



The Visitor

JUNE 2020

Hard Words

Throughout the month of June, we will continue to work slowly through the Sermon on the Mount. Few of us find these words easy. Most of us struggle to discover how we might live out these seemingly impossible ideals.

I hope you will join us each week as we continue through these difficult passages. The scriptures planned for June are especially hard. May we allow God's Word to catch us off guard, to change us, to mold us into the people that God has called us to be.



We continue to meet virtually throughout this month. Our hope to resume worship as we enter Stage 5 of the governor's plan. Until that time, we will see you each **Sunday** online at **10:45 AM**.

Worship Schedule

- ▷ June 07 - Divorce (Matthew 5:31-32)
- ▷ June 14 - Honesty (Matthew 5:33-37)
- ▷ June 21 - Father's Day (Ephesians 6:1-4)
- ▷ June 28 - Turn the Other Cheek (Matthew 5:38-42)

Food Insecurity Gap for Children Widens in Pandemic

By MaryAnne Bayer, Outreach Ministry

For over a decade more than 70% of children and teens attending Muncie Community Schools have qualified for free and reduced lunch. In 2018-19 that number was 74.6 percent.

Today Feeding America Research projects that child food insecurity could hit an all-time high due to Covid-19, resulting unemployment, food operation shutdowns, etc. affecting perhaps as many as 18 million children.



The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) defines food insecurity as a lack of consistent access to enough food for an active, healthy life. Hunger refers to a personal, physical sensation of discomfort, while food insecurity refers to a lack of available financial resources for food at the household level.

In the past few years, one in six children in Indiana were reported to be food insecure. Now that number approaches one in four children.

Second Harvest Food Bank continues to host Tailgate food distributions in which households line up by the hundreds to receive food. A few food pantries are open, and meals are being served in a few places around town. In spite of that, the Muncie Soup Kitchen and several other services have been shut down during the Coronavirus period, and food needs continue to escalate.

First Baptist Church is finishing their focus on Joining God in the Neighborhood, Digging Deeper, Opportunity: FOOD. Adults and teens are welcome to get involved. Here are a couple of ways you can help:

1. **Serve hot meals at Blood 'n Fire with Inside Out Community Development Corporation.** After 10 weeks, community volunteers have served 16,114 hot meals between 4:30-6 PM six days per week (Monday-Saturday)! Blood 'n Fire is at 300 N. Madison St. Call 765-747-0872 to get more information and to sign up to help. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.
2. **Distribute food to families at the Ross Community Center,** a community center on the southwest side of Muncie in the Thomas Park Avondale neighborhood. Food distribution is on Friday afternoons and volunteers are needed to pack boxes and give them to people waiting in cars. There have been more than 500 households waiting to pick up food on many of the afternoons! The facility is at 1110 W. Tenth Street. Because the center is not open yet for families to use, call 765-747-4741 and leave a message about your interest in helping. Someone will call you back.

Snells to Become Missionaries to Military Families

By Molly Flodder, Adult Ministries

Meredith Songer Snell (daughter of Joe and Gayle Songer who grew up at First Baptist), her husband, Lieutenant Colonel Matt Snell and their children are in a transitional period. Matt served in the Army 22 years and retired in January. He has been working on a Master's in Ministry at Covenant Theological Seminary in St. Louis which he will finish a year from now.



But that transition is only the beginning of a new ministry by which they have been blessed over the years. The organization is Cadence International, an evangelical mission agency dedicated to reaching the military communities of the United States and of the world with the Good News of Jesus Christ. Over six decades Cadence has grown to an organization with over 200 missionaries who work in more than 50 locations worldwide, ministering not only to American military personnel (with or without families in the field) but evangelizing, teaching and discipling the armed forces of several foreign countries.

"In our first duty station in Ft. Drum, NY, just a half hour drive from the Canadian border, Matt and I were newly married, and we hadn't found Christian community anywhere among 500 soldiers in Matt's unit," said Meredith. "Matt discovered 'North Country Hospitality House' while out driving one night and met a missionary with Cadence International, a home-centered ministry to the military and their families. That began a 20-plus year relationship with Cadence that has been so important in our lives."

The Cadence model involves a home-centered ministry, sharing a common table in weekly potlucks and Bible studies, exploring the geographical area, and participating in service projects.

During the first days of service in Germany, Meredith and Matt were without part of their household supplies, a hardship, especially given the fact that by this time their family included six children. New friends in the Hospitality House there were able to help.

"The ministry of Cadence International walks alongside men and women in all branches of service through sharing the Word and sharing their lives, directing them to Jesus," said Meredith. "First Thessalonians 2:8 is the Cadence motto: 'We loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well.' This is our desire as we look to serve the Lord through an open-home ministry to the military."

Next year, the Snells will move to a home near a military installation and begin hosting potlucks and Bible studies, sharing the gospel and their lives around the table. In the meantime, they will need to be fully-funded with their monthly commitments and initial start up expenses. Their three younger children (Anna, Chloe, and Caleb) will go with them, the older three (Emma, Grace, and Jacob) will be in college.

The where and the when are still a little fuzzy for the Snells, but the WHO and the why could not be clearer as they prepare for their next phase in life and ministry. To learn more,

check out their website at <https://cadence.org/snell>

Ebook and Kindle Versions of Story Project

The ebook/Kindle version of *We Are the Clay* is now published and available for purchase on Amazon.

Over the last few months, reformatting and layout changes were necessary to meet the ebook guidelines for a manuscript that can be viewed properly on tablets, Kindles, and phones. This means that while the ebook contains all the content of the paperback, it is not an exact replica of that edition.

The ebook is available for \$9.99 at <https://bit.ly/we-are-the-clay>. As Amazon indicates when you click on the Kindle version for purchase, the file size of this book is larger than some ebooks and takes a little longer to download.

If you know of someone who may be interested in buying *We Are the Clay* as an ebook, please be sure to let them know it's now available! All proceeds go directly to support First Baptist Church, Muncie. If you have questions, please contact Julie Davis.

YouTube Channel

A primary way that we will continue to provide service and videos each week is through the church YouTube channel. Please go to the channel and SUBSCRIBE! This is where all church videos will go, including sermons, music, announcements, children and youth lessons, etc.

<https://www.youtube.com/c/fbcmuncieorg>

Live Streaming Each Week

We will gather each week for a live streaming service on **Sundays at 10:45 AM**. You can access the live feed on the church YouTube channel,

<https://www.youtube.com/c/fbcmuncieorg>

or on the church website at <https://fbcmuncie.org/live>.

We hope you will be able to join us.

Facebook Live Prayer Time

During this season of social distancing, we continue a weekly Facebook Live prayer time! Look for one of our smiling faces **every Wednesday** at **7:00 PM**. Make sure to like our church Facebook page, First Baptist Church Muncie Indiana, to be able to watch and share any prayer requests or praises.

<https://www.facebook.com/firstbaptistmuncie>

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.

06/02 - Cameron Pannell	06/12 - Marc Sue
06/02 - Kayonna Pannell	06/13 - Julie Davis
06/06 - Betty Arthur	06/14 - Kelli Petroviak
06/06 - Jeff Lemen	06/16 - Corazon Shonk
06/06 - Jon Stinson	06/16 - Jim Hiatt
06/06 - Waylon Shelton	06/17 - Gail Grafton
06/06 - Wesley Shelton	06/18 - Olivia Sue
06/08 - Heather Barr	06/19 - Eric Paille
06/09 - Hunter Barr	06/21 - Joyce Cross
06/09 - Lily Rodriguez	06/24 - Joe Songer
06/09 - Wilma Neal	06/24 - Sally Jones
06/11 - Anette Atterson	06/30 - Emma Langdon
06/11 - Dawn Dawson	
06/12 - David Cross	