



The Visitor

JANUARY 2015

Mission Series

Wade Allen

You are receiving this January Visitor well before the first of the year. As I pen these words, Christmas is not yet here. However with holiday traveling, we wanted to get the first Visitor of 2015 to you by a reasonable date. As we move into 2015, many exciting ministries are in the planning stages. You will hear more about them in the coming months. For now, I would like to share with you where we are heading in January.



As many of you know, we developed our church mission statement in 2011. In the winter of 2012, I preached a five-part sermon series on our mission statement.

We are a Spirit-led people gathered to care for and empower each other by stewarding God's resources to impact our community for Christ.

We spent a week on each of the five words (Gather, Care, Empower, Steward, Impact). At the same time, a Ball State student created artwork for our hallway around these words. She joined us in worship and explained how God spoke to her in the creative process as she reflected on each aspect of our mission statement.

In January, we will revisit our mission statement. This time we have another Ball State student who is helping us creatively express our mission statement. The 2015 project will be using photographs. You can look forward to seeing the 2012 artwork replaced with large canvases around the first of the year.

At the same time, we will spend a week on each word in worship. The series will begin on January 11 and conclude the week before Lent. Once again, we will consider together who we are as First Baptist Church Muncie. We have many new attendees and members who were not here in 2012. This series will give them a chance to learn more about the mission of First Baptist Muncie. May God continue to direct us as we strive to be the people that He has called us to be. May we regain our sense of mission as we delve into the Scripture around each word in our mission statement.

Worship in January

The January schedule is:

- January 4 - Joseph Pak, Associate Professor of Biblical Studies at Taylor University
- January 11 - Gather
- January 18 - Care
- January 25 - Empower

Taylor Professor to Preach on January 4

We are happy to welcome Dr. Joseph Pak to First Baptist on **Sunday, January 4**. Dr. Pak specializes in Old Testament survey, Historic Christian Belief, Hebrews and General Epistles, Theology of Worship. He received a Ph.D. in New Testament Studies from Dallas Theological Seminary, Dallas, TX. Dr. Pak describes his vision of teaching,

”My vision of teaching at a college is training future leaders who will be equipped with a passionate heart for Christ and competent skills to reach out and impact the world with the truths that transform lives.”



Dr. Pak will be preaching in both services on **January 4**.

Missional Community Update

Missional Community Life Groups are on break during the months of December and January. Life groups will resume in February. If you are interested in being a part of a life group during the Spring term (February-May), please contact Wade Allen or Melanie Graham 765-722-0302. Life Group leaders are in the process of planning a mission/service emphasis for the spring. We are also planning several family/social events. Everyone is invited to participate.

Youth Ski Trip

A group of teens from our church is traveling to Green Lake, Wisconsin the weekend of **January 16-19**. They are attending a conference called Skwim (<http://skwim.org>). Please keep our teens in your prayers as they enjoy the fellowship of other Christians and encounter Christ in worship. If you would be interesting in offering a scholarship for a teen, please contact Wade. We have a few teens in need of financial assistance.

Visitor and Bulletin Information

If you would like to place an announcement in the church bulletin please email it to wade@fbcmuncie.org. If you have an article for the February newsletter, please email it to wade@fbcmuncie.org by **Sunday, January 18**.

Thank You Notes

Family of Mary Margaret Lockwood (Pam Kistler's Mother) – Thank you so much for your prayers and loving thoughts. Thank you, too, for the beautiful peace lily. We miss mom so much! Love, Tom and Pam

First Baptist Family – Thank you to Chris Wright for his many hours spent in updating the sanctuary lighting system. We appreciate your contribution to this much needed project.

Cheryl Flaherty, Member Care – Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time, cooking talents and deliveries for our Shut-Ins and the Harvest Dinner. We delivered 21 baskets and served about 105 people at the dinner. Everyone should be thankful we have such a wonderful, caring church family.

The Family of George McGalliard – Your loving support, prayers and beautiful arrangement brought comfort to our hearts. Please share our deepest appreciation with the First Baptist Church Family, Dave and Linda McGalliard

Mary Anne Bayer – Thank you to all of you that rang bells for the Salvation Army at the Mall. More than 26 family units participated in this annual gift to the community.

Kara and Tom St. Myer – Thank you to Melanie Graham, Bill and Barb Eidson, Patty Russell, and Rachel Russell for volunteering your time and patience during December's Parents Night Out! We really appreciate the kindness and support that's extended to all the parents at First Baptist Church!

Nina Oisten – Thank you so much for the flowers at the hospital, the visits, the calls and especially the prayers of all of you. God is faithful and I am making a good recovery.

Calendar

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

Tuesdays – 7 PM - Friendship Class

Wednesdays – 6 PM Praise Team (Sanctuary), 6 PM Children's Choir (Elementary Room), 6:30 PM Handbells (Choir Room), 7:40 PM Sanctuary Choir (Choir Room)

January 14 – Life Group Leaders Meeting

January 16-18 – Youth Ski Trip to Wisconsin

January 26 – CCT Meeting

January Birthdays

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

1/2 - Jillian Barr	1/21 - Sharon Jackson
1/2 - Jennifer Hudson-Roberts	1/21 - Katie Shutters
1/3 - Dale Stone	1/21 - Annie Wright
1/8 - Bob Oisten Jr.	1/25 - Gene Carr
1/10 - Dale Jones	1/26 - Veda Massoth
1/10 - Marsha Venable	1/26 - Ann Siverly
1/10 - Julia Whaley-Jones	1/27 - Kelly Rodriguez
1/14 - Grace Hahn	1/28 - Pam Kistler
1/14 - Grace Hahn	1/30 - Heidi Davis
1/17 - Andrew Heimlich	1/30 - Martin Lewis
1/18 - Lester Bryars	1/31 - Patty Stigers
1/18 - Gabriel Rodgers	1/31 - Bill Turner
1/18 - Marjorie Wright	