



Greetings to Porter United Methodist Church,

Happy New Year!! My name is Liz Lahaie and I am excited to be your new pastor. God has been working in our lives to equip and prepare us for this new and exciting journey that we, as the United Methodist Church of Porter, will take together.

Each one of us has a story to tell. I absolutely love to hear people's stories and look forward to hearing yours. Here's part of my story: for over ten years, I have been in many different roles of the churches God has placed me in and the past 4 ½ years I have been leading children and families to deepen their connection with God and others. God has called you and me to build authentic relationships with others to connect them with Jesus Christ. Because of the example set by Jesus, I know the importance of leading with love, prayer, and relationship building. I feel that God is in every story and that building authentic relationships with others is how we can bring others to a connection with God and grow His kingdom. My family and I are excited to build relationships with each of you and grow into this delightful family. I have been blessed by a wonderful and loving husband, Brian. We have been married for 19 years. God has blessed us with 3 remarkable children: Kelly age 15, Kara age 13, and Josh age 8. It is with the unconditional support of my family that I am following God's lead and have been given the privilege to partner with you to do God's work.

One of my favorite scripture verses is Jeremiah 29:11-12, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." God is always with us every step of the way. Rest assured that we are moving forward and our journey has always been in God's hands and in God's timing. I look forward to getting to know each one of you and work alongside you. I am looking forward to everything God has in store for us as we get to know one another. My prayer is that we will work together as a family. Once we have built relationships with one another in the church, I will work on building relationships in the community.

Please take time to visit with me, so that I can hear your story. Also, I would ask for patience as I learn your names and as I get settled into my new surroundings.

Blessings to you and yours,
 Pastor Liz Lahaie

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Sermons in January:

Sunday, January 6th
 Pastor Terry Rhine

Sunday, January 13th
You Are Beloved
 Luke 3:15 - 17, 21 - 22

Sunday, January 20th
Gifted for Others
 John 2:1 - 11

Sunday, January 27th
Being Needy
 Luke 4:14 - 21



Applications are now being accepted for the 2019 Rebuilding Together - Duneland work day. This event helps individuals and families in need who live in the Duneland School District, make the necessary improvements to their homes in order to maintain a safe, healthy

and independent life. ***Volunteer to help your neighbor and the Duneland community on National Rebuilding Day Saturday, April 27, 2019!***

Skilled or unskilled workers, all are welcome over the age of 14. Learn new and different skills, no construction experience necessary, meet new people, make new friends, earn volunteer hours, enjoy a team building experience and make a difference in your neighbor's life. **All volunteer applications must be placed on their website at www.rtduneland.org beginning March 1st.**

Applications are currently being taken from qualifying homeowners who are in need of free home repairs. Apply online at www.rtduneland.org or call (219) 926-3233. ***The deadline to apply is January 15, 2019.***

Westchester Neighbors Food Pantry

Thank you so much for continuing to support the Westchester Neighbors Food Pantry with donations of food items collected each Sunday. For the month of January, we have been asked to gather bottles of liquid dish soap.

Duneland Medical Equipment Loan Closet Schedule



The Duneland Medical Equipment Loan Closet, located in the Duneland Resale Shop at 801 Broadway, will be closed for the holidays through Saturday, January 12th. The closet will reopen on Tuesday, January 15th at 1 p.m. During this time, they will be unable to check out medical equipment and

they ask that no donations be dropped off. They are sorry for the inconvenience, but if you truly have an emergency need of equipment, please call Porter United Methodist Church at (219) 926-1586.

As a reminder, the Duneland Medical Loan Closet is a wonderful community resource for persons living in Pine, Liberty, Jackson and Westchester Townships. They offer FREE LOANS of medical equipment (wheelchairs, walkers, commodes, crutches, canes, etc.) for 3 MONTHS. The closet has also added knee walkers into their inventory for a 1-month loan period and a \$20 refundable deposit. Hours for the closet are Tuesdays from 1 – 3:45 p.m. and Saturdays from 9:30 – 11:45 a.m. The loan closet is always looking for those who are interested in volunteering so the closet might be able to increase the number of hours they can serve the community. No experience is necessary as training will be provided. For more information or to find out how to become a volunteer, please call Porter United Methodist Church at (219) 926-1586 during their office hours of Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.



JACOB'S LADDER

The week before Christmas, Judy Reales (our Mission Chair), visited Jacob's Ladder Pediatric Rehab, located at 1595 S Calumet Rd., Suite 3, Chesterton, IN 46304 and presented them with a check in the amount of \$489.06. The office received a thank you letter from Mariann Frigo, the Executive Director of Jacob's Ladder:

Dear Members of Porter UMC -


I want to personally thank you for your continued support of Jacob's Ladder and for your donation to Jacob's Ladder Pediatric Rehabilitation. Your generosity is appreciated by me and the kids at Jacob's Ladder. Therapy makes a significant impact on the lives of the children we serve by helping them to speak, move, swallow, and play with much less pain and difficulty. One session is subsidized for every \$25 raised!

If you would like to learn more about our organization, I would welcome the opportunity to speak with you and/or provide you with a guided tour of our outpatient rehabilitation center in Chesterton. Thank you again for your support!

Sincerely yours,
Mariann Frigo
(219) 764 - 4888 or (219) 406-3102

You can also visit their website at <http://www.jacobskids.org/>

Please look in upcoming newsletter issues and Sunday bulletins for the various mission outreaches we will be supporting in the year 2019.

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
			8 p.m. AA Meeting			7 p.m. Models Club
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m.			8 p.m. AA Meeting			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m.		<i>Newsletter Deadline for February</i>	8 p.m. AA Meeting	6:30 p.m. Ad Council Mtg.		3 p.m. Models Club
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m.			8 p.m. AA Meeting			
27	28	29	30	31	 <p>Pastor Liz's Office Hours Tuesdays 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Fridays 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.</p>	
Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m.			8 p.m. AA Meeting			

BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

- 1 Kyle Fischer
- 2 Carolyn Coslet
- 5 Les Babcock
- 11 Elmer Mannen
- 12 Travis Kalbe
- 18 Brandon Copollo
- 26 Karla Allmon
- 28 Loren Knibbs
- 28 Larry Peterson
- 29 Rachel Fischer
- 31 Nate Coppinger

ANNIVERSARIES THIS MONTH

- 21 Rift & Pam Slater

A New Year's Prayer

May God make your year a happy one!
 Not by shielding you from all sorrows and pain,
 But by strengthening you to bear it, as it comes;
 Not by making your path easy,
 But by making you sturdy to travel any path;
 Not by taking hardships from you,
 But by taking fear from your heart;
 Not by granting you unbroken sunshine,
 But by keeping your face bright,
 even in the shadows;
 Not by making your life always pleasant,
 But by showing you
 when people and their causes need you most,
 and by making you anxious to be there to help.
 God's love, peace, hope and joy to you
 for the year ahead.

~Anonymous



Members of Porter United Methodist Church -

Thank you so much to my church family for all the wonderful, and totally unexpected, Christmas gifts. I'll never forgive your kindness. Thanks & love to all of you!

- Anna Kalbe

I just want to express my thanks for the generosity of the members of Porter United Methodist Church in the Christmas gifts you have given me over this holiday season! I really appreciate the kindness all of you have shown to me throughout these past 4 years of working as your Administrative Assistant. Many blessings for the New Year!
Kim Allmon

Sign Up for Altar Flowers in 2019

Just a reminder, 2019 is beginning and with that comes the opportunity to sign up for Altar Flowers to celebrate or honor special days in your life. Please stop by the chart in the Narthex and reserve your dates. Remember, more than one person can sign up for a Sunday.



*Porter United Methodist Church
100 E. Beam Street
Porter, IN 46304*

Porter United Methodist Church

Liz Lahaie, Pastor

Pastor's Hours:
Tuesdays & Fridays
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Church Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
(219) 926-1586

VISION STATEMENT

As the community of Christ, which is one in Jesus Christ, we will nurture and care for one another, spread God's word and love throughout the community thereby fulfilling our mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ.