NORTH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
INCLUSIVE. INSPIRED. INVOLVED.

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Local Churches Come Together For Inter-Church Blessing & Prayer for IPS School 43 & Butler-Tarkington Neighborhood

September 18, 2016 (Indianapolis, IN): In an effort to **continue peace** among neighbors and **show support for the Butler-Tarkington students and neighborhood**, North United Methodist Church has organized an inter-church prayer service of blessing for IPS School 43 (James Whitcomb Riley School 43) and the surrounding neighborhood on September 18 beginning around 12:00pm. At roughly 12:00pm (following their respective worship services), members from participating churches will march from their churches to IPS School 43 (150 W 40th Street, Indianapolis) to join together with community members and school leadership to pray and bless the school.

Participating churches include:

- North United Methodist Church (event organizer) – 3808 North Meridian Street, Indianapolis
- Common Ground Christian Church – 4550 North Illinois Street, Indianapolis
- Fairview Presbyterian Church – 4609 North Capitol Avenue, Indianapolis
- Meridian Street United Methodist Church – 5500 North Meridian Street, Indianapolis
- Mt. Zion Baptist Church – 3500 Graceland Avenue, Indianapolis
- Unitarian Universalist Church of Indianapolis – 615 W 43rd Street, Indianapolis

This march will also emphasize IPS School 43 as a safe place for learning. As of August 9, the Butler-Tarkington neighborhood reached a milestone of "300 days without a homicide." This blessing hopes to encourage peace and inspire students as they head back to school. The school has seen several leadership changes in a short period, but with the leadership of new principal Bakari Posey, also formerly from the Butler-Tarkington neighborhood, the school looks to focus on the future and strive to be a place where students feel safe and supported.

This event is **open to the public**; anyone wanting to show support for IPS School 43 and the Butler-Tarkington neighborhood is welcome to join.

For over ten (10) years, North United Methodist Church has supported IPS School 43 in a variety of efforts, including hosting school supply and uniform drives, providing in-classroom tutors and providing school chaperones.

For more information, quotes, or interviews:

Ronnie Bell – Associate Pastor of Mission & Outreach, North United Methodist Church

Lydia Shaw – Chair, Mission & Outreach Team at North United Methodist Church

Darren Cushman Wood – Senior Pastor, North United Methodist Church

About North United Methodist Church: *North United Methodist Church is an open, inclusive, and welcoming church. We affirm that through God's redeeming love, all are one in Christ. YOU are welcome at North Church.*

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