

**Circle of
Leaders for
this year!**

“Dare to Care”

Downtown Optimist Club of Evansville



**Meetings: Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday
11:45 am**

Old National Bank - Bob Jones Family Community Room
Riverside Drive at Main Street
Downtown Evansville



This Week's Program

**June 11th — NOW Picnic
Wesselman Park Shelter House**

Next Week's Program

June 25th — **Darlene Short**
Warrick Literacy and Education Connection



Ed Harrison Memorial Golf Scramble

Financial Support for:



President-in-Perpetuity Ron Eberhart opened the meeting promptly at 12:10 PM (or at least before lunch kicked in) with a powerful and inspiring **Memorial Day Prayer**. You could hear a pin drop—and not just because the coffee hadn't kicked in yet.

Jeff Olson, ever the patriot, held the American Flag high for the **Pledge of Allegiance**, and the group followed with a resounding recital of the **Optimist Creed**, only flubbing two lines this time—record!

Announcements, Events, and Chicken Logistics

Ron then hit us with a round of announcements like a man on a mission (or at least a caffeine buzz):

- **Memorial Day Grave Visitation** was a success! Special thanks to **Michael Burk**, Chair of the Event and Professional Gravestone Navigator.
- **Board Meeting:** Scheduled for immediately after today's meeting. If you didn't bring a notebook, just nod a lot and look serious.
- **Club Picnic** is coming up on **Wednesday, June 11th at Wesselman Park, Shelter House #1**. Please sign up to bring something edible (and hopefully not still frozen).
- **Karen Morris** is bravely volunteering again to secure the **famous Henderson Fried Chicken**. Yes, *that* chicken.
- **Camp Carson Visitation:** Mark your calendars for **July 16th**. Bring your sunscreen, smiles, and possibly a GPS.
- **Emily Baxter's Birthday Bash** will be held at the **Crescent Room on Saturday, June 21st**. Rumor has it there may be cake, and possibly dancing (but definitely cake).

Ron as Sarge: A One-Man Variety Show

With the Sarge MIA, Ron took on the dual role of benevolent dictator and cheerful fundraiser.

- **Half-pot Winner:** Congrats to **Mark Hackert**, who won the pot and immediately considered buying chicken with it.
- **Conscience Money:** Ron expertly guilt-tripped most of us into handing over our spare dollars. Some even confessed sins from 1993.

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Mail Club at: P.O. Box 15905, Evansville, Indiana 47716 - 0905
www.evansvilledowntownoptimist.org
Evansville Downtown Charitable Foundation, Inc.



Optimist Newsletter Continued



Ed Harrison
Memorial
Golf Scramble

Financial Support for:



Speaker Spotlight: Beth Paul and the Mission of Little Lambs



Our very own **Beth Paul** gave an inspiring presentation about **Little Lambs**, the nonprofit that's been clothing babies and warming hearts since before smartphones were a thing.

Since 1995, Little Lambs has helped safeguard the health and well-being of our youngest and most vulnerable citizens, infants and young children. Little Lambs has accomplished this indirectly, but effectively, by creating alliances with professional organizations that provide prenatal and pediatric care, behavioral services, nutrition, drug and alcohol education and rehabilitation, and more.

Founded over 30 years ago by the **Junior League at First Presbyterian Church**, Little Lambs rewards parents for doing good things—like going to doctor appointments, parenting classes, or not naming their baby “Khaleesi”—with **vouchers**. These can be used at their downtown **baby boutique** for essentials like:

- Car seats
- Strollers
- Safety gates
- Diapers
- Breastfeeding supplies
- And all things cute and tiny.

2023 Stats:

- Helped **950+** families
- Performed **200+** car seat inspections
- Gave away **200+** new seats
- Staffed by one amazing Director and a tribe of dedicated volunteers



Beth also mentioned that **donations of gently used baby/children's clothing** are always welcome. Bonus points if they come pre-washed and don't have weird smells.

Final Thoughts

Little Lambs is proof that a little kindness (and a lot of diapers) can go a long way. If you'd like to donate, volunteer, or just want to see a really adorable baby stroller, reach out to Beth or visit Little Lambs inside First Presbyterian.

Until next time, don't forget to attend the picnic, Optimists—keep your spirits high, your pledges loud, and your chicken fried.

Optimistically Yours,
The Newsletter Elf

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