



The Visitor

January Sermon Series

Wade Allen

It may seem strange to get a newsletter for January before Christmas. However, with vacation schedules, it seemed appropriate to go ahead and mail out a short newsletter for January.

I wanted to let you know about an upcoming sermon series that will begin on January 22. We will be spending five weeks talking about our mission as a church. You may remember talking about this in August; we affirmed a new mission statement at this time. However, we have not spent much time digging deep into this statement. I hope that through this sermon series you will develop a distinctive understanding of who we are and who we are called to be as a church. . This past fall, a Ball State student developed artwork around the statement; we will unveil one piece at a time over these five weeks.

You can read through the mission statement documentation at <http://fbcmuncie.org/why-we-exist/> . I would encourage you to take a few minutes and read through this description of our mission statement.

“A Spirit-led people **gathered** to **care** for and **empower** each other by **stewarding** God’s resources to **impact** our community for Christ.”

I hope you all have a Merry Christmas and a happy new year. I look forward to serving with you in Christ’s mission in 2012.

Here is a schedule for the series:

January 22 – Gather

January 29 – Care

February 5 – Empower

February 12 – Steward

February 19 – Impact

In Worship

1/1/12

Prayer for the New Year

Matt Headley

1/8/12

We Three Kings

Wade Allen

1/15/12

Doug Gregg Preaching

1/22/12

Gather

Wade Allen

1/29/12

Care

Wade Allen

ROBERT'S RAMBLINGS

Somewhere out there, even as this is being written, there is a hog out there who will be roasted this Fall for a very special celebration. It will be for the 50th anniversary of the founding of Riverside Avenue Baptist Church next September 30, 2012. This event will coincide with the annual Riverside/First Baptist fall picnic. While plans are still in the making, several things are already firmed up.

Laine Julian will be our pulpit guest that day in the worship at Riverside. Laine is the son of the late Charles Julian, whom many will remember fondly for his service as pastor at Riverside. Charles Julian was well regarded for his ministry of inclusiveness and thoughtful style of preaching. His ministry had a significant impact in Muncie and across the entire state.

Although he died before we moved to Muncie, I was well aware of what he was about when we lived in Evansville. It will be an honor to be able to welcome his son to be with us for this special celebration next Fall.



The tentative schedule will be for Laine to preach at the morning service. Dinner on the grounds with invited guests, including members of First Baptist and the roasted hog, will follow. I have been instructed to bring back some BBQ sauce from Memphis for the occasion! Others are encouraged to bring their special recipe as well. Events will conclude with a music program including guests from Riverside's past.

We want to get the word out to all who love Riverside, including those of Riverside's past, to mark their calendars for this special occasion. We will be working up a mailing list in the months ahead of people to invite to attend. Please feel free to share any information you have of people who should be included.

SOMETHING MISSING

If there is an event, story, photo or special thanks that you would like put in the February newsletter, please email a request to will@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 "February Newsletter" on the form or in the subject line of the email. The **deadline** for the information to be submitted is **Tuesday, January 24!**

LOCAL MISSION AT DAY CAMP

There is an exciting opportunity this summer to be involved with a Day Camp located at the Hickory Creek Intermediate Care Facility in Gaston! It is a three-day camp which brings Hickory Creek residents (adults with have intellectual and developmental disabilities) into Christian community with members of local church congregations. This ministry opportunity helps to fulfill the mission of SonRise, which is “to Equip the Church to minister with adults who have intellectual and developmental disabilities.”

SonRise, which is located in Anderson, firmly believes that adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities are indispensable parts of the Body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12: 21-23), and have spiritual gifts which contribute to furthering God’s Kingdom. SonRise also strongly believes in equipping members of church congregations to minister with (not “to”) those with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and provides opportunities where strong Christian friendships are formed. The SonRise Day Camp is one such opportunity, where through daily Bible lessons, crafts and games, music and worship, and afternoon group events volunteers involved have the chance to draw closer to Jesus Christ and to those with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We are currently looking for members of First Baptist interested in learning more about the Day Camp! If you would like more information, please contact Jane Patton (765) 759-8276 or Pastor Robert Burton (765) 282-8227.

PHOEBE REID MOVING

Phoebe Reid has moved to Westminster Village. Her new address is:

5801 W. Bethel Ave, Muncie, In 47304.

DECEMBER EVENT CALENDAR

Sundays

9:15 a - Early Gathering

10:15 a - Sunday School

11:15 a - Late Gathering

Tuesdays

7:00 p - Young Adult Bible Study at Stiger’s

7:00 p - Friendship Class for Group Homes
(Riverside)

Wednesdays

10:00 a - Women’s Small Group at Riverside
(January 4 & 18)

4:00 p - Prayer Shawl Ministry

5:30 p - Wednesday Evening Meal

6:15 p - Children’s Program & Band Rehearsal

6:30 p - Handbell Rehearsal & Prayer Hour

7:40 p - Choir Rehearsal

January 9

7:00 p - Leadership Meeting

January 13-15

Youth Ski Trip

January 22

1:00 p - Youth Leaders Meeting

4:00 p - Winter Ministry Celebration

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

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

Jenny Hudson-Roberts - January 2
Bob Oisten Jr. - January 8
Phoebe Reid - January 10
Marsha Venable - January 10
Lester Bryars - January 18
Marjorie Wright - January 18
Sharon Jackson - January 21

Annie Wright - January 21
Gene Carr - January 25
Ann Siverly - January 26
Pam Kistler - January 28
Patty Stigers - January 31
Bill Turner - January 31