

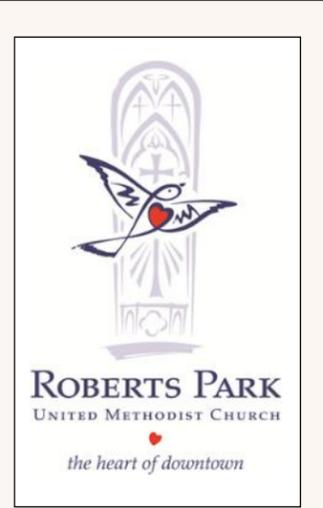


We are the heart of downtown. Inspired by Jesus Christ, we live out our faith by serving with compassion, practicing social justice, nurturing meaningful relationships, and welcoming all who seek to experience and share Christ's Love.

Roberts Park United Methodist Church
401 N. Delaware Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

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**REV. DR. ANDREW
SCANLAN-HOLMES**
Senior Pastor

401 N. Delaware St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
317.635.1636
www.RobertsParkUMC.org

SHALOM DAYCARE:
317.635.3397

WORSHIP SERVICES:
Sunday, 8:30 & 10:30 am
Wed. 12:10-12:30 pm

Help Needed!!
The church office could use a couple of volunteers to help fold the newsletter once a month. If you would like to help us with this project, please call Rob at 317-635-1636 or e-mail him at rpoffice@robertsparkumc.org.



Articles for the August newsletter are due July 20. Thank you.

From the Pastor's Pen

Our Words Matter!

As I type this on my computer, I have a piece of software running in the background that is designed to not only count the number of words I use but also to help with things like spelling, grammar, and intelligibility, depending on the type of document I am writing. The software can offer options like, 'formal business document,' or 'academic document,' or 'informal letter,' and you can make some assumptions about the level of knowledge the reader has of the subject matter. So help with overall intelligibility—why?



Because words matter! Both inside and outside the church what we say is judged by not only the content of our communication but the very words we choose to use to get our message across.

I am sad to say that from both sides of the aisle the language of politics in this country is increasingly becoming both ugly and dangerously subversive and threatening. The careless use of a supposedly, off the cuff remark that speaks of undocumented migrants as 'infesting' our country seeks to both dehumanize the very significant issue and

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Pastor Andrew *Continued from page 1*

generate an emotional response that is often one of revulsion, and so garner support for a strong reaction that eradicates the perceived threat. Equally the call to 'absolutely harass, 'individuals by 'getting out and creating a crowd,' conjures up a culture of mob violence or worse.

The way we describe individuals or frame a particular problem has a significant impact on how we might approach the solution to the issue or how we might treat an individual. Here at Roberts Park, we refer to those who are attending for Soup's On as 'guests' as we seek to offer 'hospitality' based on a loving response that seeks to be inclusive of all rather than exclusionary. Personally, I would always want to sit down over a meal with someone I might disagree with rather than turn them away; in that way we might both learn something from each other.

As a society, we have a very slippery relationship with words. Issuing a threat against a world leader who may be hundreds of miles away could land you in jail, while a man living in the same house with a woman can threaten to kill her but, unless actual violence takes place, he is not punished.

We acknowledge that words can be life-altering, and at the

same time, we want the freedom to proclaim them meaningless when they're not matched with visible actions or consequences. Words spoken from a podium must be heard. Jokes cracked in private on a bus in an unguarded moment on a 'hot microphone' must be ignored.

But no matter how times change or how much science advances, one thing stays true: John 1:1 says, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

The word was God. I can't think of any more powerful phrase—except maybe one:

I'm sorry.

Shalom to you my friend,

"Good Night"—A Poem by Carl Sandburg



Many ways to say good night.

Fireworks at a pier on the Fourth of July

spell it with red wheels and yellow spokes.

They fizz in the air, touch the water and quit.

Rockets make a trajectory of gold-and-blue

and then go out.

Railroad trains at night spell with a smokestack mushrooming a white pillar.

Steamboats turn a curve in the Mississippi crying a baritone that crosses lowland cottonfields to razorback hill.

It is easy to spell good night.

Many ways to spell good night.

July 4th Fireworks from the Lawn

Each year, Roberts Park welcomes guests to gather on our lawn and enjoy the July 4 fireworks as they are sent off the top of the Regions Bank building. Being within one block, the view is very good. Parking will be available in our lot and hot dogs, ice cream, soft drinks, and other sweets will also be available.



We are making preparations for the event and are looking for volunteers to help with set-up, food preparation, and attending the parking lots. We are also hoping for contributions of Coke products and bottled water. There is a sign-up

sheet in the Fellowship Hall. You may also contact the church office at 317-635-1636 or rpoffice@robertsparkumc.org.

Whether you volunteer or just come for the entertainment, we hope to see you there.

“Quench” Leadership Team Forming



Quench, an educational opportunity for adults to come together to explore our faith, values and spirituality, is preparing for a new season beginning in August.

Would you like to be part of a leadership team to shape and develop the content of Quench gatherings?

An organizational meeting will be held on Monday, July 9, 5:45-7 p.m. following the Education Task Force meeting.

For more information, see Todd Grooten or Jan Blough in Fellowship Hall following the 10:30 service on June 24, July 1 or July 8.

Contributing your ideas and expertise to Quench could make a difference in its overall success in the coming months. Please consider it!

Summer Salad Luncheon—July 22

Our church will be having a summer salad and dessert luncheon on Sunday, July 22 following the 10:30 worship service. It is being sponsored by the Member Care Task Force.

There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. You may also sign up to bring a salad or desert. Come and join your friends for an afternoon of good food and conversation.



Member Spotlight

Judy Gier

When gathering information from our members on how they happened to come to Roberts Park Church, it has been interesting to discover the many ways in which they have been drawn to our church. Some have been carried in as infants by their parents; some have come as college students looking for new meaning in their lives; some have met our pastors in various ways. The latter is the case for Judy Gier, who is in our member spotlight this month.

Judy, a native of Indianapolis and graduate of Shortridge High School, is a talented artist and was working in her booth at the Talbot Street Art Fair, when our then-pastor Kevin Armstrong happened along and discovered she had illustrated a children's book which our Sunday School was using. He invited her to come and talk to the kids about it, which she did, and not long after that she joined Roberts Park on September 16, 2001.

Born in Indianapolis, Judith Ann (Jarrett) Gier had two brothers and a sister. She attended Porter Business College and took lessons at the Indianapolis Art Center. She was also employed by the Marbaugh engineering firm, where she met Kenneth Gier, whom she married on March 29, 2001. The couple have two children, David Olive and Danielle Gier, and two grandchildren.

Judy has always loved art, and after taking classes at IU and the Indianapolis Art Center, she started painting full time. She worked as an illustrator for several years and has served customers at the framing store, The Great Frame Up, for 23 years. Many of you will remember her display of paintings at our first “Sing Christmas” celebration. She currently serves on the altar preparation committee, and she and Kenn have served at Soup's On, packed

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Vida Nueva — Our Better Angels

Our missions emphasis for the months of June and July continues to be focused on helping provide school supplies and uniforms for school children from Vida Nueva Hispanic Ministries. We have been provided information on supplies needed and uniform sizes/colors for specific children who have signed up for the program. This information is available on the center table in Fellowship Hall. Please contact Dick Smith in the church office if you have any questions.



On June 24, Roberts Park members enjoyed the afternoon at an Indians baseball game. It was a fun day, but unfortunately the home team lost to Durham 2-1.

Judy Gier *Continued from page 2*

disaster kits, helped the children with artwork, folded newsletters, and Kenn has helped take down decorations, worked with Habitat for Humanity, and participated in the chili cook-off.

“No matter what is going on in my life, I simply feel lifted after Sunday morning church service; also, the music is amazing every week!”, Judy said.

We are happy to have Judy and Kenn Gier in our midst, and thank them for their continuing service to Roberts Park and its congregation.

Worship Themes and Texts

July 1

Rev. Dr. Andrew Scanlan-Holmes

“See All the People”

Texts: 2 Corinthians 8:7-15 and Matthew 5: 13-16

July 8 — Songs of Praise Sunday —

Rev. Dr. Andrew Scanlan-Holmes

“Isn't He the Handyman?”

Texts: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10 and Mark 6:1-13

July 15

Rev. Dr. Andrew Scanlan-Holmes

“Royal Sex Scandal Exposed”

Texts: Ephesians 1:3-14 and Mark 6:14-29

July 22

Rev. Dr. Andrew Scanlan-Holmes

“Sheep Without a Shephard”

Texts: Ephesians 2:11-22 and Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

July 29

Rev. Dr. Andrew Scanlan-Holmes

“God's Modus Operandi”

Texts: Ephesians 3:14-21 and John 6:1-21

The Book Club

The selection for Tuesday, July 10 is **I Shall Not Hate: A Gaza Doctor's Journey on the Road to Peace and Human Dignity**, by Abuelaish Izzeldin.

Heart-breaking, hopeful and horrifying, I Shall Not Hate is a Palestinian doctor's inspiring account of his extraordinary life, growing up in poverty but determined to treat his patients in Gaza and Israel regardless of their ethnic origin. He is a London University and Harvard-trained Palestinian doctor who was born and raised in the Jabalia refugee camp in the Gaza Strip and 'who has devoted his life to medicine and reconciliation between Israelis and Palestinians.

The selection for Tuesday, August 14 is **The Stars are Fire**, by Anita Shreve. Go to robertsparkumc.org and choose “Get Involved” to see book selections through May 2019.

