

MT. COMFORT BLESSING



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

ROOTED IN CHRIST

AUGUST 2010

Funerals and Weddings

James Wharton writes

“the difference between courtship and marriage is like the difference between the pictures in the seed catalogue and what actually comes up out of the ground.” A number of you are heavily into gardening and raising fruit and vegetables. You know that what you plant at the outset of spring may become quite a different reality by harvest time. The bounty of a harvest is related to many conditions, soil, water, sun, absence of weeds and pests, etc.



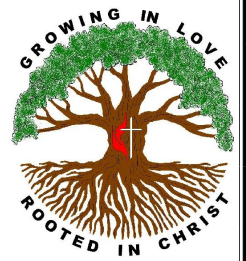
Lately, MCUMC has been blessed to host two weddings, and three funerals—seed planting for future harvest if you will. Each occasion is an opportunity for us to offer ourselves to others—many of whom are either de-churched or un-churched. Think about this!!! During life's most defining moments—marriage and death—we have the opportunity to come alongside others in the name of Jesus Christ.

I find it more than interesting that Scripture tells us Jesus' ministry begins at a wedding feast in Cana, “this is the first of the signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee...” John 2:11. Think about this for a moment- if you were Jesus' marketing manager wouldn't you have Jesus raise a dead person, or cast out demons, or restore someone's sight as a means to getting more publicity for Jesus? Why is the wedding feast the first miracle of Jesus' ministry? Why would God have this be the first thing He does?

The answer I believe comes in the understanding of the church as the BRIDE of Christ. It is HIS bride not just ours. Jesus sees His church as a beautiful and glorious bride. On a personal note, I'm expecting Marilyn to look beautiful and radiant on August 21. I'm certain she will dazzle me if not everyone else. But none of us would expect the doors to open in church that day and see Marilyn in a tattered and torn dress, bruised, and bleeding walking down the aisle. That's the image Chuck Swindoll uses for churches who tend to have fights. We beat up the very bride of Christ! It's why Paul exhorts the church at Ephesus: “Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her...to make her holy and clean...so that he could give her to Himself as a glorious church without spot or wrinkle.” Eph 5 :25-27

Puritan Thomas Brooks once penned these words, “For wolves to worry lambs is no wonder, but for lambs to worry lambs, this is unthinkable and monstrous.” Or in another arena, Lucy says to Snoopy in Peanuts, “There are times you really bug me, but then there are times I feel like giving you a big hug.” Snoopy replies: “That's me- huggable and buggable.” That's each one of us!! Buggable and huggable! As much as I want Marilyn to be beautiful and spotless on the 21st of August, I think all of us-*if we stop and think*- want to be sure Christ's bride is not tainted in ANY way. This is the heart of our calling - whether through weddings or funerals or being people of true integrity- to make 100% certain the bride of Christ gleams with radiance and light. Here comes the Bride! We all have a role in keeping the garment spotless!

Mount Comfort UMC



Senior Pastor

Rev. Reid Walker

New Life Groups

Rev. Bob Miller

Daytime Ministries

Pat Zarse

Director of Music

Elaine Holloway

Office Administration

Betty Carpenter

Custodian

John Bowery

Please have any articles (in digital form) for the newsletter turned into the office **no later than the 5th of each month** to be included in the next issue.

Articles for the September issue are due Aug. 5!
Thanks.

DAYTIME MINISTRIES
PAT ZARSE—DIRECTOR

DAYTIME MINISTRIES

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. Genesis 1:1

And God saw every thing that he had made, and behold, it was very good. Genesis 1:31

This past weekend I read several different brochures on green or sustainable living. They were titled, “Natural Awakenings” and “Indiana Living Green, A Hoosier’s Guide to a Sustainable Lifestyle.” I also read an article by Dobson on teaching your child to appreciate nature, which leads to exploring and caring for nature. To me these two subjects go hand and hand. And finally, in Genesis it tells us that God created the earth and everything on it and that it was good. Four publications – the same message!



Have you noticed the push for going natural - from food to building materials to cleaning supplies? I feel we may be getting back to the way God intended for us to live. On the other hand, I’ve always supported science and the scientists who use the brain God gave them to research and invent medicines and cures. But why do we have cancer and autism? On TV I watch the oil situation along our coastline, how the animals are being affected, and the towns losing their means of income. What are we doing wrong and how can we change and care for our earth the way God wants us to care for it?

I may have written on a touchy subject, but I think we all need to do our part to protect and save the earth that God created. So, what is the answer? Probably each one of us would have a different solution. In our family, our three sons are really pushing Mom and Dad to change many of the commercial products that we have used in the past and to start a sustainable lifestyle. All three boys drive smaller, more efficient cars. Josh has changed his toiletries and cleaning supplies. As an architect, Thaddeus has designed a sustainable home being built in New Orleans’ Lower 9th for the Brad Pitt Project (he’s also pushing to design one for his parents) and uses natural products in his home. Nathan has a garden, buys from farmer’s markets year round, and uses the same natural products also.

What can you do? Suggestion: Start by using the recycling bins on the church parking lot!

In Daytime Ministries we are making a conscious effort to teach the children about God’s creation and to care for it. I discovered some really cool books at Barnes and Noble this summer that are helping us with that. The titles are “Michael Recycle” and “Michael Recycle Meets Litterbug Doug.” I also found books that are composed of 98% recycled material and they are titled “One Tree” and “Little Helpers.” Each of these books ends with suggestions to encourage a sustainable lifestyle. Our staff is looking forward to a new addition to our curriculum and I think the kids will really enjoy it too.

Serving Him,

Pat

SAVE GOD’S EARTH!

DAYTIME MINISTRY NEWS
PAT ZARSE

Preschool still has openings for 2, 3, and 4 year olds. Spread the word. Orientations begin the week of August 23 and the first day of preschool is Monday, August 30.

Kindergarten Enrichment is over capacity because the elementary had to cancel full day kindergarten because enough students did not register. We will still accept new students. Their first day is Wednesday, August 11.

Childcare lost a major number of 4 year olds going to kindergarten. We have gained a few this summer to fill those spots.

Our signage has helped in getting new registrations. Word of mouth has always been our best advertising and I thank those of you who have shared this information with fellow workers, neighbors, and family.



THE YOUTH COUNCIL

MARY SPRINGER

God is breathing a new concept and team to do youth at Mt. Comfort United Methodist Church. Mary Springer has felt God's leading to become the Youth Coordinator handling details, plans and arrangements. Pastor Reid will be directly involved with giving messages and biblical teaching. Finally, Bob Miller has helped recruit a number of youth "mentors". Of course, a newer concept requires a new name. Jamie and Drew McLellan created the name, "The Outlet", and have done a fabulous logo design to go with the new name. We want our youth to get plugged in and charged up with Jesus. Please pray for the youth. After all, they are the future of our church.

Youth Council members are: Mary Springer as coordinator, Jamie McClellan as assistant coordinator, Dale Dickson as resource leader and back-up, and mentors as listed below.

Grades 5 & 6: Brandon Ludlow, Kenny & Lori Thompson, and Sherri Schrieber

Grades 7 & 8: Zach Ahonen, Drew McClellan, and Natalie Livengood

Grades 9 through 12: Jamie McClellan, and Ali & Jeromy Pierce

Other helpers will be Austin Gibson and Nicole Gammons on special events.

There are ways you can help us get the youth room ready. At least 3 of the couches need to be replaced with cleaned used ones in good condition. Walls need painted. We would also like to re-organize the room. We could use donations for paint. Contact Mary Springer at 335-2420 or email at gpspring@verizon.net.

There are also ways you can help with the youth entertainment room:

- Ping Pong tables need to be replaced.
- Pool table needs repaired, if possible.
- Need beads for the hand shuffleboard.
- We need some strong backs to move the exercise equipment out.
- Walls need painted. Again, could use donations for paint. Contact Drew McClellan 771-3679 or via email at mcclellanwedding@hotmail.com

If you have games that you no longer use for PS2, or have Xbox and/or Wii stations, please consider donating them to "The Outlet" Youth.

"The Outlet" youth events are scheduled for Sunday evenings 6:00—7:30 PM unless otherwise indicated. The "Get Acquainted" event is scheduled for August 22. "The Outlet" will be meeting on August 29 and Monday, September 6 with parents and youth. On Sunday September 12, we would like the youth to lead the Sunday morning worship services and have "The Outlet" Ignition in the evening. Invite your friends and bring them with you to enjoy the Ignition/Blow-out. There will be outside games, message/skit, bonfire, smores, songs, and a fun time.

There are many activities/events including fundraisers being planned for "The Outlet."

Come, join in on the fun and experience getting plugged in and charged up with Jesus!

THE YOUTH COUNCIL



CONNECT—MARY SPRINGER

Connect by Using Constructive Words

“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs that it may benefit those who listen.” Ephesians 4:29 (NIV) God wants us to take these words and use them to build up people.

One reason we aren't constructive with our words is we don't realize how powerful they are; yet, I bet you can still remember things people said to you in a thoughtless way as far back as grade school or college. That's how powerful words are. They leave a lasting impact. So when it comes to your mouth, think of it as a power tool and be very careful with it.

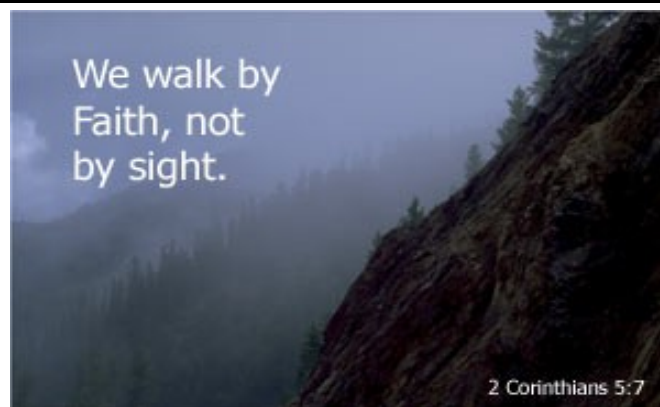
Here's how to build instead of destroying with your words: (1) Stop saying, “I didn't really mean to say that.” Realize that what you say impacts everyone around you. (2) Talk less. One of the reasons we get in trouble is we just talk too much sometimes. We need to talk less and then...1. (3) Listen more. If I listen more, I can understand people's needs. (4) Start building. Think first of all, “What do they need?” How can I use a word of encouragement to build them up? How can I use a word of challenge to make a difference in someone's life? How can I use my words to build up the people I love the most?

THANKS! MARY & GENE SPRINGER

THANKS!!!

I want to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, and support in the death of my brother Al Krick. We also want to thank you for the same support for Matt Springer who passed on last month. I also want to thank everyone for prayers for my brother Paul Krick, who had to have amputation last month. He had prayers going for him across the nation. God is not only a Wonderful God, He is an Awesome God!!!

Mary & Gene Springer



ICHTHUS FESTIVAL—JUNE 16-19, 2010 MARY SPRINGER



Just wanted to share with you about the ICHTHUS Concert Festival in Wilmore, KY. In our group, we had 9 youth and 3 adults attending ICHTHUS for the first time. Wow! I can personally say that God truly blessed all of us. We went to the main stage on Wednesday evening which was Community Night. I have to admit I really enjoyed Toby Mac and Newsboys. It was amazing to see how God was working through the artists' music to bless youth and adults too. We went to the Main Stage every evening around 6:45 p.m. and left around 11:00 p.m. The artists at the main stage were: Toby Mac, Newsboys, Relient K, Switchfoot, Red, Skillet, Barlow Girl, and Casting Crowns. Speakers at the main stage were Bob Lenz, Matt Pitt, Jon Weese, and Johnny.

There were five other stages with other speakers and artists during the day and late evening. Most of our group went to see “Blank Pages” artists from the Mt. Vernon High School. Many of you know Jacob Rush who is involved in this group.

On Saturday night, all gathered on the hill to hear the speaker. Picture in your mind 15,000 youth/adults taking communion at the same time. What a great experience it was to be one of the 15,000 taking communion on the hillside. I could picture Jesus feeding 5,000 on the hillside. What a blessing that would have been, too. Later we all enjoyed the Casting Crowns concert. Their music was soft. Wow! ICHTHUS has left a lasting impression on me.

Those who gave their life to Christ were: Sharon (Amalia's friend), Chrissy, Lucas Gibson, Trever Dixon, and Derrick Keene. (Names given to me by Amber)

The youth want to go to ICHTHUS again and so do I. Having faith that our youth attendance will increase, there will be many more wanting to go next year. Reserve a week in June 2011 to attend the ICHTHUS festival.





NOTES FROM THE
MUSIC DIRECTOR
ELAINE HOLLOWAY

All the ladies of the church (ages 18 – 88) are invited to my home on Tuesday, the third of August at 7 o'clock p.m. for a "Bridal Celebration" for Marilyn. She is, indeed, a very special lady and the one who will become Pastor Reid's wife soon. So let's gather for some fun and get to know her. It's a personal shower for her; not to be confused with a bridal shower of gifts for the home. (I know she loves picture frames.) I'm personally going to start a "money tree" so she can do her own "try-it-on, choose her favorite size or fragrance" shopping. If you'd like to join in that, please let me know. Please RSVP by August 1st with me at church or by calling my cell phone at 317-498-0570. Or, you may also RSVP to Carol Seng, the co-host of this event, at 317-697-1937. We hope you can come!



(MEN, this is for YOU, too!!) Do you have a favorite hymn? Well, now is your chance to make a request! On Sunday, August 8th we will have a Hymn Sing during the Traditional Service. We'll take requests during the service and sing one verse of each hymn requested from our hymnal. If yours is not in the hymnal, let me know ahead of time.

Your music director,
Elaine

**"Praise the Lord!
How good it is to sing His praises!"**
Psalm 147

IGNITE THE FLAME
DALE DICKSON

The fall "Ignite the Flame" ministry is considering a challenge for our "Risk-Taking Mission and Service" of a possible "After School" ministry. We have someone who may be able to coordinate it but the following areas of helpers and support are needed. Please check the area that you would be willing to volunteer and give to Pastor Bob or Dale Dickson. This would likely be from 3:45 to 5:15 for grades 1 through 4, one day per week (possibly Tuesday or Thursday) beginning in September. Thanks for your support.

- _____ Lead or assist with music
- _____ Lead or assist with arts and crafts
- _____ Lead or assist with study skills
- _____ Lead or assist with Bible/Faith time
- _____ Lead or assist with Drama/Skit time
- _____ Lead or assist with snacks or food
- _____ I will pray for this ministry
- _____ I offer my support wherever needed

We have applied for a grant to help support this ministry however, if you feel led to support financially please check here ____.

Name _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

I suggest the following children: _____

NEW LIFE GROUP MINISTRIES
BOB MILLER



The location of the remaining games are now at Lion's Club Field in Cumberland. Mt. Comfort United Methodist Church has two teams. The White Team has three wins and one loss; the Red Team has one win and three losses. There will be a one day tourney on August 22nd to conclude the season. The August games are: White team plays the Red team at 3:30 PM on August 1st; on August 8th the Red team plays at 1:00 PM and the White team plays at 3:30 PM. On August 15th the Red team plays at 1:00 PM and the White team plays at 2:15 PM.

Come join in the fun!!

THE FIVE PRACTICES OF FRUITFUL CONGREGATIONS

KATHY BENNETT

Since the Garden of Eden, God has used stories about sowing fields and planting vineyards to remind us that we are expected to grow our faith. Jesus told us we were expected to produce fruit when He said, "I am the vine, you are the branches", in John 15:5.

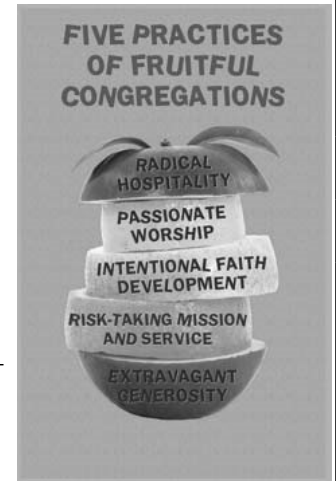
It is not surprising then that when Bishop Robert Schnase was searching for a word to describe the nature of a successful congregation, he chose "fruitful".

Once he had decided that he wanted to find ways to make congregations fruitful, Bishop Schnase began looking for exciting words he could use to describe the ways for congregations to produce the fruits necessary for success. These became the five practices: radical hospitality, passionate worship, intentional faith development, risk-taking mission and service, and extravagant generosity. The results of his research led the bishop to write his book entitled *The Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*.

In January, your Evangelism and Spiritual Growth team began working on a plan to use *The Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations* as a church-wide study to help us grow as a congregation.

In June, the team was ready to begin planting the idea that our congregation could indeed become one of the "fruitful congregations" Bishop Schnase describes. Ten volunteers have accepted co-leadership of each of five task forces which will lead us toward this greater fruitfulness. Each task force will focus on developing projects and ministries related to one of the five practices. The congregation will be hearing from these leaders every Sunday until August 29. This is the date selected for involving everyone in this project to "Ignite the Flame of Spiritual Renewal" in God's church at Mt. Comfort.

Continuing with the familiar Biblical theme of planting and producing fruit, each of us will be asked to help cultivate the five practices by being part of a group as it studies, *Cultivating Fruitfulness*, another book by Bishop Schnase as a study guide.



NEW LIFE GROUP MINISTRIES

BOB MILLER



Look What Is Happening! - **Geek Night**, August 27th 7—10 PM in the Cafe, bring your computers and questions.

"HIS Place", New Coffee House Grand Opening on Sept. 4th, 7—10 PM. Music, coffee, cookies and creativity. There is no charge.

=====
Ballroom Dancing, Zumba, Men's Basketball, Co-Ed Volleyball, Cooking Class, Cake Decorating, Bible Study, Dinner For Eight????

If you are interested in any of the above, please fill out the information below and give it to Pastor Bob or contact him at 317-435-0405 or email at rmagapefamily07@gmail.com.

I am interested in _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

AS I SEE IT—JOHN BOWERY

Well not much happening as it is the summer and I have just returned from vacation.

We had a great time in Texas and the weather was cooler with rain on most days. They needed the rain as the moment we crossed the Texas border it was brown??????

The church is quiet for the summer and VBS is not here yet so the activity is sparse.

Not a full Security report as Security was dropped in my absence, so the report is for only a half a month for this month and July.

Security for June.

Doors unlocked: Outside = 8, Inside doors unlocked that should be locked = 12, Lights on 20.

Total security errors for the half year is 651 infractions.

Until next time,

“Don’t leave the lights on for me”.

May God Bless you all.

John,

One of your Custodians



MT. COMFORT WEB SITE BETTY CARPENTER

The web site contains additions or changes each week. If you haven’t noticed or had the opportunity to check it out lately, please note that the bulletin is now posted on the site each week. So, if you need to know what’s happening and you forgot your bulletin, just go to the web site, www.churchatmtcomfort.org and click on e-bulletin. You will also find the weekly calendar in the e-bulletin.

You will also find the latest issue of the newsletter by clicking on e-newsletter. For those of you that are comfortable with computers and technology, this might be a cost saving preference over the hard copy for your consideration.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS



Sandi Hudson	8-02		
Don Waymire	8-04	Kirk Voelkel	8-18
Gregory Neer	8-08	Jordan Kendall	8-23
Darrell Berry	8-09	Gail Malloy	8-25
Ben Thompson	8-10	Wanda White	8-26
Steve Wilkinson		Linda Fugate	8-28
Pat Moore		Jarrod Beeson	8-29
Joyce Ellenberger	8-11	Carla Alder	
Shirley Cohron	8-17	Paul Lillyblade	8-30
Alison Copeland		William Meredith	
		Amy Waymire	

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Dale and Rhonda Pleak	8-02
Gene and Mary Springer	8-08
Josh and Ashlie Worth	8-11
Dale and Debra Dickson	8-12
Bruce and Cindy Kendall	8-17
Jack and Sandy Abel	8-27
Darrell and Shirley Cohron	8-31
Roger and Sandi Hudson	8-31



FALL SPIRITUAL RENEWAL BOB MILLER

“Ignite the Flame” Fall Schedule

Sunday: Sept. 12th—“Radical Hospitality”, followed by small group discussions.

Sunday: Sept. 19th “Passionate Worship”, led by Youth followed by small group discussions.

Sunday: Sept. 26th “Intentional Faith Development”, followed by small groups.

Sunday: Oct. 3rd “Risk Taking Missions and Service”, worship featuring “AGAPE” followed by small group discussions.

Sunday: Oct. 10th “Extravagant Generosity”, followed by small group discussion.

Leaders or hosts needed to lead discussion groups in your home or church. As you sign up for a group you will receive your official “IGNITE THE FLAME” pin to wear as a reminder of our special emphasis of our services of spiritual renewal. Sign up sheets will be available at the Welcome Center on August 8 as well as August 15 and 22.

August 2010

The calendar changes daily. For up-to-date listings please refer to the calendar posted on the bulletin board by the office.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1 Trad. Service 9:00 Christian Ed. 10:00 Connect Svc. 11:17	2 7:00 pm SPRC Mtg. (105)	3 6:00 pm Boy Scout Parents Mtg. (107) 6:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 236 (FH) 6:30 pm Girl Scout Council Mtg. (Café) 7:30 pm Givan BB	4 7:30 am Men's Bible Study (107)	5 Noon—Comforters (FLC)	6 7:30 pm Givan BB	7 8:00 am Kairos Team Mtg. (Café, Kitchen)
8 Trad. Service 9:00 Christian Ed. 10:00 Connect Svc. 11:17	9 Worship Committee Mtg. (105)	10 6:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 236 (FH) 6:30 pm Cub Scout Den 5 (108) 7:30pm Givan BB (FLC)	11 7:30 am Men's Bible Study 4:30 pm Herb John- son Karate (FLC)	12 10:00 am Women's Bible Study (107)	13 Givan Basketball (FLC)	14 1:00 pm Waymire Reunion (FLC, Kitchen)
15 Trad. Service 9:00 Christian Ed. 10:00 Connect Svc. 11:17 12:30 pm Church-wide Picnic (Shelter or FLC if rain)	16 7:00 pm Board of Trustees (105)	17 6:00 pm BS Troup 236 (Fellowship Hall) 7:00 pm Daytime Ministry Board Mtg. (Parlor) 7:30pm Givan BB	18 7:30 am Men's Bible Study (107) 9:00 am Common Threads (FLC) 4:00 pm Quilt Show Set-up (FLC, Café, Foyer, etc.)	19 All Day—Quilt Show Set-up (FLC, Kitchen, Foyer, etc.) 6:00 pm Girl Scout Team (Parlor) 6:45 pm Girl Scout Leaders (104)	20 All Day Quilt Show (FLC, Kitchen, Foyer, etc.)	21 All Day Quilt Show (FLC, Kitchen, Foyer, etc.) 10:00 am Girl Scout Bridging Ceremony (Shelter)
22 Trad. Service 9:00 Christian Ed. 10:00 11:17 am Connect	23 7:00 pm Church Council (105)	24 6:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 236 (FH) 6:30 pm Cub Scout Den 5 (108) 7:30 Givan BB (FLC)	25 7:30 am Men's Bible Study (107)	26 10:00 am Women's Bible Study (107) 7:00 pm Finance Mtg. (105)	27 7:00 pm Geek Night (Café) 7:30 pm Givan BB (FLC)	28
29 Trad. Service 9:00 10:00 am Christian Ed. Connect Svc. 11:17	30	31 6:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 236 (FH) 7:30 pm Givan BB (FLC)				

MARILYNN GAYE BERRY-STAMM

and

REVEREND C. REID WALKER

request the honour of your presence

at their ceremony of marriage

August 21, 2010

Zionsville United Methodist Church

9644 Whitestown Road

Zionsville, Indiana

2:30 p.m.



ONE AND ALL
YOU ARE INVITED!

Please notice the wedding invitation included in this newsletter. We are publishing this invitation because Pastor Reid and Marilyn wanted you **All** to know you are invited to the wedding party! Due to expense considerations, Reid and Marilyn are putting this invitation in the church bulletins/newsletters. Please join them in celebrating their joy in the Lord's union. Please RSVP at 873-6338 for count purposes.

Thanks and God bless you.



Mt. Comfort United Methodist Church
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Greenfield, IN 46140

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Church Picnic



Mt. Comfort Church Picnic!!

Plan now to attend the Church-wide picnic for Mt. Comfort Church to be held on **Sunday, August 15, 12:30 PM** in the shelter house. **Drinks and paper products will be provided by the Community Ministries Committee.** The staff of Mt. Comfort Elementary School has been invited as special guests of the day. School will be starting this same week, and we wish to show our appreciation to the hard work of

our community neighbors. Recreational opportunities of volleyball, a pick-up softball game, and perhaps even a corn-hole tournament will be available. Bring your lawn chairs and a well-filled basket. This fellowship opportunity will take the place of the usual fifth-Sunday fellowship at the end of the month.

