



The Visitor

AUGUST 2019

One Busy Summer

During the month of August, many of us find our schedules resuming to normal patterns. Kids are back in school and most family vacations have ended.

Think of all we have been doing this summer. We have learned more about our community through our *Joining God in the Neighborhood* emphasis. The *Story Project* continues to move toward publication. Several children attended summer camp. Youth and children ministry teams have gathered our young people in a variety of events. Property and building improvements are taking place. And we are busy studying the book of Revelation together. Our church is one lively place.



I hope you will take the time to survey all that is happening in and around First Baptist Muncie as you read this edition of *The Visitor*.

Worship Schedule

- ▷ August 04 - Letters: Part 2 (Revelation 3)
- ▷ August 11 - The Throne Room (Revelation 4)
- ▷ August 18 - The Lamb (Revelation 5)
- ▷ August 25 - Opening the Seals (Revelation 6)

Fall Picnic

The combined First Baptist Church and Riverside Avenue Baptist Church fall picnic is at Riverside Avenue Baptist Church **Sunday, September 15**, at **4:00 PM**. All are invited. Meat, drinks, and table service will be furnished. Please bring a dish or two to share and lawn chairs. There will be a program outside. In case of bad weather it will be inside. Hope to see everyone. If you have any questions contact Terry Harke at 765-702-3631.

Nova Jarvis 90th Birthday

Save the date: **Sunday, August 25** from **1:00–4:00 PM**. Come celebrate Nova Jarvis's 90th birthday in the lower auditorium of the church. Cards welcomed, but please, no gifts. Your presence will be a gift to her. Food will be provided. If you have questions, please contact Pam Williams at 765-748-5407 or jwwpam@yahoo.com.

Upcoming Youth Event

Youth Swimming is planned at the Massoth Home on **Sunday, August 4** from **12:00–4:00 PM**. We will meet in the Church office at 12:00 PM. Any parents who are able to attend, please let Christy know if you are able to help transport youth. We will proceed to the Massoths' home. Pizza will be provided for lunch. Root Beer Floats and/or Ice Cream Sundaes will be available for dessert. Drinks will be provided. Please pick up your youth at the Massoths' at 4:00 PM.

Keeping Up

As we study the book of Revelation, it will be important to stay up to date with the study. If you miss a week or two, you might find it hard to make sense of how it all fits together. Let me encourage you to take the time to listen to the podcast or watch the sermon videos online. Summer is a season of travel and vacation. That makes this particular study a challenge. However, with the technology that we have available, you can keep up each week and get the most out of this study.

You can subscribe to the podcast or watch the sermon videos at <https://fbcmuncie.org/keepup>.

Combined Service Labor Day Weekend

Please mark your calendars for a combined worship service on Labor Day weekend. We will meet in one service at **10:45 AM on Sunday, September 1**. All Sunday school classes will meet at 9:15 AM.

Story Project Update

by Julie Davis

Thanks to all of you who submitted stories for the Story Project! Since I'm not talking with you about the project regularly, you might think there's not much going on. Nothing could be further from the truth! Many of the people who submitted stories have been looking through the edits on their stories and answering clarifying questions. Some Story Project team members have been meeting with people one-on-one to help them process edits. Others have been processing release forms, collecting information for bios, or scheduling appointments for pictures to be taken. There's a lot going on behind the scenes! Between now and November, I'll be giving you a brief update each month in *The Visitor* so you know what your team is doing in the background to bring the project to completion in December. We know you'll be excited to see the book that you—the people of First Baptist Muncie—have written! Please continue to pray for the team and for the process of telling your story of God at work.



Here are a couple of stories you can look forward to reading:

A member recounts the lifelong journey of her father's struggle to find a personal relationship with Christ and the delay in his repentance until the last days of his life. Friendship and encouragement from her wonderful Christian friend, Dad asking Jesus into his heart, and God's promise to both women with a sign from heaven made this writer know that God keeps His promises.

This member shared about a head injury he received as a young child playing out in the yard: "Looking back on this event in my life, I believe that I had died that day. I don't know for how long I had stopped breathing . . . but God miraculously brought me back to life." His recounting of all that happened that day and in the next few years led to God giving him his true name, the one that matched who he is.

Picture Day Is September 15!

This year, First Baptist Muncie celebrates 90 years in our building and 160 years as a congregation. Wow! God has given us to each other as a gift: a people to proclaim His name and join others in bringing His kingdom life to bear on the greater Muncie community.

It's been quite a while since we've taken a group picture of our congregation, and this year is a good time for us to do that. Michelle Heimlich, FBC member and owner of Maganda Photos, has volunteered to take our group picture. The photo will be reproduced in our Story Project book (hopefully published in December), and will also be available to be hung in our church or added to our archives. We plan to take this picture on **Sunday, September 15**, at **noon**. Whether you are a member or only attend occasionally, we'd like to make sure you are included! Please plan to be at church and to pick up your children from Sunday school or child care rooms as soon as the second service ends. If the weather is dry, the photo will be taken outside at the front entrance to the church building, and chairs will be provided for those who are unable to stand for very long. (Please do not park in front of the building on this date.) If we have rain, we'll take the photo in the church sanctuary instead. Questions? We would love to make sure you have the information you need. Just see Julie Davis, Michelle Heimlich, or Wade Allen.

Grief Workshop Begins August 6

First Baptist Church attendees may be included in a Grief Workshop series being offered at High Street Methodist Church on **Tuesday nights from 6:00–8:00 PM** beginning **August 6** and continuing through **September 10**. The group is being facilitated by Sandra Hardcastle, director of older adult programs at High Street. The cost of the workshop is \$18 to cover the cost of the book *Understanding Your Grief* by Alan Wolfelt. Although Sandra is not a professional counselor, her approach to the class is based on her own experiences with grief and the importance to healing of people sharing their feelings.

There is room for a few more people in the class, but they will be accepted on a first come/first served basis. There are sign up forms in the office that will be available until the class is filled.

Joining God in the Neighborhood Wrap-Up Lunch

On **August 11** after the second service, we will gather for a simple lunch in the lower auditorium to celebrate the culmination of our knowledge and visits in July. It will be a time that we ask what the neighborhood has taught us and discern what God wants us to do.

We would ask that you sign up on July 28 or August 4 if you plan to attend. There will be a sign up sheet on the bulletin board or you may also call the church office to make reservations. Our Barb Campbell and friends will make a wonderful taco salad or nachos with ice cream for dessert. Hope to see those who attended our Digging Deeper events as well as others interested in discussing the outreach of our church.

Life Groups

Our life groups offer an opportunity for adults to learn together and support each other in a casual, welcoming environment. We have two life groups meeting at the moment, and two additional life groups will reconvene in late August. The groups meet roughly two times per month in either a restaurant or someone's home, and the format of each group varies. If you talk with any one of our current life group members, you'll find they're so glad they chose to join a group.

Our life groups are accepting new members. Would you like to find out more? Please see Julie Davis.

Visitor or Bulletin Information

If you would like an announcement in the September Visitor, please email it to wade@fbcmuncie.org by **Sunday, August 18**. You can also email articles for the weekly bulletin by Tuesday of each week.

Thank You Notes

The Don Jennings Family – Thank you, thank you to my dear home Muncie First Baptist Church for providing meals to my family. It is so much appreciated!!! I can't get home very often and it is such a blessing to know that my parents are being cared for and loved. You have been a blessing to me all of my life and you continue to be the loving, Christ-centered church that I love. Thank you so much for being there while our dad was healing from his broken arm. You are so loved and appreciated.

Gary and Cathy Henderson – Pastor Wade and church family, we wanted to thank everyone for all the prayers. Quick update about my cancer, the tumors in the brain are now dead. The ones in the esophagus are shrinking. It is a great comfort to know that we have all of you keeping us in your prayers. Thank you.

Amanda Banker – My mother, Ginny Randall, and my sister, Megan Jeffers, have always spoken so highly of you and now I know why. First Baptist has always been my church home even though I haven't lived in Indiana since 1999. I'm so grateful that we were able to say goodbye to Sarah in a place that always felt like home. My best to you.

Megan Jeffers – Wade, I wanted to say a heartfelt and sincere thank you for your graciousness and generosity through First Baptist Church regarding the memorial service for my sister, Sara Guffey. We were truly at a loss when I heard from Ella Mae that First Baptist was going to come to our aid.

Irene Hiatt – Dear First Baptist family, with deep appreciation for the beautiful Peace Lily and the many cards and all the prayers during the loss of my beautiful mother. I pray that the plant will survive as the Peace Lily has that you sent to my mother 12 years ago when my father passed. It is huge and so beautiful. It will always remind me of how blessed I am to have such a wonderful church family.

CCT Meeting

The next CCT Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, August 20**, at **7:00 PM** in the church office.

August Birthdays

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

08/02 - Nathan Miller	08/21 - Dana Davis
08/06 - Michelle Heimlich	08/21 - Nathan Shutters
08/07 - Don Jennings	08/24 - Tom Kistler
08/12 - Melva Ratchford	08/25 - Larry Van Deventer
08/13 - Irene Hiatt	08/27 - Nova Jarvis
08/16 - Chris Hill	08/28 - Cole Randolph
08/18 - Honor Hendrickson	08/29 - Carolyn Harke
08/20 - Brittney Say	08/31 - Isabel Heimlich
08/21 - Barbara Turner	08/31 - Maryanne Bayer
08/21 - Beau Mansker	