

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
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Place
Stamp
Here



The Visitor
JUNE 2013

Missional Community Reflection

Wade Allen

As we near the end of May, we come to the close of our pilot missional community. We have experienced an increased connectedness through Life Groups and service. I wanted to take a few minutes to give you an update on where we are and where we are going in this endeavor. ## What Happened? After much planning and praying, we began our pilot missional community in February. With over 30 participants, we maintained a monthly schedule of meeting as a large group on the first Wednesday of each month. On the second week of each month, we met in Life groups. On the third week of the month, we served together on a community mission project. On the fourth week, we once again met in Life groups. Life Group leaders also met on the first and third Wednesday of each month for training and support. Life Groups provided a place for care and challenge in smaller groups. Each group had less than ten people. Most of the groups met in homes. While four months is not enough time to build relationships, groups began to bond as they shared meals and discussion twice each month. In this pilot community, we had four life groups. Large group meetings provided an opportunity for groups to mingle, reflect and share stories of what God was doing in the smaller Life Groups. While attendance varied at large group gathering, participants were able to interact with a broader circle. We sometimes sang together, prayed together and shared life experiences with one another. Community Mission projects provided an opportunity to serve together. We participated in four mission projects. In February, we gathered at the Muncie Mission to organize canned goods. In March, we partnered with Blood and Fire in their weekly food distribution. We also assisted in their community outreach during Muncie Gras. In April, we partnered with Teamwork For Quality Living in a personal care drive. We collected and distributed items that are not covered by government welfare programs. In May, we served together cleaning Westside Park in Muncie. Monthly mission projects were organized by Life Groups.

What is Next? During the months of June and July, Life Group leaders will gather to reflect, evaluate and plan. We have distributed a churchwide survey to assess Life Group participation. Team members are working to organize child care options for the fall. Pilot or test programs give us an opportunity to try new systems. However, it is important that we take the necessary time to evaluate and adapt to our learnings. More information about the fall missional community will be available the next month.

How Can You Be Involved? – At this point, your involvement in the missional community can be through prayer. We hope that you will pray for the leaders as they determine necessary adaptations for the fall. At the same time, we hope that you will pray about your involvement in the next group. The plan is to continue with one missional community group (up to 50 people) for August through November. Many of the Life Groups will remain intact; new Life Groups will be established based on interest. The missional community pilot group provided a great start. We have learned, served together and developed leaders. We look forward to continue development of this ministry in the months and years to come. # Robert's Ramblings

Robert Burton

We visited the John F. Kennedy grave site at Arlington during our trip to Washington, DC this past week. (Many thanks to Sue Mutter for putting this trip together!) On a wall near the grave were quotes from many of Kennedy's speeches, including the well known, "Ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country." It seems that our world today is more concerned with what can be done for us rather than what we can do for our world. This often applies to our involvement in church as well. When we select or become active in a church, there is a tendency to look for a church that can meet our needs. While I think we need not dismiss this entirely, I wonder if we also need to consider what we in turn can do for the church, and for the Kingdom. Have we considered how our own gifts can meet what is needed in the church in question? Is this a place where my talents, ideas, and voice are needed for the church to be what God is calling it to be? So, to paraphrase Kennedy, perhaps we should "ask not what the church can do for me but what I can do for the church!"

During the summer months mid-week services will be held each Wednesday, 6:30pm, at Riverside. Members of First Baptist and Riverside are invited to attend, as well as quests from the community. (Maybe "George" might even occasionally show up!) The program will consist of hymns, prayer time, and bible study. This will be followed by a time of fellowship, especially when someone brings some "goodies" to share with the group. This will begin on Wednesday, May 29 and will end when Wednesday evening activities resume at First Baptist in the fall.

The Star Press ran an excellent article recently about Montesaurri of Munice, which is located at Riverside Avenue Baptist Church. We have had a good relationship with this school through the years. The school is now taking applications for the fall. Applications forms are posted on the bulletin boards at both churches. Please feel free to share this information with families of preschool children.

Do not forget the picnic on Sunday June 2, 4:00 in the shelter house at First Baptist. Also, a senior adult group will be going to help at Camp Tippecanoe on Wednesday June 12. See Terry Harke for details. And remember to ask not what these events can do for you but what you can do to help!

Summer Women's Bible Study

LADIES: A study on various Women of the Bible will be held Wednesday evenings during July and August. You may know of Eve, Rebekah, Elizabeth, Sarah, Ruth, Naomi but have you heard of Gomer, Lydia, Eunice, Lois, Abigail, Rahab, Anna, Salome, the Canaanite woman, Lot's wife, Naaman's slave girl? They have much to teach us! This will be a great way to connect with women of all ages both in our church and in the Bible. Call Patty Stigers if you have questions. 765.749.2615

New Building at Camp Tippy

For those who love Camp Tippecanoe, it has long been a dream to provide a new dining hall in order to better serve our campers and to enhance our regional ministry of camping and conferencing. The dream is closer to becoming a reality with the commitment of a major gift from Ben and Ruth Ann Yantis, members of Metea Baptist Church.

An initial design is being prepared with input from Tippy's camp committee and the vision of camp manager, Rebecca Scott, and can be shared with interested churches and individuals later this spring. A complete proposal for the dining hall project will be reviewed by the region's Finance Committee before it is recommended to the Region Board, and we anticipate that the Board will be able to act upon the proposal at its July meeting. This timeline would allow for construction to begin following the 2013 camping season.

Perhaps you would feel led to support this project. Gifts of any amount are welcome. Checks should be made out to "First Baptist Church" with "Tippy Dining Hall Project" clearly indicated in the memo line. We will make sure that your gifts are directed toward the camp.

First Baptist/Riverside Picnic on June 2

The FBC & RABC Picnic will be held at FBC on **June 2, 2013 at 4:00 PM**. Meat, drinks, and table service will be furnished. Please bring a dish or two to be shared. Our guests will be the Friendship Class from RABC, The YWCA, and other special guests. Common Ground will provide the music (free will offering taken). Weather permitting we be outside so please bring a lawn chair.

Media Help Needed in Early Service

Help is needed for operating the projector in the early service. Please contact Matt Headley or Eric Paille if you are interested in helping.

Sermon Series in Ephesians

We continue in Ephesians through the month of June. We hope that you will take time to prepare for worship as you read the text for each week.

- June 2 - Many Gifts One Spirit (Ephesians 4:7-12)
- June 9 - Growing Up (Ephesians 4:13-16)
- June 16 - New Clothes (Ephesians 4:17-24)
- June 23 - New Clothes: Lies vs. Truth (Ephesians 4:25)
- June 30 - New Clothes: The Right Kind of Anger (Ephesians 4:26-27)

Church Softball Team

The First Baptist Softball Team is having a great year. It has been a great experience of building relationships and having fun. All games are held at the Muncie SportsPlex east of town off Hwy 32. Plan to come out and support the team. June games are:

- Monday, June 3 at 7:00 PM vs. UMC Selma (Field B)
- Tuesday, June 11 at 9:00 PM vs. Compass (Field A)
- Tuesday, June 18 at 8:00 PM vs. Common Way (Field B)
- Tuesday, June 25 at 9:00 PM vs. Mt. Olive (Field B)

July Games will be in the July Visitor

Brittany Jackson receives Presidential Scholarship from Northern Seminary

Brittany Jackson, Mary Elizabeth Wood mentorship student, has been awarded the Presidential Scholarship from Northern Seminary. The Presidential Scholarship is a 100% tuition scholarship awarded to up to 6 new students beginning in the Fall term of each academic year. It is a very unique opportunity for those sensing God's call on their life. Students will be encouraged, edified, and formed through a process of learning and mentoring.

Fulbright Award

Cynthia Smith has been selected for a Fulbright U.S. Student award for 2013-2014 to Switzerland. We celebrate this exciting accomplishment with Cynthia and Aaron.

Sunday Lunch Fundraiser in June for Camp Barnabas

The youth will be hosting a Sunday Lunch on **Sunday, June 9** following the late Sunday School/Gathering Hour. Plan to stick around for lunch and make a donation for the youth mission trip to Camp Barnabas. Camp Barnabas is a Christian camp for kids and teens, ages 7 to 17, with life-threatening illnesses and disabilities in Purdy, Missouri. Our teens serve the campers throughout the week.

Children's Music Camp

Kingdom of the Son music camp will be held **July 15-19** at First Baptist Church. All children between Kindergarten and 6th grade are invited to attend the camp. Please call Barb Eidson at (765) 284-4825 or (765) 744-0161 for more information.

Budget Discernment Process

Church leaders (CCT) have started the process of discerning necessary budget adjustments for the later half of 2013. The goal is to develop a balanced budget for mid-year 2013. We need to determine ways of adjusting our budget to bring expenses in line with income. These adjustments are on a trial basis (the remainder of 2013). Please pray for God's leading as shifts in spending may require increased volunteer energy. Throughout the month, CCT leaders will be implementing a Listening Strategy as part of the process. We hope to have a balanced budget to the church body for approval by the end of the summer.

Music Discernment Process

The music discernment team continues to collect information as it works through the listening phase of the discernment process. Listening approaches have included outside church consultations, a church listening forum attended by 34 people on April 10, a survey of FBC musicians, personal testimonies about music shared in our worship gatherings and informal conversations within and outside of our church. Our current worship series through the book of Ephesians will assist us in continuing this listening phase as we learn of God's design for worship. If you have any questions or thoughts to share about the music discernment process or music in our church, please contact Matt Headley or one of the members of the music discernment team: Adam Fink, Jessica Fink, Molly Flodder, Jim Hiatt, Daniel Morency, William Nealy, Cynthia Smith, and Joe Songer.

Open Door Passing Out Food at First Baptist

Open Door Ministries will be passing out food to needy families from **7:30-9:30 AM** on selected dates. If you know of someone who could use help with food, please let Duane Davis know. We still need groups to volunteer on **June 12, July 10, and 24**. If your class or group would be willing to take a date, please see Wade. You will need 5 volunteers to distribute food for each date.

Survivor Voices

Dr. Michael Williamson has organized a celebration choir made up entirely of cancer survivors called *Survivor Voices*. They will be celebrating surviving cancer in song at these upcoming events. Please attend if your schedule allows.

Friday, June 14 7:00 PM - Relay for Life at Delaware County Fairgrounds

****Friday, June 21 at 12:00 PM - Mini-Concert at IU Health-Ball Memorial Hospital statewide Cancer Center Leadership Seminar-South Tower**

Missing Highchair & Booster Seat

If you have borrowed a highchair or booster seat from the lower auditorium, we would appreciate it if you could return them. We are down to two highchairs and no booster seats.

Thank You

The Allens – We would like to express our gratitude for the outpouring of love we experienced on Pastor Celebration Sunday. We are grateful to serve such a warm and giving people. We look forward to spending time together as a couple on an overnight getaway. The bound dissertation was also a delightful gift. It will be cherished for years to come. Thank you for your generosity and support during my doctoral work and during the past five years of ministry at First Baptist Muncie.

Darlene Shulze – Thank you for the beautiful plant that you provided for Fred Shulze's funeral. Thank you also for all of the cards, nursing home visits, prayers, and service recordings you have provided for several years! It was all a great source of comfort and encouragement for both of us. I am sure that through it the

Lord was touching Fred and giving him strength to have some enjoyment, peace, and energy to represent his savior til his very last day!

Calendar

Sundays – 9:15 AM Early Gathering/Early Sunday School, 10:15 AM Fellowship Time, 10:45 AM Late Gathering/Late Sunday School

Wednesdays – Riverside/FBC Summer Bible Study

June 2 – Riverside/FBC Picnic

Youth Bowling

June 9 – Youth Lunch Fundraiser

June 10 – Music Discernment Team Meeting

June 12 – Life Group Leaders Meeting

Church Coordination Team Meeting

June 19 – Church Coordination Team Meeting

June Birthdays

We would like to say Happy Birthday to the following people in the month of June. Please let them know that you are thinking of them on their special day.

1 Michael Graham	12 David Cross
3 Grace Eaton	14 Kelli Petroviak
6 Betty Arthur	16 Jim Hiatt
Jon Stinson	Samantha Ratchford
8 Heather Barr	18 Winola Miller
Casey Braswell	19 Eric Paille
9 Hunter Barr	20 Jessica Fink
Wilma Neal	21 Joyce Cross
11 Anette Atterson	24 Sally Jones
Catie Earls	Joe Songer
Randy Washburn	30 Emma Langdon