

# The Stidham Story

765-474-2806  
stidhamumc@yahoo.com  
www.stidhamumc.org

**JULY 2017**



## MESSAGE FROM PASTOR MIKE

It does not seem possible, but we are beginning the second year of our ministry partnership together. It has been a year of my trying to learn, understand, and gain trust of this wonderful congregation. On the other hand, many in the congregation are still trying to figure out who I am and how we can best do ministry together. It all takes time, grace, patience, and the power of the Holy Spirit to form a significant ministry for Jesus. Change is not easy for any of us.

Throughout this past year I have been thankful for the many opportunities of ministry we have shared together. The mission week, culminating with "Be The Church" Sunday was powerful. I have not experienced anything like that before. Seeing so many people reaching out in the name of Jesus to impact our world was thrilling and inspiring. Each month we have a mission project to help feed the poor through the food pantry. As a congregation we helped 20 homeless people through the backpack ministry in partnership with The Indiana Conference Of The United Methodist Church. Thank you!

I have received comments of appreciation for our worship services. Much prayer, thought, planning, and practice goes into each service from all who provide leadership for our services. We are fortunate to have extremely talented people leading our music. Each Sunday is another opportunity to learn more of Christ's grace and love. I received several comments that our Christmas and Easter services were some of the best. We have had other special services, which brought hope and inspiration to people.

We have many things to be thankful for. Christ's presence among us evident. Christ's promise is to lead and guide us. He is doing that.

I preached a sermon in which I said I had WORD for our congregation. WORD is an acrostic for understanding the broad ministry of our church without getting into the details of planning. Worship is the heart of what we do. Outreach is being faithful to Christ. Relationships are what the gospel is all about. Discipleship is how we grow in our faith.

Each of us has a role to play in the ministry of Stidham. We all can do something. We are beginning to regroup as a congregation. I am thankful for lay people who are willing to step up and help chart a course for our beloved congregation. I look forward to hearing from the committees on their plans.

I want to invite all of Stidham to attend on worship on July 30. That is the fifth Sunday. Lots of activities are planned for this special day. Plans are being made for games, crafts, food, and a special music group. More detailed information will be in the bulletin as all activities are firmed up.

Join with me in prayer that the Holy Spirit empower our congregation to fulfill Christ's mission to the world through us.

BLESSINGS!

Pastor Mike



**LARRY AND JANE HAND  
50 YEARS**

**SATURDAY AUGUST 5**

**TIME: 2:00PM-4:00 PM**

**FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**HOSTED BY THEIR CHILDREN—  
JOEL HAND AND CAROL HILL**

**OUR CHURCH FAMILY IS INVITED  
TO ATTEND**

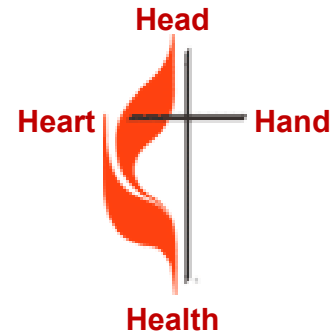
**CARDS ARE WELCOME BUT PLEASE  
NO GIFTS**

# The 4 “H’s” — Head – Heart – Hand – Health

I Pledge –

My **Head** to clearer thinking.  
My **Heart** to greater loyalty.  
My **Hand** to larger service.  
My **Health** to better living.

For my club, my community, my country, and my world.



It's summer; it's county 4-H fair time. The above is the 4-H Pledge, according to a member, that all 4-H'ers live by. I have three great-grandchildren that are a part of 4-H in Warren County. I was a 4-H'er in Carroll County in the late 1930's. I asked for a review of the symbol and explanation of the four-leaf clover with an 'H' in every leaf. I was given the pledge verbally. This exchange stirred my thinking. How can I use these four 'H's to make my life fuller and more rewarding?

The first 'H' concerns my head, my mind, my outlook on life every day. I need to think clearly about the opportunities I encounter, the obstructions I deal with. How do I make the best decisions? A background of Christian upbringing is a good beginning. A continuation of learning and developing of faith is a necessity. I feel God is not done with me yet, so I need to keep progressing.

The second 'H' is about having a loyal heart in my beliefs. How often do I look away when I should face an opportunity to share my faith? Am I ashamed of who I am? Am I loyal to attendance at Sunday worship? Do I stand-up for Christianity? If someone tells me of a person in physical distress do I say, "I will pray that their condition will be put in God's hands"? Having a loyal heart is not an easy 'H'.

The third 'H' stands for my hand in greater service. As I age my opportunities to serve changes. I can still support the Food Pantry with donations. I can give to the Helping Hands Fund. I can properly pay my pledge to keep the church operating each week. I encourage others to be the person I was at an earlier age. Teach children's Sunday school and Vacation Bible school. Teach adult Sunday school. Chair a committee. Be a member of a committee such as finance, education, or staff parish. Be a choir member, an usher, worship leader, or children's story leader. Volunteer! When ask to serve, **SERVE!**

The fourth 'H' tells me to be concerned in keeping me healthy. Get physical check-ups. Follow doctor's orders. Don't abuse my body by consuming that which will harm me. Get plenty of rest. Rest is an essential part of day to day living to keep me healthy. To have a healthy life I need a clear head, a loyal heart, unconditional hands in service. The 4-H program is prominent in my life.

Oh, yes! I completed 4-H projects in baking, flower arranging and sewing. Ask me how many angel food cakes I baked in one day to satisfy my grand-mother's expectations of a proper product. A learning experience! It was good that we raised chickens. Three dozen eggs were just a trip to the hen house. I am blessed.

Have a fair going summer and take care of yourself.

Love and prayers,

Betty Greene



- 4—Ray Coogle
- 5—Glenda Bauer
- 7—Gary Standiford
- 11—Betty Greene & Joy Dietz
- 20—Diann Robinson
- 23—Dave Brown
- 27—Bill Byers
- 28—Arletta Brown



- 1—Mike & Marcy Helms
- 11—m Paul & Joy Dietz
- 23—Gary & Connie Standiford
- 26—Dick & Judy Benedict

**PRAYER LIST**



Dear Heavenly Father,

We ask that you be with all that are on our prayer list, those who are going through health, issues, personal struggles, and other worries they may have. Let us show our faith and our love to one another each and every day. Amen

Jane Lutgen, Rich Conrad, Bonnie Watts, Jen Carmichael, Donna Aleman, Michael Marxson, Naomi Weaver, Virginia Perkins, Curtis & Rachel Goings, Carol Rottier, Ray Coogle, Bud Dillon, Don & Jan Plantenga, Tom Sosbe. Pat Baugh, Bill Sullivan, Millie Vonstein, Al Cummins, Lucy Keller, Sandy Kukman, George & Doris Carlton, Karen Fridlin, our military and our world leaders and those who are prayed for silently.

**THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY**

God will guide my feet on the right path.  
Each day of life is a sacred gift from God.  
God's love fills us with the light of new life.  
God stands ready to help me.



Would appreciate August Newsletter articles being  
In the office by Wednesday July 19.

**THANK YOU**

## THINGS GOING ON IN THE CHURCH FOR JULY 2017

Holy Communion Sunday July 2nd

Helping Hand Sunday July 2ns (Please mark the pew envelope "Helping Hand")

Bible Study Monday Nights July 3,10,17,24,31 6:30 pm

Lighthouse Prayer Group Thursday Mornings July 6,13,20,27 10:00 am

5th Sunday Meal will be July 30 following Worship Service. We will have Food, Fellowship, Fun and Games. Sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall to let us know if you are planning on attending so we will know how much main food to get. You are to bring a side dish or dessert. Drinks and table service will be furnished. See Julie Dillon if questions.

---

### FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED FOR OUR GROCERY CART EACH MONTH

JANUARY– CASH DONATIONS

FEBRUARY-CANNED MEAT OR TUNA

MARCH-SPAGHETTI SAUCE OR NOODLES  
(NO GLASS JARS)

APRIL-PAPER PRODUCTS

MAY– CASH DONATIONS

JUNE-CANNED FRUIT

JULY– MACARONI AND CHEESE

AUGUST-PAPER PRODUCTS

SEPTEMBER-CASH DONATIONS

OCTOBER– PEANUT BUTTER

NOVEMBER-SOUP & CRACKERS

DECEMBER-OATMEAL OR CEREAL

### SOMETHING NEW GOING ON AT CHURCH

**COME JOIN THE MIND AND BODY STRETCH WITH FRIENDS AT STIDHAM UMC**  
Instructors are: Julie Dillon and Arletta Brown

**It is on Sunday nights at 6:00pm**

**Come stretch your mind, body and relationship with Christ using stretching exercise mindfulness, mediation, gratitude and positive thinking to deepen your relationship with Christ.**

**Bring an exercise mat, a bottle of water and positive attitude. Chair modifications are available to those who can't get down on the floor.**



# **BAKED STEAK DINNER**

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 14, 2017**



**THE DINNER IS ONLY 15 WEEKS  
FROM THE FIRST SUNDAY IN JULY!!**

**PLEASE KEEP THIS DATE OPEN TO  
HELP WITH THE DINNER.**

**WE NEED EVERYONE'S HELP!**

**THANK YOU**