



# The Visitor

JULY 2014



## Discerning Staff

*Wade Allen*

For the past several months, I have been writing and speaking to you about our work of discerning in terms of church staffing. In May, we began a discernment process around this issue. After the first phase (exploring the options), we began to develop a listening strategy to involve the wider congregation as well as outside sources. Just as we began to put this together, we came into contact with Clifton Davis. Clif is a doctoral student at Ball State and was introduced to us by a mutual friend. After talking to Clif, it seemed that God may be bringing him into our midst. We paused our discernment process to enter a mini-discernment process around Clif's relationship to our church. After extensive conversation and trial experiences, we felt that God was leading us to invite Clif to serve in an interim capacity while we continued to discern God's plan for our church (in terms of staffing).



**Have we completed the discernment process?** – We are not finished discerning our church staffing plan. As we discovered in the initial stage, the issue is complex and will take time to sort out. We will need time to hear and discern how God is working. We have not concluded that our future staff will be in the area of music. We have great needs in other areas. We need to appropriately consider all options.

**Will Clif be full-time?** – Clif is a full-time student. He will serve our church on a part-time basis. His primary responsibilities will be planning worship and working with the choir and praise team.

**How long will Clif be here?** – While we don't know for sure, our initial contract with Clif will be for six months. This will give us time to evaluate and discern his role. This will also give Clif time to assess his responsibility in light of his studies at Ball State.

Please continue to pray for God's leading in terms of church staffing. While we did not anticipate calling an interim, God provided and led us in this direction for now. We will gather on **Sunday, July 13** for a congregational vote on this decision.

## **Combined Service on July 6**

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We will meet in a combined worship gathering on **Sunday, July 6** as it is a holiday weekend. Everyone will attend Sunday School at **9:15 AM** and Worship at **10:45 AM**.

## **Worship in July**

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As we begin the month of July, you may want to read the Scriptures ahead of time. The July schedule is:

- July 6 - The Story of Abigail (1 Samuel 25)\*
- July 13 - David's Dark Days (1 Samuel 27-30)
- July 20 - Saul's Death (1 Samuel 31)
- July 27 - David as King (2 Samuel 2-5)

\*Combined Service at 10:45 AM (everyone has SS at 9:15 AM)

## **All Church Business Meeting**

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The CCT is bringing a motion to hire Clifton Davis as Interim Minister of Worship. There will be an informational meeting on **Sunday, June 29** during the fellowship time (10:15 AM) and a church wide business meeting on **Sunday, July 13, 2014** (following each service) to consider this motion to hire Clifton Davis on a six month contract.

## **Missional Community Update**

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The Missional Communities are on a two-month break (June-July). Life groups may continue to meet for fellowship during the summer months. However, no social events or service projects are scheduled for June/July. Group leaders use this time to evaluate and plan for the coming session. The fall session will begin in August. If you are interested in joining a life group in the fall session, let Wade or a life group leader know. Please keep leaders in your prayers this summer as they discern direction for the fall.

## **Vacation Bible School**

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We are very excited to announce that FBC Muncie will be having its own VBS this year! If you have children K-3rd Grade(the grade he/she will be entering in the fall), make sure to save the date for the Savannah Safari the week of **Sunday, July 13-Thursday, July 17**. We will be providing dinner for families at **5:30 PM**, then VBS is from **6-8 PM**. We will be teaching the children about helping and encouraging others, and some of our activities will even involve doing things for the community. This is an awesome opportunity for your little ones.

## Lori Kate to Present

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On **Sunday, August 3**, Lori Kate will be presenting in the Lower Auditorium during both Sunday School hours. Lori is a friend of Patti Warner.

Lori Kate grew up in Elkhart, Indiana with a Jewish father and a Gentile mother. When she was 8, both she and her father became believers in Jesus after years of earnest prayers and witnessing from her mother. Music played a vital role in the family during their school years with Lori Kate learning the clarinet and piano and her sister Leah learning the bassoon and piano as well. After attending Cedarville University and graduating with a music education degree, Lori Kate traveled with the Jews for Jesus' musical mobile evangelistic team; The Liberated Wailing Wall for 2 years. During this time, the Lord directed her paths to Israel, and in 1998, she became an Israeli/American citizen.

Lori Kate would say that after looking back on her life of musical and evangelistic training; God was preparing her for a bigger purpose which allowed her the opportunity and privilege of living in a foreign country, speaking a different language and raising a family in God's Holy Land. Besides being a full-time wife and a loving mom to her 14 and 9 year old boys, she is in high demand as a music teacher in the Jezreel Valley. She teaches clarinet, saxophone, flute, piano and recorder.

Lori Kate looks forward to coming home to Indiana each summer with her children to visit family and friends. During her time in America, she enjoys opportunities to share her testimony and tidbits about life in Israel. Further she communicates current events in Israel, and a big part of her ministry is to play traditional Jewish music and Messianic songs on her clarinet and flute, and to encourage Christians in churches to fervently support Israel and pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

Psalm 122:6 says, "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem; they shall prosper that love thee."

## Children's Movie Night

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On **July 25**, we will be hosting a movie night at the church from **6-9 PM**. That means parents can have a date night! This is still in the planning stages, so be sure to watch for more details on this event.

## Protect Yourself from Scams and Frauds

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At **2:00 PM** on **Tuesday, July 15** at Riverside Avenue Baptist Church the joint FBC/RABC will host Michelle Mayer of the Indiana Attorney General's Office. She will speaking on scams and frauds. She was the well received speaker at the Senior Adult Day in Columbus. Come and learn how to protect yourself. Other churches in the area have been made aware of this opportunity. There will be no charge.

## Discover First Baptist

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"Discover First Baptist" is the title of a one-day class for:

- individuals who have joined since Wade Allen became our pastor (2008),
- those considering joining First Baptist, and
- persons who just want to learn more about our church.

Bill Eidson will talk briefly about the history of First Baptist, Pastor Wade will lead a discussion on Baptist beliefs, and Adam Fink will explain the church's organizational structure and opportunities for service.

This class will be **Sunday, September 14** from **noon to 2:30 PM**. Lunch will be furnished, and child care will be provided. Watch for opportunities in August to sign up for this class.

## Church Softball

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The First Baptist Softball team continues play during the month of July. The following games are scheduled for July. All games are held at the Muncie Sportsplex.

Date	Opponent	Day of Week	Time
July 7	Crossover	Monday	8 PM
July 14	University	Monday	7 PM
July 21	Commonway	Monday	7 PM
July 28	Makeup or Tournament Games	Monday	TBA
July 29	Makeup or Tournament Games	Tuesday	TBA

## Open Door Food Distribution

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On **July 9** and **July 23**, Open Door Ministries will be passing out food to needy families from 7:30-9:30 AM. If you know of someone who could use help with food, please let Duane Davis know. If you have a group (SS Class, Mission Circle, or Life Group) that would like to help distribute food, please contact James Martin (765-729-7968 or baronjlm@aol.com).

## Youth to Camp Barnabas

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The youth will be traveling to Purdy, MO from **July 4-12** to serve at Camp Barnabas. Camp Barnabas offers life-changing opportunities to people with special needs and chronic diseases. Each summer, more than 1,500 campers from all over the country, nearly 200 staff members and thousands of volunteers go to Camp Barnabas to experience the love and acceptance shown to campers that empower them to live a life of ability. The staff resolutely pursues activities that push the limits of what the outside world says is impossible for these campers. All the typical activities of summer camp are adapted to meet each person's individual need like zip-lining, swimming, canoeing, fishing, camping, ropes course, rifles, archery and other outdoor activities. The ratio of volunteers to campers is 1:1 with volunteer medical personnel in the on-site health facility. Please keep our youth in your prayers as they serve.

## Visitor and Bulletin Information

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If you would like to place an announcement in the church bulletin please email it to [wade@fbcmuncie.org](mailto:wade@fbcmuncie.org). If you have an article for the August newsletter, please email it to [wade@fbcmuncie.org](mailto:wade@fbcmuncie.org) by **Sunday, July 20**.

## Notes of Interest

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**Duane and Dana Davis Anniversary** – Duane and Dana Davis recently celebrated 50 years of marriage, June 20th

**Robert and Lydia Burton Anniversary** – Robert and Lydia would like to invite everyone to their 50th wedding anniversary open house, **Saturday, August 2, 2-4 PM**, at **Riverside Avenue Baptist Church**. No gifts, just bring yourselves.

**Family Losses** – Two of our members have lost family members in the last month. Freida Roberts' brother, George Nafe, died June 14th in Texas. Freida was able to be with him when he passed away. Joyce Cross's brother-in-law, Gordon G. Boone, died in Florida June 15th. His surviving wife, Patty Haney Boone is a sister to Joyce and attended First Baptist Church in the 1970's. Her address is 3118 Pickfair Street, Orlando, Florida, 32803. Joyce has gone to spend some time with her sister. Our sympathy and prayers are with these two families of our church.

**Phoebe Reid** – Our dear member, Phoebe Reid, died June 14th. Please keep Stephen, Susan and their families in your prayers as they grieve their loss.

**Church Renovations** – If you have noticed the church looking more beautiful lately, you can say thanks to the hard working crew of Terry Harke, Joe Songer and Mark Say. They have spent many hours and much hard work over the last year spackling, sanding and painting. Good job, guys!

**Dishes in Kitchen** – There is an abundance of leftover dishes in the kitchen from recent carry-ins, funeral meals and so forth. Please pick up your dishes to help make some extra room.

## Calendar

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**Sundays** – 9:15 AM Early Gathering/Early Sunday School (Intergenerational Class, K-5th grade, Junior High & High School), 10:15 AM Fellowship Time (enjoy coffee, donuts, and fellowship), 10:45 AM Late Gathering/Late Sunday School

**July 5-12** – Youth to Camp Barnabas

**July 7** – Softball Game

**July 9** – Open Door Food Distribution

**July 13-17** – VBS

**July 14** – Softball Game

**July 15** – Scam Prevention Workshop at Riverside

**July 21** – Softball Game

**July 22** – CCT Meeting

**July 25** – Children Movie Night Out

July 28-29 – Make Up Softball Games

## July Birthdays

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

7/1 Shirley Pittenger	7/15 Cole Gnap
7/4 Connor French	7/18 Jody Osborn
7/6 Ward Head	7/21 Emily Goul
7/6 David Rodriguez	7/21 Leslee Leason
7/9 Betty Brown	7/25 Bryan Bouton
7/9 Kaes Petroviak	7/29 Doug Gregg
7/11 Barb Eidson	7/29 Chad Massoth
7/11 William Nealy	7/31 Larry Fouch
7/12 Kara St. Myer	7/31 Finn Massoth
7/13 Joanne Sewell	7/31 Keith Roberts
7/15 Maria Chavez	