



The Visitor

APRIL 2015

Reach Week

Wade Allen

When we set up our missional communities a few years ago, we purposefully set up evaluation and reflection periods at the end of each session. In December and January, we met several times to discuss potential changes in the Spring 2015 session. One of the dynamics that we identified was a lack of participation in our monthly *mission* projects. How might we involve more people in the mission projects? We thought we would try something new.



We hoped it would be helpful to place all of our mission projects in a concentrated period of time. We could direct our energies in a special way for a season. This is what we are going to do in April. From **April 12-26**, we will be holding our first **Muncie Reach Week**. While we generally attempt four mission projects each season, we will be doing seven over this three week period.

While acknowledging that we have many ongoing service opportunities at First Baptist, we are taking on an increased focus during April. Seven projects may seem ambitious, but we feel that offering a variety of opportunities will allow everyone to be involved. Our challenge to each person is to sign up for two projects. Perhaps you will find one project that is outside of your comfort zone. As you engage this area, God may challenge you to break out of what you find easy. On the other hand, God calls us to use our gifts for the building up of His body. Therefore, we would encourage everyone to sign up for one project that fits your talents and gifts.

We will also be focusing our worship gathering on serving others. May we find this season of serving challenging and rewarding. May God bring us into alignment with His heart during this month.

Combined Service on April 26

As we conclude our Muncie Reach Week, we will gather in a combined worship service on **Sunday, April 26** to celebrate all that God has done through our efforts of reaching out.

Worship in April

The April schedule is:

- April 5 - He Has Risen (Matthew 28:1-10)
- April 12 - Sacrifice of Reaching (Romans 12:1-8)
- April 19 - Reaching the Poor (Various Passages)
- April 26 - Reaching Together (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12)

The Revolution Church Joining Us for Worship

On **Sunday, April 19**, The Revolution Church will be joining us during the late worship hour. The Revolution is a church that meets on the Ball State campus most Sundays. They also use our church building for baptisms. On this Sunday, they are unable to use their normal meeting place and will be joining us for worship. Wade is going to team preach with one of the pastors from The Revolution, Neil Kring. We will also share music leadership on that day. Early service will at the normal time on this Sunday.

Youth Group Meeting

The youth group now meets on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month at the home of Mike and Melanie Graham. All students in grades 6-12 are invited to join. Look for announcements in the bulletins for dates and times.

Softball

After two years of successful men's softball, the ladies from our church have expressed interest in getting in on the fun. So this year, we will be coordinating a coed team in addition to our men's team. For this to happen, we'll need at least 8 women and 8 men to be fully committed to playing. If you're not up to playing, but still want to be involved, have no fear! We need an assistant coach for the men's team and a head and assistant coach for the coed team. If you would like to play or coach or would like to be involved in a different way, please contact David Rodriguez (862-219-9573).

Missional Community Update

Our spring session started in February. There are three life groups this session along with several social events. This session we are doing all of our mission projects during an April mission emphasis (Muncie Reach Week). We are excited about serving our church and community during the Muncie Reach Week from ** April 12-26**. This is a church wide event and we want everyone to sign up for 2 events throughout this two-week period. Please let the project coordinators know where you want to serve:

Life Groups		
Group	Day of Week	Time
Allen	Sunday	2 PM
Fink	Sunday	4 PM
Rodriguez	Sunday	6 PM

1 Sunken Room Project

Coordinator: David Rodriguez, drod7425@gmail.com, 862-219-9573

Date: April 12, 18, 19 Time: 1-5PM

If you have been down to the sunken room recently, you know it is in poor condition. We will be repairing this room in three phases - demolition (Sunday, April 12), painting (Saturday, April 18), and installing new fixtures (Sunday, April 19). Join us during Muncie Reach Week to renovate this room for the benefit of our kids and the kids that use our building from various groups!

2 Landscaping Project

Coordinator: Mike Graham, mikeandmel1020@gmail.com, 765-722-1195

Date: Saturday, April 25 Time: 10AM-3PM

Spring time has arrived and as part of Muncie Reach Week, we are planning a day of beautification for the outside grounds of our church. Please join us with your gardening tools and be prepared to get dirty. Green thumbs are not required!

3 Bridges Class Project

Coordinator: James Martin, baronjlm88@gmail.com, 765-729-7968

Date: Monday, April 13 Time: 500-7:30 PM

The training is called Understanding People in Poverty. There are patterns that exist among people from generational poverty- Learn why some people operate as they do so that you may be effective in working with them. Participants will: Create a mental model of poverty, review poverty research, examine a theory of change and analyze poverty through the prism of “playing by the rules” of class. Anyone wanting childcare please RSVP to their office directly one week in advance (765)747-7158.

4 Spa Day Project

Coordinator: Colleen Massoth, colleenmassoth@gmail.com, 765.744.1350

Date: Monday April 20 Time: 8 AM - 4 PM

We are hosting a Spa Day for the ladies at the YWCA and Teamwork for Quality Living! (All spa services will be provided by The Salon and Spa.) We are looking for 10 volunteers to help do check-ins, take coats, help with food and just be a friendly face and/or conversation.

5 Friendship Class Project

Coordinator: Melanie Graham, nannynini@gmail.com, 765.722.0302

Date: Tuesday, April 21 Time: 7-8:30 PM

The Friendship class meets weekly at Riverside Baptist. We have a few very dedicated members of our church who are helping with that program weekly. We want others to have an opportunity to work with them and to get to know this group of special needs adults so we will work with them on a craft that evening as well as just spending time sharing God's love with them.

6 Westminster Vespers Project

Coordinator: Jessica Fink, jrfink07@gmail.com, 765-894-3799

Date: Sunday, April 12 Time: 3:00 PM

We will be ministering to those living at Westminster Village through various activities. We will be sharing music and personal reflections of scripture at their Vesper service, and after, we will be moving to their healthcare side and ministering to those residents through music, and visiting those who are not able to get up and about as well.

7 Shut-In Project

Coordinator: Cheryl Flaherty, cl.flaherty@comcast.net, 765.520.7260 Date: Anytime during April 12-26 that works for your family

We at FBC have a wonderful set of members who due to illness, age or other condition, are not able to get out and about like most of us. We would like for a family or individual to take a name, and go visit that person, spend about an hour or so, get to know them a bit and pray with them before you leave. Just loving on someone who doesn't get a lot of love and attention!

Senior Adult Day in April

April 9 is Sr. Adult day at Avoca, Indiana. The van will leave First Baptist Church at 6 AM. (yes AM :)) This is just north of Bedford, Indiana. Please contact Shirley Pittenger if you plan to go.

Sabbatical Update

The work to apply for the Lilly Endowment Sabbatical grant continues, but due to family commitments during the summer of 2016, Pastor Wade is likely to pursue the travel, study and relaxation opportunity during the summer of 2017. Anyone who has questions should contact members of the sabbatical grant committee: Mary Ann Bayer, Bill Eidson, Molly Flodder, Shirley Pittenger, Mark Say, or Joe Songer.

Service Insights

Molly Flodder

Since serving on the CCT a few years ago as we pursued God's calling for our church, I have thought a great deal about opportunities for service which we provide in the areas of student ministry and working with those in poverty. The latter is my area of vocation, but I am also interested in knowing more about our students from Ball State University, Taylor and also Anderson University. As a member of the Visitor/Bulletin team, I'm praying that God can use me to share insights that I have had or facts and information I am learning that can help us as a church as we reach out to these two populations. I will be providing this column in the Visitor every other month with the hope that I can continue it on a monthly basis after my retirement next year.



This month I wanted to share a few realities as we reach out to serve ladies at the YWCA and TEAMwork for Quality Living in the "spa day" that is part of our service this month in the Muncie Reach Week initiative.

First a fact: Not many of the TEAMwork people are homeless although some have been. Ladies at the Y are among the 600 different people who are homeless during each year in Muncie. In the US, the average age of a homeless person is nine years old and the Muncie average age is close to that—12 years old.

The ladies we will serve are likely unemployed although some may be working part time in low-wage jobs. Others we will not see because they work, often at two low-wage jobs that, in spite of their hard work, still do not bring them out of the pit of poverty. Sometimes those of us who have not struggled do not realize that people who live in poverty are among the most bright, hardworking and resourceful people in our community. They have figured out how to keep their refrigerators and microwaves working even when

their own electricity has been shut off. They are fiercely protective and loyal to their children and members of their families and, although they do not have much, they would give a friend or a person in need the shirt off their backs. Serving those who struggle is different because the world in which they live is a much more difficult world. It does not mean, though, that stereotypes such as “lazy,” “uneducated,” “stupid,” or “dirty” have any validity. Our role as Christians is to treat people different from us as Jesus would have if he were doing outreach work in our community.

The class that TEAMwork teaches, “Understanding People in Poverty,” is a way to take an in-depth look at patterns of behavior of people in poverty, particularly those from generational poverty. As a kickoff event to First Baptist Church’s Muncie Reach Week, attending the class it is a way to greatly broaden our view of people who barely survive, and to add to our toolkits good information that can help all of us be successful in this work of serving people in poverty.

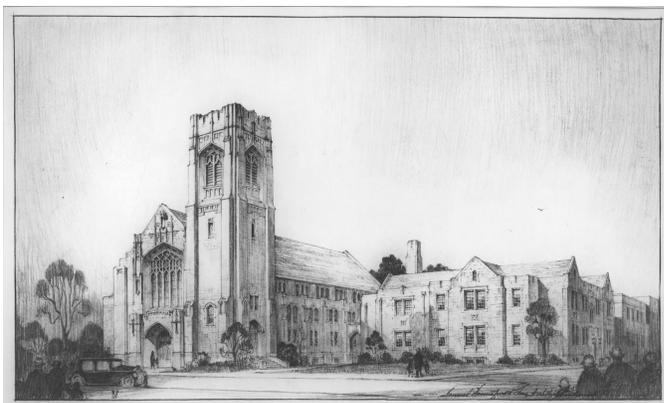
Mass Choir Opportunity

On **Saturday, April 25**, at 4:30 PM** at High Street Methodist Church, the First Baptist Church Sanctuary Choir will be among church choirs and school choirs presenting a concert. That concert will culminate in all choirs and all in the audience singing Handel’s “Hallelujah Chorus.” Mark this on your calendars as a wonderful day to enjoy a variety of music and to lift your voice with others in the magnificent singing of this piece from the Messiah. Stay tuned to bulletins with more detail about this event.

All Church Campout

The Children’s Ministry Team is coordinating a FBC summer gathering and campout that is bound to be a lot of fun. Camping, hiking, games, food, and fellowship just to name a few of the activities we have planned. Even if you prefer not to camp, there will be plenty of activities to enjoy. Whether you hang out by the campfire and fellowship, or take a walk in the woods, or play at the park, there will be plenty of fun for all. See the attached flyer for details.

1927 Architectural Renderings Available



Gordy Fine Arts and Framing is providing an opportunity for you to purchase a reproduction of a 1927 architectural rendering of our building. The church was completed in 1929. Order forms are available outside the sanctuary door. If you need an order shipped, please call Brian Gordy directly at (765) 284-8422.

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, 7:40 PM Sanctuary Choir (Choir Room)

April 3 – Community Good Friday Service at Union Missionary Baptist Church

April 5 – Easter Sunday (normal schedule for worship services)

April 9 – Senior Adult Day at Avoca

April 12 – Sunken Room Project (Stage 1) and Westminster Vespers Project

April 13 – Bridges Class Project

April 18 – Sunken Room Project (Stage 2)

April 19 – Sunken Room Project (Stage 3)

April 20 – Spa Day Project

April 25 – Landscaping Project

April 26 – Combined Service at 10:45 (All Sunday School classes meet at 9:15)

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 April newsletter, please email it to wade@fbcmuncie.org by **Sunday, April 19**.

April Birthdays

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

4/3 - Hunter Petroviak
4/4 - John Mulcahy III
4/6 - Colleen Massoth
4/6 - Megan Morency
4/6 - Cami Shutters
4/7 - Dave Earls
4/9 - Anna Allen
4/10 - Sam Hershman
4/11 - Ken Nicola
4/15 - Susan Londt

4/16 - Robert Burton
4/17 - Victoria Bouton
4/21 - Kendra Ervin
4/25 - Maddy Crawford
4/25 - Billie Frogge
4/25 - Jane Patton
4/25 - Addison Thurston
4/30 - Ray Conley
4/30 - Freida Roberts