@home

A PUBLICATION OF INDIANA UNITED METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME, INC.

In Memoriam

**WILLIAM A. SIGMAN,
June 21, 1928 – May 3, 2020**

It is with sadness that we share news of the passing of William (Bill) A. Sigman, a 28-year member of the Board of Trustees of Indiana United Methodist Children's Home. Most recently, Bill served on the Indiana United Methodist Children's Home Foundation Board of Directors.

Bill was chairperson of the Home's Buildings and Grounds Committee during major building renovations and new construction. He was a key advisor during the 2015 construction of the James E. Davis School building. During the building dedication service, he said, "The new school reaches all three of my criteria; safety for the children, energy efficiency and beauty." To honor Bill, the café in the school was named in his honor.

"Bill's legacy is the absolute beauty of our 17-acre campus," said Foundation President Mo Thomas. "Bill wanted each child who arrives on our campus to feel safe, know that they are valued and find inspiration to work toward an independent life. Our tranquil park-like campus, family-style homes and modern school building set the stage for our youth to find success. We are grateful for Bill's dedication to our children."

Bill was a member of St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Indianapolis and was an active leader in numerous civic organizations.

Bill served on the Home's Building and Grounds Committee for many years. He attended the ground breaking ceremony of our Independent Living homes in 2018.

*"Well done
thy good
and faithful
servant."*

Matthew 25:23



We Couldn't Do it Without You



We are grateful for your continued support. As you can see, our youth wanted to thank you, too! They are excited to have new bikes to ride around the campus and neighborhood.

The purpose of the space is to inspire group learning and independent study. "We want to ensure our youth have the tools they need to become productive members of society. It is likely their last childhood placement is at the Home and we want to give them the best skills possible for living on their own," stated Rich Lapinski, Executive Director/CEO.

On May 5, the Home also participated in the Covid-19 Giving Tuesday Now. Through a one-day social media drive, Indiana United Methodist Children's Home Foundation reached out to donors to help the Home with Covid-19 unexpected needs. The goal was surpassed thanks to our donors. A generous matching gift was received from the Searles Akers Wealth Management Group from Merrill Lynch.

Since youth at the Home have been isolated for several weeks, many have cabin fever. This has caused stress and fear for our youth who already suffer from trauma due to abuse and neglect. The good news is there are some simple but important strategies to address their critical needs and that's where the Covid-19 Day of Giving helps. Funds raised will help purchase bikes, helmets, recreational equipment, fishing poles/tackle and Fitbits.

Our Lent Challenge 2020 was a success. Thanks to generous donors, the \$75,000 campaign goal was met. During the Lenten Season, friends of the Home were asked to make financial donations using funds they would have spent for activities or items they gave up for the season. For instance, Bishop Trimble gave up coffee and donated proceeds to the Lenten Challenge.

Funds raised during the campaign will go toward the Home's Independent Living space. To best serve the youth, a current recreation space will be transformed into a lab for the Independent Living curriculum.

Foundation Scholarship Awarded for Post Secondary Education

Jo is a Hoffman Family Scholarship recipient and she is currently enrolled at Empire Beauty College. She lives in one of the Independent Living homes and is taking some on-line classes during Covid-19 isolation. She practices hair styling skills on some of the girls as well as on her mannequins.

"My dream is to open a salon someday. Receiving the scholarship for beauty school will help make my dream come true," she said.





A Word from Christy Huston

Executive Director of the
Indiana United Methodist
Children's Home Foundation
christyhuston@iumchf.org

Dear Friends,

Earlier this spring I met Abby. She was enjoying the pizza she had just made. Proud that she mastered yeast in her pizza dough, she was all smiles that sunny day on the Children's Home campus. But her past was dark. She experienced a very traumatic early childhood. She described how she had no control over her past behavior.

"I did not understand why I was acting out. It was horrible and made me feel bad about myself."

She has lived at our Home for nearly two years, has made outstanding progress and is making plans for her future.

"I wasn't on track when I first arrived at the Home. I didn't know what to do or what to expect or who to trust. My Family Teachers kind of took me under their wings and helped me through those first few weeks. Fast forward to where I am today. I feel safe. I was able to pull my grades up and am on track to graduate in May 2021. I'd like to give credit to my Family Teachers for giving me guidance. They stood by me through some rocky times and it wasn't always easy but **look at where I am today!**"

Abby's Family Teachers, Chrissy and Donnae Benjamin, are very proud of Abby's progress. Chrissy shared, "Witnessing the transformation in Abby is the reason why we do what we do. As Family Teachers, we go through a lot of training. We've seen firsthand how Abby has transformed from a very sad and troubled soul, to a young lady who now has the confidence and intelligence to lead a very productive life."

Thanks to loyal support from our churches and donors like you, we can share God's love and proven strategies of the Teaching Family Model with Abby and other children in crisis.

That's our mission at the Children's Home.

We are grateful for your prayers, your volunteer service and your gifts. Your gifts of all sizes make our work possible. In 2019 we received nearly 2,000 gifts. Donors of more than \$1,000 are recognized on the following pages as part of our Angie Godwin Society. This annual giving circle is named after our founder, who had a vision to help children in crisis. She received a gift in 1906 from a donor who said, "I believe in you...." That first gift inspired the legacy that is now the Children's Home.

Thank you for your loyal gifts that allow us to continue our children's mission. Your blessings show children like Abby God's love. What a legacy!

Temporary \$300 Charitable Deduction for 2020 Tax Year

A temporary charitable deduction has been enacted for 2020 through the President's CARES Act to encourage charitable donations. This deduction will allow taxpayers who do not currently itemize their deductions to claim a charitable deduction for cash donations up to \$300 through December 31. The \$300 cap applies to individuals and married couples equally, i.e., a married couple would not be able to take a \$600 deduction. Consider a tax deductible gift to the Children's Home today.

Children's Home Volunteer Leader Mo Thomas Empowers Others



Morris (Mo) Thomas, Jr.

Morris (Mo) Thomas, Jr. is visionary.

As a successful Indianapolis business leader, Mo knows having a workable plan brings a vision to reality. Serving on the Home's Board of Trustees for 27 years helped shape his passion for ensuring the Children's Home will always have its doors open to children in crisis. To do that he took action to create the Children's Home Foundation.

Not only was Mo one of the founders, today he serves as Foundation President. Nearly every day, he can be found leading the Foundation's work. His vision is to build its endowed funds to meet the growing needs of Indiana's abused and neglected children for generations to come.

Mo and his late wife Judy of 60 years, have been regular donors to the Children's Home. "We have given to the Home for years and will always give because I have seen firsthand the results of the programs in helping the children," he said.

Mo has shared his intention to include the Children's Home Foundation in his will. His planning now helps ensure the Children's Home doors will always be open. His legacy gift will empower youth for generations to come to find a positive way forward.

Now retired from commercial real estate, Mo lives in Florida with his daughter Terri and granddaughter "Little Judy".

Known for empowering others to help themselves, Mo added, **"The Home's model of care helps the children learn the skills they need for happiness and independence. It makes me feel good to give a child hope for a better future."**

Plan How You Will Make a Difference

Do you want to help, but feel these common concerns?

- Uncertainty about your own retirement security;
- Uncertainty about future healthcare expenses; or
- Uncertainty about paying for college or caring for dependent needs.

Join us in exploring how your estate planning now allows you to:

- Care for your own needs and the needs of loved ones;
- Minimize fees & taxes;
- Support your favorite mission and ministry; and
- Build your legacy through a lasting statement about what you value.

Guest speaker Manet Shettle, CPA, President of the United Methodist Foundation of Indiana, will lead the Children's Home's **Legacy Planning Seminar** on Oct. 12 from noon – 2:00 pm at the Children's Home campus at 515 West Camp Street, Lebanon.

She will share information about estate planning, wills, trusts, endowments and your next steps in your planning to meet your long-term goals. Complimentary lunch will be provided. To register or find out more, call the Children's Home Foundation at: 317-775-0606. After the free Legacy Planning Seminar participants will be invited to an optional tour of the Home's campus.

Love Makes All Things Grow

A grant made possible by The Garden Community Church in Indianapolis, will enable the Home's grief garden to sustain its beauty.

Sole credit for the concept of the grief garden goes to Rachel Alstott, Spiritual Life Leader. "I had a vision for sacred space where youth could go to grieve and heal after the death of a loved one while in our care. Sometimes the grieving process is complicated by the reality that our youth are not able to attend the funeral service since their abuser may be in attendance. To help with their grieving process, youth are encouraged to select and care for a plant in honor of their loved ones," added Rachel.

The grant will help sustain the garden's beauty and will help purchase garden tools, weed screening, flowers/plants, wood stain for the fence and some outdoor seating.

As part of the grant, the Home will partner with the congregation and help with their community outreach project. Members of the church have a community garden in Indianapolis benefitting families in need. Sometime this summer, some of our youth will volunteer in the Garden's garden and help with the vegetable plants. On July 11th, members from the church will come to the Home and team up with our youth to work in the grief garden. According to Reverend Dr. Carolyn Scanlan-Holmes, lead pastor of The Garden, "The Home's grief garden in an ideal space to exercise God's love, power and grace. It was our extreme pleasure to help with this meaningful and inspirational project. After all, love makes all things grow."



Rachel Alstott considers the grief garden to be one of the best places on campus for youth to find peace and comfort. "It's our sacred space," she added.



There are plenty of green thumbs with this group from The Garden. Their community garden provides fresh produce for families in need. Pictured from left to right are: Patrice Bradley, Reverend Dr. Carolyn Scanlan-Holmes, Bev Titus, Susan Hughes and Mary Hill.

Five Decades of Devoted Care

Auxiliary advocates of the Indiana United Methodist Children's Home truly and directly impact the lives of emotionally troubled youth served by the Children's Home. Founded in 1967, the Auxiliary is a group of individuals dedicated to helping youth. This tradition of caring has given assistance to thousands of boys and girls during the last five decades.

Annual Auxiliary gifts go directly to the care of the youth at the Children's Home. Some of the projects the Auxiliary helps to support include:

- Recreational equipment
- Educational supplies
- Spiritual education needs
- State park passes
- Furnishings for the Teaching Family homes
- Annual trip to Kings Island
- And most recently a new scoreboard for the gym!

In 2020, we introduced four levels of giving in addition to the lifetime level.

- Lifetime:
 - Angel: One-time gift of \$1,000
- Annual:
 - Disciple: \$200-plus
 - Servant: \$100
 - Apostle: \$35
 - Samaritan: \$15

Supporting the Auxiliary at any level is easy to do! Use your credit card to make a secure and easy online donation by visiting the Home's website at www.iumch.org/auxiliary and click on donate now or use the enclosed envelope for your donation. Please write "Auxiliary" on the check memo line.

These projects are vitally important to the well-being of each child. It's a simple, yet significant way to help! Questions? Please call 765-482-5900 or send e-mail inquiries to iumch@iumch.org.

Makenzie Makes a Difference

Makenzie Mabie is a senior at Options Charter School in Carmel. Her grandmother says she has a "servant's heart".

For her senior project, Makenzie chose to help an organization that would benefit people. She stated, "I wanted to do something that benefitted kids my own age so I chose the Home. I found items off of their needs list and hit the pavement."

Makenzie's project was called "Creating A Better Tomorrow". She designed her own brochures and collected needed toiletries from local stores in Lebanon. She also had help from a local dentist who provided tooth brushes and tooth paste. Her grandmother, Linda Holdman, is a member of Otterbein United Methodist Church in Lebanon and encouraged the church to also help with Makenzie's project. Other items donated included hair dryers, kitchen utensils and school supplies. She even received a rice cooker!

Upon meeting Makenzie, it is obvious that she likes helping people. She currently works at Visiting Angels, caring for elderly patients. In the fall, she will pursue a nursing degree.



Makenzie's community service project was a huge success and she did an outstanding job organizing and itemizing all of the donations. If we could give her a grade, it would be an A+.

"And as for you, brothers and sisters, never tire of doing good."

2 Thessalonians 3:13



Jim Evans, Director of Residential Services was interviewed by podcast host, Susan Bennett. Jim is an expert in the Teaching Family Model. Also interviewed were Lawrence and Pamela Williams, Family Teachers in one of the Independent Living homes.

IUMCH Podcast Launched

Parenting is difficult, especially now when kids are home all day.

Indiana United Methodist Children's Home announces its new podcast called *Hope Has a Home* that shares parenting tips to help create a peaceful household and well-adjusted children.

On *Hope Has a Home*, you will hear from our Teaching Family Model experts about strategies parents can use in their own homes. It's a great resource for your church. Be sure to also share it with family and friends, too!

To access the podcast, simply go to iumch.org and click on the communications drop down tab. Click on podcast.

Hope Has a Home podcast is made possible through a Mission and Justice Grant from the Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church.



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Children's Home
Hope Has A Home

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Rich Lapinski
Executive Director/CEO

Susan D. Bennett
Editor
Director of Public Relations

One of the Greatest Gifts You Can Give is Your Time

During Covid-19 isolation, the youth at the Home had plenty of time on their hands and they heard there were various needs in the community. One of the girls reached out to Rachel Alstott, Spiritual Life Leader and said, "People are always helping us. Let's do some good in Lebanon." And, that is exactly what they did.

The first project entailed making cards for nursing home residents in Lebanon. Jan, age 17, hasn't been able to see her mom or siblings since the isolation took effect in early March. "It's hard not to be able to see my family so I can't imagine how lonely some of the nursing home patients feel. So maybe these cards from us will make them feel loved and less depressed," said Jan.

The Home also teamed up with the Nazarene Church of Lebanon and helped with a "free farmer's market". Staff handed out food to 200 families in need. Since our youth were quarantined, they made signs to help promote the event.

According to Rachel, "We are always glad to partner with other churches in our community. Plus, our youth have the opportunity to help people in need. It's a great learning experience and it feeds their soul in a very positive way."



Youth made colorful signs to help promote the food giveaway.

Our Mission Statement

To enrich the quality of life for children and families through Christian values

Our Vision

To be a place where youth are safe and cared for; where youth are given the opportunity to become healthy and self-sufficient adults; where families are reunited; and where every person is treated with love and respect.

Core Values

1. Compassion:

Serving those in need with a caring spirit, regardless of their faith or culture.

2. Commitment:

Making a lifelong commitment to generosity, integrity, leadership, and social justice.

3. Excellence:

Striving to continually improve services to children and families vested in our care.

4. Connection:

Fostering relationships with United Methodist Churches, clergy and our generous donors.

Annual Auxiliary Program Rescheduled for Saturday, September 12th, 2020 10:00 am | Gress Chapel

Due to Covid-19 isolation, we had to reschedule our Annual Auxiliary Program back in April. More information will be forthcoming and of course we'll have to monitor the situation.



Indiana United Methodist
Children's Home Foundation, Inc.
Hope Has A Home

2019 Angie Godwin Society

Thank you! Your gifts to our mission help children in crisis find happiness and grow to lead independent lives. Donors of \$1,000 or more - in one gift or throughout 2019 - are recognized below as Angie Godwin Society donors. Miss Godwin was the founder of the Indiana United Methodist Children's Home more than 105 years ago. Her vision has endured because of generous donors like you!

2019 GIFTS OF \$10,000 AND MORE

Anonymous
Deborah and Robin Bollinger
Betty Lee Brueckmann
Harry Ervin
Lois and Daryl Hoffman
Indiana Annual Conference of the
United Methodist Church
(including Bishop's Christmas
Offering Gift)
Patricia and Bruce Jansen
Helen Rae Elliott Kraud
Betty Lunsford
Michael McDonald
Nancy and Donald Miller
Russell Nicoles
Charles Russell
Trinity United Methodist Church
(Crawfordsville)

2019 GIFTS OF \$5,000 - \$9,999

Frances Baxter
Brandt Construction, Inc.
Dentons Bingham Greenebaum
First United Methodist Church
(Noblesville)
E. Marlene and Rev. James Gentry
Institute for Quality Education
Leach & Russell Mechanical
Contractors, Inc.
New Life United Methodist Church
(Mexico)
Rev. Karen and Jim Ottjes
Russell Huckstep Irrevocable Trust

2019 GIFTS OF \$2,000 - \$4,999

Anonymous
Bridgeport United Methodist
Church (Indianapolis)

Hilary and Stuart Buttrick
Elizabeth Chamberlin
Christ United Methodist Church
(Indianapolis)
Jennifer and Neil Dellinger
Helen Dickinson
Elaine and James Engledow
Faegre Drinker
Rev. Thomas Heaton
Stacy Hoffman
Christy and Jim Huston
Archie Kerr

*"It is easy to say it gives
us a good feeling to
help others. However,
it is so much more. The
real question is how
would we feel if we did
not help the youth."*

*Daryl and Lois
Hoffman,
Angie Godwin Society
Donors*

Lizton United Methodist Church
(Lizton)
Linda Meyers
Charles Noble
Our Lady of Peace Catholic Parish
(Darien, IL)
Judith Robbins
Salem United Methodist Church
(Zionsville)
Donna and David Sease
Shiloh United Methodist Church
(including United Methodist
Women) (Kokomo)

Waverly United Methodist Church
(Martinsville)
Wesley Chapel United Methodist
Church (Floyds Knobs)
Caryl and Bert Wilhoite
Zionsville United Methodist Church
(Zionsville)

2019 GIFTS OF \$1,000 - \$1,999

Altarstar United Methodist Church
(Fort Wayne)
Anonymous
Ayres Foundation, Inc.
Battle Ground United Methodist
Church (Battle Ground)
Beef & Boards Dinner Theater
Bethlehem United Methodist
Church (Fishers)
BSA LifeStructures
Carmel United Methodist Church
(Carmel)
Joan and Harry Cartwright
Church of the Saviour United
Methodist Church (Indianapolis)
Lisa Coleman
William Dague
Dale United Methodist Church
(Dale)
Dearborn Hills United Methodist
Church (Lawrenceburg)
Edgewood United Methodist Church
(Indianapolis)
Faith United Methodist Church
(Elkhart)
The Farmers Bank
First United Methodist Church -
United Methodist Women
(Noblesville)
First United Methodist Church
(Martinsville)
First United Methodist Church
(Columbus)



2019 GIFTS OF

\$1,000 - \$1,999 (continued)

First United Methodist Church of
Bedford (Bedford)
Sandra and Robert French
Darleene and George Galyean
Ann and Arthur Garceau
Grace United Methodist Church
(Franklin)
Matthew M. Green
Greene County Chapel (Solsberry)
Charles Hageboeck
Nancy and Jerry Harshbarger
Carla and Kenneth Haselby
Christina and John Hasewinkel
Isgrigg Shaffer Memorial Trust
Ann W. King
Stephanie and Richard Lapinski
Marilyn and Rev. S. Douglas Leffler
Barbara Lethander
Shirley Lewellen
Maria and Brett Loyd
Jean and Robert Markley
Monticello United Methodist Church
(Monticello)

Suzanne Murphy
New Salem United Methodist
Church (Rushville)
Ohio Falls United Methodist Church
(Clarksville)
Amy and Paul Phillips
Julianna and Martin Plawecki
Christine and Kenneth Price
Putnamville United Methodist
Church (Putnamville)
Eleanor and William Restall, Jr.
Amy and N. Clay Robbins
Roberts Park United Methodist
Church (Indianapolis)
Elaine Routh
Salem United Methodist Church
(Hillsdale)
Joanne and Gene Sease
Patricia Sisloff
Marthana Smith
Celisa and Steven Snyder
St. Joseph United Methodist
Church - United Methodist
Women (Fort Wayne)

St. Luke's United Methodist Church
(including United Methodist
Women) (Indianapolis)
St. Mark's United Methodist Church
(including United Methodist
Women) (Carmel)
Elizabeth and Jeffrey Steele
Donald Tanselle
Morris E. Thomas, Jr.
Trinity United Methodist Church
(Lafayette)
Trinity United Methodist Church
(New Albany)
Rita and Gene Wealing
Sharon and Berkley Whipple
Whitestown United Methodist
Church (Whitestown)
Catherine and William Whitted

We have taken great care to ensure that the list above is accurate and complete. Please accept our apology for any error or omission, and notify us so we may correct our records.

Thank You!

*'Truly I tell you,
whatever you did for
one of the least of these
brothers and sisters of
mine, you did for me.'*

-Matthew 25:40



Every gift - large or small - helps our children's mission give hope for the future.

To find out how you can be a part of the Angie Godwin Society in 2020, contact Christy Huston at 317-775-0606 or make a gift today at www.iumch.org/donate. Or, you may mail your contribution to Indiana United Methodist Children's Home Foundation, 9333 North Meridian Street, Suite 222, Indianapolis, IN 46260-1823.