



The Visitor

Deciding on Deciding

Wade Allen

Summer is on us. Kids are finishing up the school year; many will spend extended time at the lake. Vacations are planned for many; college students are returning to hometowns. Summer is a time when the normal pace of life shifts. For me, I am deeply involved in a doctoral project. I will share more about this with you on June 19th. The short of it is that we are exploring the decision-making process at First Baptist Church. Making decisions or discerning God's direction is a complicated and sometimes daunting process. The consequence of particular decisions is often conflict. In some ways, we struggle with decision-making because of the trauma caused by past decisions.

At the same time, the ability to make decisions is a key function of the church. God's Spirit is constantly moving among us. He is often calling us to new initiatives and requiring us to adjust in other ways. We need the capability to listen to His leading. How do we know God's desire for us? How can be sure that a particular direction is God's direction? These are the issues we are exploring.

I, along with a team (Robert Burton, Roger Morency, Betsy Whaley, Bill Eidson, Joe Songer, Mary Anne Bayer, and Sally Jones) am working to develop a process of discerning at First Baptist Church. We will develop a process and test it out with a leadership team this summer.

We hope that God will lead us, as decision-making is required to develop a process of decision-making. We will discuss this further in worship on Father's Day. I hope you will continue to lift us in prayer as we do this work.

In Worship

6/5/2011

Confusion to Clarity

Wade Allen

Luke 24:44-53

6/12/2011

A Look at Pentecost

Wade Allen

Acts 2

6/19/2011

Deciding: Breaking the Paralysis

Wade Allen

Acts/Pauline Epistles

6/26/2011

TBA

Wade Allen

ROBERT'S RAMBLINGS

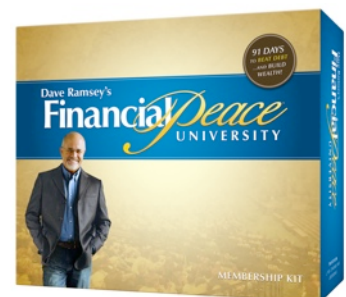
The Indiana Network for Higher Education Ministries (INHEM) has awarded two internship grants of \$1750 each to two Ball State students involved in the Oasis Campus Ministry (formerly known as Baptist House). These students are Samantha Dawkins and Shala Pugh. Shala is known to many at First Baptist, having sung in the choir and participated in other events. David Jones will have more information on the projects that Shala will assist at the Oasis. I can speak more directly as to what Samantha will be doing. She will work with the Friendship Class ministries at Riverside. Included in her responsibilities will be to assist with the Tuesday evening Friendship class, assist group home residents who will attend Sunday worship at Riverside, visit the group homes, and participate in other activities sponsored by Lutheran Developmental ministries. Samantha is a Special Education major at Ball State. She has attended the Friendship Class at Riverside and has participated in other programs sponsored by Lutheran Developmental Ministries. I am excited by the awarding of these two grants and commend David Jones in the work he has done to secure them.



The Friendship Class will break during the Summer, with May 24 being the last class before break resuming in the Fall. Let me give a special word of thanks to all who have helped in this ministry. While Jane Patton served as coordinator for the class, the work of everyone is most appreciated. These include Alan Shelton, Duane Davis, Dana Davis, Shirley Pittenger, Carolyn Hemminger, Wanda Neal, Barbara Wilson, Lydia Burton, Loretta Stevens, Mary Harry, Mary Ann Tooley, Lester Bryars, Mary Van Deventer, and Esther France. (I apologize for any name I may have unintentionally left out.) Also, a special word of appreciation needs to be made for the family members and group home staff who have made sure class members have been there each week for the Tuesday evening classes and Sunday worship. These are people who work hard and genuinely love the ones they serve. Programs like the Friendship Class would not succeed without them!

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

Financial Peace University is coming back to FBC this fall. The class is open to the first 12 singles or family units who register. Thanks to a generous grant, we will offer membership kits for the first six families at \$37.50 and the remaining six kits at \$50.00 as we did this winter. This class is sure to fill quickly so register as soon as possible. This course will run on Wednesday nights again from August 3 through October 26. Registration forms are available in the church office and more information will be available at the church website.



LEAVING A LEGACY SERIES

Marc Kirchoff will continue his series on leaving a legacy this month on June 15. Marc is the Minister of Grants and Fund Raising at the American Baptist Churches of Indiana/Kentucky. This is part of a three evening event this summer on leaving a legacy for future generations. The final two dates for Marc's seminars are July 13 and August 17.



ENDING POVERTY - WHY EVEN TRY?

In Matthew 26, Jesus told his disciples that there would always be poverty and poor people in need of ministry. 2000 years later we certainly know that to be true. Despite trillions of dollars spent by government to alleviate poverty in the last fifty years, the income gap continues to grow. We have more children living in poverty now in the United States than we have at any time since the mid 1900's. We are headed backwards rather than forwards in increasing the ability of our nation's families to be self sufficient. It's easy to be left with the feeling of being overwhelmed and defeated. Can anything make a difference?

I'm glad to be able to answer that question with a resounding, YES! We are very fortunate in Muncie to be one of 46 communities around the United States to have the Circles® program. Circles helps individuals and families who are highly motivated to become self-sufficient. The results from the national data collection project are positive. Participants are increasing their income and decreasing their dependence on public welfare benefits. More importantly, however, there is a community being formed around Circles® which lends sustainability to the effort. None of us can "do it alone." We all need help. At one time or another we all need to have a community of support we can call upon.

This summer, First Baptist is joining the Circle of Support for the Circles® program in Muncie. Over the course of the summer we'll be hearing testimonials from individuals who have been impacted by Circles® and we'll have opportunities to learn about the causes of poverty and what we as individuals and a congregation can do to help. We've set a goal of raising \$5000 to help support Circles®. Please prayerfully consider how you might play a part in meeting that goal. Some folks can write a check, others might hold a yard sale or bake sale, some might empty that jar which is collecting loose change, still others might solicit support from a business or corporate sponsor. Look for information in the coming weeks about events related to raising awareness about the Circles® program. If you'd like to learn more, visit www.movethemountain.org or www.teamworkql.org or contact Betsy Whaley at 765-744-9738 or mewhaley@yahoo.com.

SOMETHING MISSING?

If there is an event, story, photo or special thanks that you would like put in the July newsletter, please email a request to alex@fbcmuncie.org or fill out an event information form. This form can be submitted through the church website, mailed, hand-delivered, or faxed into the church office. Be sure to indicate "July Newsletter" on the form or in the subject line of the email. The **deadline** for the information to be submitted is **Tuesday, June 21!**

CHILDREN'S MUSIC CAMP

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH IS EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE OUR CHILDREN'S MUSIC CAMP THIS SUMMER:

- WHERE:** First Baptist Church, 309 E. Adams Street, Muncie IN
WHEN: July 25-July 29, from 9-11 a.m.
WHO: Children Aged Kindergarten through 5th grade
WHAT: The children will work on songs from a musical, be introduced to musical instruments by hands-on experience, hear Bible stories, have games and snack, etc. At the end of the week, the children will perform what they have learned for their families and friends at a dessert theatre.
COST Absolutely FREE
HOW: Registration for this event can be done online at fbcmuncie.org/musiccamp OR fill out a registration form found in: the church office, bulletins, children's rooms, OR call the church office during the week at 284-7749

We believe this will be a great learning experience for children in many ways. The week is sure to bring fun and opportunities to meet new friends. Friends and families will be blessed as well while watching their children "show off" all they have learned and experienced for the week at the *dessert theatre on Friday, July 29th at 7:00 p.m.*

TRANSPORTATION IS PROVIDED FOR CHILDREN WHO WILL NEED A LIFT.

For more information please call Barb Eidson 284-4825 or Christy Allen 717-5229, please register by July 20th.

BACKGROUND CHECKS NEEDED TO WORK WITH CHILDREN

As the number of children in our church has grown, so are our needs for adult help. Passing a background check is now a requirement at FBC to work with children and youth under 18. That includes being in the nursery, teaching Sunday School, V.B.S., field trips, youth group, etc. etc. It is important that we protect our children, our staff and volunteers and maintain our insurance coverage.

There are 3 ways you can obtain a background check:

Complete a form which you can obtain from the church office, Terry Harke or Patty Stigers. The form will be given to the sheriff's department who will run the check free of charge.

Complete a form online at www.mybackgroundcheck.com and have a letter of approval sent to FBC. The company will charge you a \$30.00 fee.

If you've already had a background check done in the past year, have the letter of approval sent to FBC.

JUNE EVENT CALENDAR

Sundays

9:15 a - Classic Worship

10:15 a - Sunday School

11:15 a - Contemporary Worship

TBA - Youth Group Events

Tuesdays

7:00 p - Young Adult Bible Study

Wednesdays10:00 a - Women's Small Group at Riverside
(June 1 and 15)

6:30 p - Worship Band Rehearsal

June 2

7:00 p - Children's Ministry Team Meeting

June 6

7:00 p - Worship Arts Team Meeting

June 8

7:00 p - Water Prevention Info. Meeting

June 9

10:00 a - Children to Ft. Wayne Zoo

June 13

7:00 p - Leadership Council Meeting

June 15

5:30 p - Leaving a Legacy Session

June 19

Congregational Meeting (Between Services)

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

We'd like to say Happy Birthday to the following June birthdays!

Jon Stinson - June 6

Rosemary Burget - June 7

Wilma Neal - June 9

Anette Atterson - June 11

Randy Washburn - June 11

David Cross - June 12

Kelli Petroviak - June 14

Jim Hiatt - June 16

Samantha Ratchford - June 16

Winola Miller - June 18

Eric Paille - June 19

Jessica Fink - June 20

Joyce Cross - June 21

Sally Jones - June 24

Joe Songer - June 24

Joyce Merrell - June 29

Emma Langdon - June 30



CAMP TIME!

It's camp time! Registrations are in the office and from Shirley Pittenger. For more details please call Shirley at 282-0632.



SPECIAL THANKS

Dear Church family,

Thank you all so much for all the cards, Phone calls, the hospital visits, the flowers, but most of all your prayers when I was in the hospital with the Kidney scare.

Bless your Hearts and Love to you All.

- Barb Turner
