

JAMESTOWN TODAY



Building Bridges to The Families Of Our Community!

Jamestown

United Methodist Church

59218 County Road 3, Elkhart, IN 46517

May 2026

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CHURCH STAFF

- **Bette Thompson**
Pastor
- **Tammy Bainter**
Administrative Assistant
- **Kristin Farwig**
Choir Director
- **Sandra Metcalf**
Organist/Pianist
- **Diana Cook**
Pianist
- **Geri Angel**
Custodian

A word from Pastor Bette...

Dear Jamestown Friends,

We are coming into May—a time when everything around us is growing and coming to life—I’ve been thinking about Jesus’ words in John 10:1–15, where he reminds us that He is the Good Shepherd.

What stands out to me most is how personal this is. Jesus says he knows his sheep, and his sheep know him. Not just *about* him—but truly know him. There’s a closeness here. A relationship. A sense of experience. As I mentioned in my sermon on April 26th, the Greek language has two ways of describing “to know” and one word is *oida*, that is head knowledge, learning the facts. The other is *ginowskow*, which is the deep, committed way of experiencing Jesus in a personal way.

I think sometimes our faith can stay a little more on the surface than we realize. We come to church, we hear Scripture, we try to live faithfully—and all of these matter. But Jesus is inviting us into something deeper than just knowing the story. He’s inviting us to know *him*.

kind of knowing he’s talking about comes from spending time with him—listening, noticing, paying attention. It’s learning to recognize his voice in the middle of all the noise that fills our days. And let’s be honest, there is a lot of noise. Many voices, many demands, many distractions. But the voice of the Good Shepherd is different. He is steady. He is trustworthy. He calls us by name.

And here’s the other beautiful part—when Jesus talks about his sheep, he’s not talking about a crowd where people get lost. He’s talking about belonging. Being part of his fold means you are known, valued, and cared for. You are not just one of many—you are his. He even says that the Good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. That’s how much he loves us. That’s how committed he is to us.

So maybe this month, we simply slow down a bit and ask: *Where am I noticing Jesus in my life? When have I heard his voice nudging, guiding, comforting me? How can I make a little more space to listen?*

This doesn’t have to be complicated. It might be a quiet moment in the morning, a walk, a prayer whispered in the middle of the day, or reading a few verses and sitting with them. Over time, we begin to recognize his voice more clearly—and trust it more deeply.

We are part of something beautiful. We belong to a Shepherd who knows us, loves us, and stays with us. And that is very good news.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Bette



MAY BIRTHDAYS

8	Brenda Salmander
13	Mark Landis
	Nila Young
15	Joyce Cook
24	Cindy Campbell
26	Clo McIntosh
	Sally Franklin
27	Rhonda Clark
30	Bruce Clark
	Jon Pyfer



♥ **ANNIVERSARIES** ♥

10	Keith & Lana Berg	1969
15	Mark & Carolyn Landis	1982
19	Jeff & Cheryl Cabanaw	1987
30	Pastor Bette & Rich	1998

Worship Service
 Service starts @ 9:15 a.m. with fellowship to follow.
ALL ARE WELCOME!



Adult Bible Study!!

Please join us on Mondays at 9:30am and Tuesdays at 6:30pm. May 4th/5th we will finish up the Book of Revelations. The two weeks following the wrap up of the Book of Revelations we will dive into the previous Sunday's sermons. All are invited! Please call the church office or Pastor Bette if you would like to attend or if you have any questions. **574-293-3905 or 574-229-7810.**

Just a reminder to conserve energy and keep us safe. The Church building belongs to all of us, and we need to take care of it.

- If you unlock it, Lock it back up.
- If you turn it on, Turn it off.
- If you open it, Close it.

Thank You!



UNITED METHODIST MEN (UMM)

Next UMM Coffee & Donuts May 3rd @ 8:00am

Next meetings are as follows:

June 7th @ 8:00 a.m.

July 5th @ 8:00 a.m.

August 2nd @ 8:00 a.m.

Please invite your neighbors!

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH (UWIF)

May: No meeting

June 16th, McNaughten Park Concert 8:00 p.m.

July: Play and date TBD

August: TBD

COMMUNITY CARRY-IN LUNCHEON

May: Tuesday the 5th at Noon

June: Tuesday the 2nd at Noon.

July: Tuesday the 7th at Noon.

August: Tuesday the 4th at Noon



Outstanding Service award presented to Carolyn Landis

LAMPLIGHTERS ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

This class has met since the early 1960s, and they love to welcome newcomers! Please join them Sunday mornings after fellowship, which follows the worship service. Lamplighters meet downstairs in the last class on the left down from the church office. If you have any questions, please call the church office at 574-293-3905.

Bible Brain Teasers

What is the longest book of the Bible? _____

How many books are in the Bible? _____

Which NT book has Jesus' Sermon on the Mount? _____

What is the last book in the Bible? _____

Which human author wrote the most books? _____

In what language was most of the New Testament given? _____

Which Human author wrote the most words in the Bible? _____

How many words did this person write? _____

How many books in the New Testament? _____

Which book did Jesus directly write? _____

What four books tell about Jesus' life on Earth? _____

How many books are in the Old Testament? _____

In what language was most of the Old Testament given? _____

What is the first book in the Bible? _____

What is the shortest book in the Bible? _____

What was most likely the first Gospel written? _____

NAME: _____

Please return to church office by May 13th

March Puzzle Answers: Last month was a word search

Those that were up for the challenge in April: Jim Angel, Keith Bainter, Lana Berg, Marta Clark, Marcia Clark, Roberta Mann and Paula LaPlace



JUMC Recognized by Indiana Conference

Jamestown UMC has been recognized by the Indiana Conference, through the Children Matter Most ministry, for adopting child protection guidelines, completing the training course, and establishing policy. Thank you all who have taken part in creating a safe environment for our children to worship and grow.



MISSIONS

Loose Coin Offerings: May Loose Coin will go to **Seed to Feed** : The mission of Seed to Feed is to establish food security in Elkhart County by providing fresh, local produce and protein to those in need. Simply write a separate check or cash and mark it "loose coin". Thank You for your generosity. April's Loose Coin Offering went to the Guidance Ministries: \$181.50

Church Community Services: May... Veggies, Rice, Pasta, Spaghetti Sauce, Meat Helpers, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Cereals (hot and cold), Soups, Toilet paper, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste..... See collection areas by both doors.

OUR MISSIONS AT WORK...

Please see bulletin board going into fellowship hall for the letters & cards.



YOUTH GROUP

An Evening w/Pastor Bette

Teens (5th through 12th Grades)! On Sunday, May 24th, from 6 – 8 p.m. Share a meal, play a fun game, have a lesson, and spend some hang-out time with Pastor Bette. Invite your friends! Please contact the office or Pastor Bette if you plan to attend. 574-293-3905.

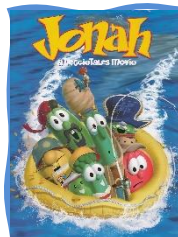
Remember in Prayer

Home Bound & Care

Facilities: Jean Green, Margaret Pierce, Patsy Seigler, Jan Slabaugh, Paula Adams, and Dee Kallimani.

Ongoing Health Concerns:

Kathy Eggleston, Betty Hershberger, Lora Mahler, Wanda McCartney, Sue Raab, Linda Squibb, Marti Stickel, Polly Brown, Nila Young, and Tammie Pedler.



Pizza and A Movie with Pastor Bette

K - 4th Grades are invited to spend an afternoon from Noon to 2:30 p.m., on Saturday, May 23rd with Pastor Bette to eat yummy pizza and watch Jonah a Fish Tales Movie. Please feel free to invite your friends! Please contact the office or Pastor Bette if you plan to attend. 574-293-3905.



CHILDREN'S MUSIC TIME

Carolyn Landis is bringing back the children's music program. Children, grades K-4th, will be dismissed for a short time during "Passing the Peace" to go downstairs with Miss Carolyn to learn songs about Jesus and His love. They will be brought back up in time for Children's Church. If you feel led, please reach out to Miss Carolyn to help.



CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION

This certificate is presented to

Jamestown United Methodist Church

in recognition of your meaningful participation in the 2026 Pinwheel Campaign & unwavering support of CAPS during Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Rebecca Shetler Fast
Rebecca Shetler Fast
 President & CEO

Troy Smith
Troy Smith
 Chief Advancement Officer



Joys & Concerns

- Jeff Clark asks for continued prayers of recovery for his sister-in-law, Tonita, who will be coming home from the hospital. Also, prayers for Kelsey Clark who just had surgery and has a newborn at home.
- Lana Berg asks for prayers for her friend, Tami Pedler, who was diagnosed with breast cancer this week.
- LuAnn Pontius is joyful that Jimtown Percussion ensemble went to state to compete and came in 1st place out of 12.
- Jackie Ullery is joyful that her grandson, Braden, was released from the hospital.
- Friends and family of Cedric Gisel, Jane Lechlitner's nephew, who passed away at 64 due to a heart attack.
- Friends and family of Janes Lechlitner's sister-in-law, Lois, who passed away at 92 and suffered with Alzheimer's.
- Prayers for Pam Ruiz, JoAnn Barnes' daughter, who has been diagnosed with ovarian cancer.
- Jeff Clark is joyful that his sister-in-law, Tonita Clark, is doing great after her surgery. Mr. Clark also asks for prayers for Ed Summer, a fellow teacher's husband, who is recovering from triple bypass surgery.
- Steve Squibb is joyful the 2nd airman was found and brought home safely.
- Jane Rapp asks for continued prayers for her neighbor and his family, Mark, as he is still struggling with long-term unemployment and he has prostate cancer.
- Su Clark asks for prayers for the friends and family of both Sue Leatherman and Su's best friend's significant other, John McAfee, who have passed away.
- Carl Lechlitner is happy to be back from down south, nothing like your home church!
- Prayers for the friends and family of Deanna Gilles, Kathy Hinegardner (preschool teacher) sister, who lost her battle with cancer and went to be with the Lord on March 29th. Funeral services have already taken place.
- Roger Matthews asks for travel prayers as he moves to Houston, Texas.
- Jeff thanked everyone for their prayers for his sister-in-law, Tonita, and his friend Ed Summers. Ed's surgery went well.
- Kathy Moyer asks for prayers for her friend, Nolie Collins, who has been in the hospital and rehab, and is now being moved to a nursing home.
- Tami Pyfer asks for prayers for herself and her family as they navigate Jake's travel soccer season
- Anita Hoffman asks for prayers for her friend, Bradley. Please ask for God's will to be done.
- Jane Rapp asks for continued prayers for her neighbor. He is still unemployed, but joyful that the cancer was successfully removed.
- Larry Pappas asks for prayers for his partner's (Vickie McCuddy) daughter, as she is expecting and being induced this week.
- Kathy Moyer asks for continued prayers for her friend Nolie Collins.
- Jackie Ullery asks for prayers for her brother-in-law, Jerry Alexander, who suffers with COPD and a lung infection. Also, prayers for Jackie's sister, Cindy, who is even worse shape.
- Pastor Bette asks for prayers for the friends and family of her dear friends Pastor Bob and his Mary, as they were laid to rest this past weekend.
- Prayers for our District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Marti Lundy as she guides our leaders.
- Prayers for Assistant Superintendent, Rev. Dr. David Schrader, as he battles cancer.





MAY VOLUNTEERS

	Liturgist	Acolytes	Children's Message	Little's Bible School and Youth Bible School
3 rd	Deb Beehler	Jackie & Jemma Ullery	Jeff Clark	Linda Vest & TBD Teens: Jon Pyfer
10 th	Gail Greenlee	Doug Cook & Maria Moleski	Carolyn Landis	Linda Vest & TBD Teens: Jon Pyfer
17 th	Gail Greenlee	Jon & Tami Pyfer	Pastor Bette	Jackie Ullery & TBD Teens: LuAnn Pontius
24 th	Deb Beehler	Jane Rapp & Paula LaPlace	Jeff Clark	Jackie Ullery & TBD Teens: TBD
31 st	Warren Allender	Steve & Roberta Mann	Pastor Bette	Jane Rapp & TBD Teens: TBD
Ushers	Jim Angel, Randy Beehler, Jeff Clark and Tom Cook			

Looking for a chance to volunteer during the week? We have the perfect opportunity for you! Susanna's Kitchen served over 18,000 meals in 2025 and they need you! Helping is easy, fun and fulfilling. All you need to do is add your name to the sign-up sheet on the Mission's bulletin board located in the fellowship hallway. Thank you.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

We need you to help lead our children & teens during the worship service. Our children are dismissed following the Choir Anthem to go downstairs to participate in Teen & Children's Church. So, it is only about 25 minutes. Lesson plans are chosen and ready for you. Please see LuAnn Pontius (574)370-0548 if your heart leads you to help. Thank you for prayerfully considering helping!



COMMUNION TO HOMEBOUND

Some of you may know that we currently have 2 teams that take Communion to some of our homebound members every month. This is a ministry of our church. This is a chance for you to be included in our busy family of volunteers. A way to take care of our people, to let them know we are thinking of them. Will you please prayerfully consider helping take Communion to some of our members. If you want more information or would like to volunteer, sign up at the Welcome Center or call the church office, 574-293-3905.

Is God nudging you?



JAMESTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

59218 COUNTY ROAD 3

ELKHART, IN 46517

www.Jamestownumc.org

"Building Bridges to the Families of Our Community"



all about

MY MOM

a flower for mom

I love my mom because...

Her favorite drink is...

I Love You!

My favorite thing to do with my mom is...

I love it when she...

My mom's favorite food is:

My mom's favorite color is:

BEST MOM AWARD

Draw a picture of your mom and you!

MY MOM+ME

Love.