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news@home

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

A Lasting Legacy

Mt. Ayr, Indiana, population 116, is a charming town in northern Indiana. Mt. Ayr was the hometown of Helen Rae Elliott Kraud, (1926-2018), a woman of great accomplishments and talent.

In August, God created the perfect day in Mt. Ayr to honor the legacy of Helen, a beloved member of the community and Mt. Ayr United Methodist Church.

The Home was a regular beneficiary of Helen's generosity throughout her life and was honored to receive a legacy gift through Helen's estate. She was known as a very generous philanthropist by her family and friends.

Helen led a full and joyous life. She was a role model for working women. Helen spent many years in Chicago where she worked at Illinois Bell and rapidly rose to become their first female manager. She was always very stylish and was the company's first female to wear pants to work!

To honor Helen's legacy, the Indiana United Methodist Children's Home Foundation (IUMCHF) planted a beautiful tree on the property of Mt. Ayr UMC. The Red Jewel Crab Apple was chosen since Helen was known for her favorite color, red.

A tree dedication service was led on that beautiful August Sunday by Reverend Harold Williams. Two of our students participated by reading a poem by Maya Angelou called, "When Great Trees Fall."

Christy Huston, Executive Director of the IUMCHF, also participated in the service and spoke about the significance of the legacy gift. Christy said, "Helen's legacy is giving hope to children in crisis. Her bequest is a continuation of the regular giving she did to help the children at our Home during her lifetime. The earnings from her bequest will forevermore be used to help keep the doors of the Children's Home open."



May each new leaf represent another child being helped, even saved, by Helen's investment in the Children's Home Foundation.

#GivingTuesday – December 1, 2020

"I've never had much of a Christmas and all the kids that have been here awhile tell me that the Home celebrates all through December. I can't wait to go to the Zoo and to finally have a good Christmas." – Maria, age 16

#GivingTuesday is a global day of celebration dedicated to helping others through the gift of a donation. This endeavor was started in 2012 by the 92nd Street Y in New York City in partnership with the United Nations Foundation. Traditionally, the event is always the Tuesday after Thanksgiving and is intended to create an international day of giving through social media.

THIS YEAR, THE DATE IS DECEMBER 1.

We hope you will prayerfully consider making an online gift on Tuesday, December 1 to Indiana United Methodist Children's Home. Once again, we will raise funds for all youth to visit Christmas at the Zoo in December during their winter break.

To help us reach our goal for the Indianapolis Zoo trip, go to iumch.org/givingtuesday. We'll also be posting information on our Facebook page (search for Indiana United Methodist Children's Home, Inc.). Check out Twitter and Instagram, too!

Please help us make this THE BEST CHRISTMAS EVER for the youth at Indiana United Methodist Children's Home.

Praying Together is Powerful

Each year, our students and staff gather at the Thomas Family Flag Plaza on campus and participate in a global day of prayer.

See You at the Pole™, the global day of student prayer, began in 1990 as a grass roots movement with ten students praying at their school. Thirty years later,

millions pray on their campuses on the fourth Wednesday in September.

See You at the Pole™ is simply a prayer rally where students meet at the school flagpole before school to lift up their friends, families, teachers, school, and nation to God. It is a student-initiated, student-organized, and student-led event.

Since 1991, See You at the Pole™ has grown. Within the first few years, the movement began to spread to other nations through missionaries from the U.S. Now each year, more than 3 million students from all over the world participate in See You at the Pole™. Students in more than 20 countries take part. In places like Canada, Korea, Japan, Turkey, and the Ivory Coast, students are responding to God and taking seriously the challenge to pray.

According to one of our students who participated, "It's a great time to pray for our teachers and everything going on in the world. I think it gives us comfort to know God is listening."



"This is always a moving experience to see our staff and youth all praying together," stated Rich Lapinski, Executive Director of the Home.



A Word from Christy Huston

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

Dear Friends,

Thank you, your gifts have helped our youth feel loved, safe, protected, and find hope during 2020. One of our donors and one of our former Children's Home residents, both recently told us that giving to the Home helps them find hope during 2020, too.

Last month the Children's Home received an inspiring letter from Rev. Doug Davies of Whitestown UMC. His message of optimism and hope was especially significant to us all during a pandemic and its resulting difficulties.

He referenced Philippians 4:1-9, "From now on....if anything is excellent, if anything is admirable, focus your thoughts on these things."

He went on to write, "The Children's Home helps me keep focused on the important work."

If you attended our October Legacy Planning Seminar, you heard our former Children's Home resident, Dr. Ginny Swift Singer, share a similar message of hope and the important work of the Home.

"*Hope has a Home* is more than a tug at your heartstrings phrase. For most people, it is impossible to think of a child with no hope. But there are thousands of children who are lost and hopeless. Your kindness, your gift can offer hope to these children. For years I had intended to have a will prepared and include The Home in my will. Like so many it was something I put off. My friend June passed away and left The Home as her beneficiary in her small life insurance policy. That was the motivation I needed to stop procrastinating." (Read more about Ginny's story of hope and inspiration on page 2 of the enclosed insert.)

Rev. Davies and Ginny are focusing on hope and the important work of the Home during this difficult year. They are leaving a legacy of love for the children of Indiana. In return, they both tell us they feel joyful to be a part of changing and even saving the lives of children in crisis.

As we conclude 2020, be optimistic. Be hopeful. Keep our children's mission in your prayers, in your thoughts and in your giving. In the words of Rev. Davies, "Keep focused on the important work."

Blessings to you, our partners in ministry,

Christy

Christy Huston, IUMCH Foundation Executive Director

PS: More than ever before, we want you to know how much we need your partnership. Are you ready to find joy in focusing on the important work?

Small Churches With Big Hearts



Beech Grove United Methodist Church,
Greencastle



Whitestown United Methodist Church



Ohio Falls United Methodist Church,
Jeffersonville

If you ever take a road trip throughout Indiana and decide to take the county roads, you are guaranteed to find hundreds of United Methodist Churches along the way. Many are small but are supporting multiple missions in their own back yard and those from across the state.

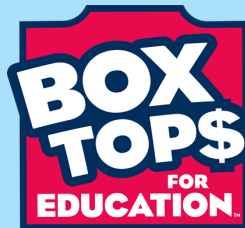
If you are headed toward the Ohio River, you will discover Ohio Falls United Methodist Church in Jeffersonville – a congregation that makes everyone feel welcome. Heading west toward Greencastle, you'll discover beautiful Beech Grove United Methodist Church where the congregation is proud to say, "We've never had any debt and never will." And, in Central Indiana, drive to Whitestown and you'll find one of the fastest growing areas in the state. Just a couple of miles down the pike, you will discover Whitestown United Methodist Church, another beautiful country church with a history of having one of the best homemade chicken and noodle dinners around.

All of these churches have one thing in common...they have supported the Home for many decades through their missional giving. These three congregations have raised thousands of dollars

for many years to support the mission of the Home. Most recently, Susan Bennett, the Home's Director of Public Relations, visited each church and thanked the congregation and pastors for their continued support of the Home.

Beech Grove Pastor Marilyn Culler, stated, "For years, our congregation has taken up a collection on Mother's Day and we send the proceeds to the Home. Some of our members even remember collecting Christmas gifts when the Home served orphaned children many years ago. What a great history we have together."

Thank you for being our partners in ministry. We would love to hear from you. Let us know some of your congregation's memories about partnering with the Home. Drop us a note or email susanb@iumch.org.



Box Tops for Education Program

No more clipping. No more sending Box Tops to school. All you need is your smart phone. Download the new Box Tops app on your phone, shop as you normally would, then simply scan your store receipts to find participating products. The app will automatically

credit our James E. Davis School earnings on-line.

Twice per year, our on-grounds school will receive a check to buy whatever it needs! Simply go to our website at iumch.org and go to the Make An Impact tab and select Loyalty Programs. A link is also provided for the Box Tops for Education program if you need further information.

Thank you for supporting our school!

Sign up for Prayers of Hope Today!



In Romans, Chapter 12:12, it tells us to “Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.” With this call to action, we are asking you to pray for our youth through our Prayers of Hope initiative. The youth at the Home have many prayer requests and need the love and support from our staff and from our friends of the Home.

Here’s how our Prayers of Hope works...go to the Home’s website at iumch.org and click on the Make an Impact tab and select Prayers of Hope. Simply provide your e-mail and on the third Thursday of the month, you will receive five to six prayer requests from our youth. You may also contact Susan Bennett for a signup sheet which allows for multiple people to receive the prayers.

Once per month, you will receive prayer requests. Below is a sample of recent requests.

Dear Lord: Trudy, Serena and Brian have been in post-secondary school over a month now. Please keep watching over them as they overcome the obstacles set before them. Juggling between virtual learning and in person classes can be hectic. We pray that they stay motivated and adapt to all the changes that will continue to take place. Please continue to help them maintain confidence to succeed during this changing time in their young lives. In Your name we pray, Amen.

Dear God: We pray for Albert as he is struggling with depression. Please surround Albert with family and friends who offer him comfort, joy, and inspiration. We pray that Albert will find solace in understanding patience while he finds the strength he needs to overcome his pain. In Your name we pray, Amen.

Almighty God: Please watch over our youth who have left the Home and are no longer in our care. We pray that they stay motivated and eager for change in their lives. Show them Your grace as they go back to their communities and help them stay on track in their next steps. Life has been difficult for our former residents. Please keep them safe and help them remember Your love. Amen.

Ride...Restore...Repair



Brittany Ward helps Wayne Mills of Conquest Cycling load bikes for repair.

Since Covid isolation, our youth have been on campus more than usual and we want them to enjoy the great outdoors.

With the help of Wayne Mills and the Conquest Cycling group, our youth will always have bikes in good condition. According to Wayne, “We consider our group as a bike repair ministry that exists to recycle, repair and restore bikes. We have volunteers that are skilled in bike repair and they all have a passion to help those in need. Think of Conquest Cycling as bike doctors.”

According to Brittany Ward, Assistant Director of Residential Services, “We are so blessed to be working with this great group of committed volunteers. In fact, they are going to teach some of our youth some bike maintenance skills. It’s a win-win project and we are very grateful to be connected with this fine organization.”

Conquest Cycling is another example of how much our friends and neighbors care about the well-being of our youth. Thanks to your gifts during our spring campaign, the Home purchased 12 new bikes.

We Appreciate Our United Methodist Clergy

October 11 was Clergy Appreciation Day and the Home is humbled by the many pastors who pray for our youth and support our mission. Pastor Joe is a good example. Joe Johnson serves as the Lead Pastor at Lawrence United Methodist Church in Indianapolis. The Home has a long and valued history with the congregation and United Methodist Women circle groups.

Pastor Joe served as guest speaker during one of our recent Wednesday evening worship services in our Gress Memorial Chapel. Not only can he preach a good sermon, but he can also sing. His message resonated with our youth since his topic was on the perils of having too much envy.

Throughout the year, ministers from around the Indiana Conference participate in our worship services and provide baptisms, sermons, communion, and special music. We are also thankful to Rachel Alstott, Spiritual Development Leader, for all she does to help guide our youth during difficult times.

To all of our United Methodist clergy... Thank you for your service and leadership in the Indiana Conference.



Rachel Alstott and Pastor Joe Johnson, Lawrence United Methodist Church

Christmas at Indiana United Methodist Children's Home

2020 Wish List



Christmas is just around the corner. Many churches and organizations ask how they can help the Home bring joy to our youth at Christmas. Below is a list of general wishes for Christmas. If you would prefer not to shop, monetary donations are always needed and appreciated during the Christmas season. You may make checks out to IUMCHF. As a reminder, our youth are older teenagers, between the ages of 14-19. Please do not wrap the gifts – we primarily use gift bags. We need to receive the gifts no later than December 14th.

- Arts and crafts supplies (sketch pads, colorful pens, art kits)
- Bath towels and wash cloths
- Batteries (AA and AAA)
- Bed spreads and sheets (twin)
- Blankets (weighted)
- Cologne/perfume for teenage males and females
- Coloring books for adults and colored pencils
- Earbuds
- Games for older teens (could include decks of cards and card games)
- Gift cards (\$20 is the preferred value – it helps us if you can mark the value on the card)
- Hair dryers
- Kitchen utensils for Teaching Family homes and students leaving for independent living
- Liquid soaps and lotions
- MP3 players (no video, no wireless)
- Skate boards and helmets
- Snack size candy (individually wrapped)
- Sound machines for calmness
- Toiletries (Pantene and Cantu hair products, Secret/Axe/Old Spice deodorant)
- Writing journals

You are a blessing to us! If you have questions, please contact Susan Bennett, Director of Public Relations, Indiana United Methodist Children's Home, 515 W. Camp Street, Lebanon, IN 46052, cell 317-213-4415, e-mail susanb@iumch.org If you are unable to deliver the gifts, Susan can pick them up from your church or meet somewhere.



Indiana United Methodist
Children's Home
Hope Has A Home

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Rich Lapinski
Executive Director/CEO

Susan D. Bennett
Editor
Director of Public Relations

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.



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

John Wesley Circle

Together we are helping children in crisis find hope for the future, and we must ensure our doors will always be open.

John Wesley Circle recognizes individuals who have committed a legacy gift or shared their intent to do so. Legacy gifts include bequests, retirement assets, charitable gift annuities, life insurance gifts, trusts, real estate, jewelry, and other legacy gifts. Assets are invested by the Foundation.

The individuals below have embraced the privilege to secure the future of the Indiana United Methodist Children's Home and the urgent responsibility to serve children in crisis for generations to come. They are guided by the words of John Wesley: "Do all the good you can in all the ways you can."

Current Legacy Members

Susan D. Bennett
Lisa Coleman
John Drake
Shirley A. Fisher
Dr. Nancy W. Friedersdorf
Darleene and George E. Galyean
Carmen L. Slavens Grose
Lois E. and Daryl L. Hoffman
Christy S. and James F. Huston
Georganna E. Irish
Jean Kyle
Stephanie and Richard A. Lapinski
Marilyn A. Leffler and
Rev. S. D. Leffler
Chris Lilly
Beverly Marshall
Nancy and Donald L. Miller
Russell A. Nicoles
Charles R. Noble
Rev. Karen S. and Jim Ottjes
Rita S. and Jerry Redden
Donna Sandage
Norma J. Singley
Marthana J. Smith
Marla R. Stanton
Dr. Ginny Swift Singer
Morris E. Thomas, Jr.
Mrs. James E. Wilson and Family

The Following Deceased Individuals Have Remembered the Home in Their Estate Planning and Their Legacy Lives On

Mary Jane Apple
Ellen and Dr. Charles W. Ballard
Emily B. Beer
Morris E. Boles
Lauretta M. Borgman
Merrill Brown
Helen B. Cropp

*"And God is able to
bless you abundantly,
so that in all things,
having all that you need,
you will abound in
every good work."
- Corinthians 9:8*

Alta M. and Lewis L. Davis
Martha Davis
Wilma J. Eckerty
Helen Rae Elliott Kraud
Harry Ervin
John H. Fisher
Don Garboden
Raymond Graf
Ralph Harvey
Mary Hise

Russell B. Huckstep
Harold R. Johnson, Jr.
Violet Kepley
Betty J. and George J. Kyle
Elizabeth Lambert
Clifford L. Lemon
Cora A. and James R. Lemon
Betty Irene Lunsford
Katherine and Robert Mahan
Michael S. McDonald
Velma M. Mendenhall
Shirley Messerlie
Linda R. Meyers
Donna S. Michael
Beth A. and Rev. Charles Myers
Oliver G. Petero
Phyllis B. Oakes
Doris Ann Onken
John M. Prendergast, Jr.
Jean and John M. Prendergast, Sr.
Martha Pulliam
James B. and Margaret Anne Richman
Charles Russell
Isgriff Shaffer
June Smith
Marsella Smith
Martha Smock
Herbert L. Thompson
James E. Wilson

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the names. Please contact the Foundation if there are errors.

To plan how you can shape your rewarding legacy of making a difference for children in crisis contact: Foundation Executive Director Christy Huston at 317-775-0606 or christyhuston@iumchf.org

My grandfather, Dr. Heedlie Cobb, was a United Methodist minister and he lived by the teachings of John Wesley. He passed Wesley's wisdom on to my family. Being a member of the John Wesley Circle honors my grandfather and allows me to support a very worthy United Methodist mission. What better way to help children!"

Lisa Coleman, Indianapolis

Dr. Ginny Swift Singer, Former IUMCH resident, Does “All the Good She Can”

“Do all the good you can, in all the ways you can”. These words by John Wesley guide former resident Dr. Ginny Swift Singer throughout her everyday life. She first heard about the teachings of John Wesley from Reverend James E. Davis, the Home’s former Executive Director and while attending the local United Methodist Church in Lebanon.

The story begins with three Hoosier girls (Ginny, Linnea and June) who found hope at Indiana United Methodist Children’s Home and all felt moved to give back. All were abused as young girls.

Dr. Singer, now living in Las Vegas, recently had an epiphany. She wanted to do something special for the Home. After much contemplation, she decided to donate funding for a scholarship in memory of Mrs. Sue Davis “It was my dream to honor Sue, the wife of Reverend Davis. She was a registered nurse and I thought this was a wonderful way to honor her legacy. She was loved and admired by many people and was a very caring health professional. My dream was for the scholarship to help a current or former resident obtain a degree in nursing or mental health,” Dr. Singer added.

Linnea Krasutsky was the recipient of Dr. Singer’s scholarship funding last month. Linnea is a former resident but is also a valued IUMCH staff member. Linnea is an Independent Living Assistant Family Teacher and a mother of three. She is currently taking classes at Purdue Global and is on track to earn a degree in Behavioral Psychology. “It meant so much to me to receive this scholarship from Dr. Singer since we



Dr. Singer, John Wesley Circle member, lives in Las Vegas with her husband Don. One of her hobbies is sewing and she learned how to sew while at the Home. To this day, it brings her great joy. She has a sewing basket where she saves all of her spare change and rebates which she donates to the Home.

are both former residents. I hope to meet her in person someday,” stated Linnea.

In addition to being inspired by John Wesley, Dr. Singer was also inspired by her dear friend, June. “For years, I had intended to get my will in order and include the Home in my planned giving. It was something I had put off. However, 17 years ago, my friend June passed away and she had named the Home as a beneficiary in a small life insurance policy. June was my hero...my inspiration,” added Dr. Singer.

Dr. Singer first met June at the Children’s Home in the 1960’s. June was badly abused by her stepmother and had multiple health issues. According to Dr. Singer, “June was a survivor before she arrived at the Home. She was

a survivor with no hope for the future... no hope for completing school...no hope for proper medical care... no hope of attending school without ridicule. However, the Home gave her hope and an abundance of love. She gained confidence and grew into a beautiful, inspiring, and caring lady despite all odds.”

June passed away several years ago but her legacy lives on and continues to inspire Dr. Singer. Today, Dr. Singer works for the New Mexico Department of Correction specializing in addiction and mental health.

“The Home has the power to change the odds for abused children like June, Linnea and me. June’s life insurance policy was a small one and I do not have a vast estate or large amount of money. No matter how small a gift, giving a child hope is a value you cannot put a dollar sign on,” added Dr. Singer.



Jim Stuart, Principal at the James E. Davis on-grounds school, enjoys keeping in touch with his former students. Now, he enjoys seeing Linnea every weekday!



Mike May, a long-time staff member of the Home, congratulates Linnea for her personal and educational accomplishments.