

THE VOICE

Love First *Caring, Sharing, Connecting*



VOLUME 46, ISSUE 10

OCTOBER, 2009

TRUNK 'N' TREAT AT THE PARK

A SAFE ALTERNATIVE TO TRICK OR TREATING

Leaves are turning colors, the air is a little crisper, and as I write this article, fall begins today. Time to revisit some traditional events. Trick and Treat at the Park is one of them. We all owe Brian and Sandy Beckerman a great deal of thanks for organizing the event for the past several years. They have done a **fantastic job**, but are unable to continue in this role this year.

Because this has been such a popular outreach event for our church and the community, the Davis Park Ministry team would like to continue this tradition with a few changes.

WE NEED YOU

More specifically, we need the trunk or tailgate of your car or truck, decorated for Halloween, with lots of candy to give away, to be at Davis Park on Saturday, October 31, from 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm. This year's theme is "Trunk 'n' Treat at the Park."

In addition to the kids walking through a maze of open car trunks looking for treats, we'll also have a hay ride through the park,

a few games for the kids, and hot chocolate to keep warm.

There may even be a prize for the best decorated trunk or tailgate, who knows?

We'll be publicizing the event in the newspaper, local schools and everywhere else we can think of, and we're hoping for lots of kids to attend.

We'd like for everyone to participate, so be sure to call the office to reserve your vehicle's spot at the park, or talk to Jill McDonald, Janine Spurgeon or Peg Peter for more details.

If you don't have a vehicle to decorate, we'll also receive bags of wrapped candy at the office during business hours.



WHO STOLE MY CHURCH?

Last week Pastor Jeff mentioned this book in his sermon, and earlier in the month Bill Mathys had forwarded this book review. Copies of the book are available in the church library.

Who Stole My Church is one of the most exciting books available to our modern age. Written by Gordon MacDonald, this book outlines reasons for making positive changes in our churches if we want them to be pertinent in the 21st Century. This book was written with Anderson First UM in mind. We would do well to pay attention to the information shared by this astute planner.

Here at First Church we remember great years in the past when this church was the most significant church in the community. If we would like to have that distinction in 2009, we can expect some differences which need to become evident. Some have already appeared, and a few of those changes were encountered with anguish and pain. But MacDonald warns us if we don't come into the 21st Century, we will lose any chance at effective ministry in this community.

If you really want our church to be a Christian influence today and into the future, we need to embrace the wisdom found in this outstanding book. This is such a personal call for awakening, Pastor Bill has ordered two additional copies. They will soon be in our library. Don't miss this one-in-a-lifetime call to ministry.

Even if you haven't read a book in the past ten years, this is a "must."
Check It Out!!!

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FROM THE SENIOR PASTOR

It's hard not to start with one more "thanks." We're at the three month mark and, setting aside the headache of the actual move, it has been a very good three months for us. It has been made so primarily by your warm and welcoming spirits, and your readiness to make us part of your lives in such generous ways. So, thanks again.

There is a growing literature on how a pastor should spend his or her early time (the first 12 – 18 months) in a new parish. One friend of mine who teaches a seminar for pastors moving to new assignments is a proponent of hitting the ground running hard. While recognizing this is not always the way to go, this is his recommendation for the large majority of situations. Part of his approach, I think, has to do with his generally aggressive leadership style, a quality that has served him and the churches he has led well. But, the wider points made by this school of thought run along the lines of taking advantage of the dynamics of change and the natural "honeymoon" period between a congregation and new

pastor. Seize the chance to effect change and innovation in the life of the church. Why waste time and perhaps lose opportunity? This can work well for some pastors and congregations.

Another school of thought suggests a more paced leadership approach. I will admit up front my bias toward this transition style. It would argue strongly the first year or so be focused upon getting to know and learning to love the congregation. It would recommend learning the history of the church and people, listening, gaining important knowledge, and absorbing the wisdom of folks who have long been a part of the congregation. It would insist upon performing the pastoral basics with all the excellence of which you are capable: preaching and fostering the worship life of the church, extending conscientious and effective pastoral care, executing quality leadership in administrative affairs, and the like. **This style does not imply being in any way inactive!** But it would hold off on making vast changes or forcing program initiatives. The logic here questions the effectiveness of making major decisions prior to the process of getting to know the church. It would *really*

question unilateral decisions made by a pastor with no time given to the process of discernment in a particular congregation.

So, there may be crisis situations that demand a quick, hard hitting start, but in a case like ours, I prefer moving more deliberately.

Having said all of that, let me emphasize again this is far from a "sit around and not do much" strategy. This church has already been about the business of prayer and planning, and we already have a game plan for our near to mid-range ministry. **We are moving forward.** To that end, we will be devoting some of our fall Sundays to a reaffirmation of our guiding principles. You may remember our work earlier this year in Bishop Schnase's book, Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations. We intend to revisit those practices in a fresh way, and move into a new gear.

So join me in looking forward as I locate myself into what God is doing here at Anderson First.

Pastor Jeff

Worship Schedule

9:00 a.m.
Traditional Worship
Sanctuary

10:10-11:10 a.m.
Sunday School
Downtown
Opportunities for all ages

11:10 a.m.
Modern Worship
Worship Center
Lower Level

4:30 p.m.
Community Café
Free Meal, Brief
Devotional Message
And Music
Fellowship Hall

FIVE PRACTICES OF FRUITFUL CONGREGATIONS

Definitions taken from the book Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations by Robert Schanze:

Passionate Worship

Vibrant churches offer passionate worship that connects people to God and to one another. With eagerness and expectancy we encounter Christ through singing, prayer, scripture, preaching and Holy Communion. People are searching for worship that is authentic, alive, creative, and comprehensible and it is our intent to provide just that.

Radical Hospitality

This is the active desire to invite, welcome, receive, and care for those who are strangers; to create a spiritual home for our members and our guests; to live out Christ's love and widen our welcome.

Risk Taking Mission and Service

Vibrant, growing congregations are highly committed to mission and service. This includes all the efforts, the giving, the projects, the trips, and the work people do to make a positive difference in the lives of others for the purpose of Christ. This vision is local and

global, and is done irrespective of whether people served will ever be a part of our local church. When a church turns inward its vitality is drained.

Intentional Faith Development

Fruitful, growing congregations practice "Intentional Faith Development," on purpose. From first generation Christians to Wesley's class meetings to modern disciples, followers of Jesus mature in faith by *learning together in community*. It is the goal of the church to be a place where people invest themselves in understanding and living by Scripture – personally, in small groups, and in worship.

Extravagant Generosity

Generosity enlarges the soul, realigns priorities, connects people to the body of Christ, and strengthens congregations to fulfill Christ's ministry. Giving reflects the nature of God. Growing in the grace of giving is part of the journey of faith.

BON AMI SCHEDULE



The older adult travel group is taking to the tracks in October. We will ride the train in our own private car, the caboose, on the train to Metamora, Indiana, on Friday, October 23. We will leave the station from Connorsville for a 1 1/2 hour ride. We will have two hours for lunch and sight-seeing in Metamora and then return to Connorsville. Lunch will be at the Side Track Café. We are limited to 20 participants for this trip. The cost for the day will be \$35. The bus will leave the church at 8:00 am and return approximately 5:00 pm. Please call the church office (643-6977) to reserve your spot.

In November, the travel group is headed to Springboro, Ohio for the Christmas spectacular at La Comedia dinner theater on Friday, November 13. The show will be a musical journey that features spectacular dancing, fun-loving characters and Santa Claus himself. It will also include the warmth and beauty of the Nativity and the traditional rendition of "O Holy Night." Lunch will include the house signature salad with Papaya Chutney Dressing followed by chef-carved meats, deep-fried Norwegian Cod, a variety of pastas and fresh vegetables, fresh baked breads, the famous sweet potato soufflé, and dessert. The cost for the trip will be \$55.00. **Reservations must be made and paid for by October 13.** Please call the church office to reserve your spot.



First UMC's Book Club will meet on Tuesday, October at 9:30 am to discuss "The Longest Trip Home" by John Grogan, who also authored "Marley & Me."

"The Longest Trip Home" is the author's memoirs of his dad and his family life growing up in the 1960's in suburban Detroit.

Take an hour out of your schedule and join us in the library downtown to discuss this book—everyone is welcome.

CHECK IT OUT!!

Holy Humor, Inspirational Wit and Cartoons

If you want to just enjoy a humorous book, with no redeeming value other than amusement, get the copy of Holy Humor, Inspirational Wit and Cartoons, gathered and published by Cal and Rose Samara.

Here is a good example of the many stories this collection contains:

"After the service a little boy told the pastor; "When I grow up, I'm going to give you some money."

"Well, thank you," the pastor replied, "but why?"

"Because my daddy says you're one of the poorest pastors we've ever had."

This book may just add a bit of joy to your day. When you tire of profound reading, this will fit the bill for you.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN ACTIVITIES

Circle Activities for October:

Bible Study Circle—October 1, 9:30 am

Hostesses: Joyce McNeil & Harriett Wheeler

3418 Oakwood Drive, Anderson

Lesson #2—"Growing Older and Wiser" led by Miriam Jones

Friendship Circle—October 1, 9:30 am

Hostesses: Donna Goings & Joanne Burand

119 S. Mustin Drive, Anderson

Devotion: Mary Carter

Program: Virginia Musser—

World Thank Offering

Lydia Circle—

No Meeting in October

Celebrate United Methodist

Women— October 3 9:30-2

Kokomo Grace UMC

Honoring the North Indiana Conf

Cost: \$10

A Day of New Beginnings—

October 17 10-3

Zionsville UMC

Indiana Conference UMW

Organizing Event. Cost: \$15

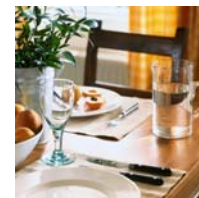
See Peg Peter for more details.



DINNERS FOR EIGHT

Registration for the Dinner for Eight groups is continuing. Dinner for 8 is a group of 7-9 people, couples and singles, who meet monthly in a home. Each individual or couple in the group brings a component of the meal, and each individual or couple takes turns

hosting the meal. This is a great opportunity to meet new people and to make new friends as well as enjoy some good food! The groups will be put together and information will be sent to all participants in early October.



THE VOICE

YOUTH NEWS / JAKES'S CORNER

Greetings!

Well, fall is officially in full swing. The 9:00 A.M. traditional service and youth group have both moved back downtown, TV shows are starting back up again, and it's starting to get colder out. More importantly, football season has started! If you don't know me at all, I really like football. I can't really explain it; I just really like it a lot. All of these things starting up again really make it feel like life has just exploded into a frenzy of activity, in a good way. I also feel like a new year has started. I feel like we have a new start with how the youth ministry goes this year. So far, it's been much busier than this time last year. Things are definitely looking good.

This past month we made the trek up to North Webster again to see a concert at Epworth Forest. It was nice to be up there again. There were a lot of good memories from this

past summer. They also broke ground on one of many new cabins and other building projects up there. It seems like the future of the camp ministry in the Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church is very bright. We also started up the youth band again this past month. Due to the lack of time we haven't really been able to practice much, but it looks like this will be a good ministry for our youth. By the time you read this, I will have completed a Great Banquet retreat in September as well. Perhaps I can share more about my experience next month.

October has a handful of things in store for us. The youth are in charge of preparing the meal for Community Café on the 4th. We're going to try to do a Rake and Run service project on the 17th. I say try because it all depends on the amount of leaves that have fallen by then. The big thing that's coming up in October, though, is on the morning of the 25th. It's going to be the kickoff for our monthly youth worship service. As of now I have unofficially been referring to it as

"Something Different" because that's what it is, something different. I think it will be a way to get the youth of our church excited about church again.

A look ahead at November has us doing a service project on the 7th. It's United Way's annual Operation: Weatherization project. We took part last year, and we're going to do it again this year. It would be great to increase the size of our group (we actually had two groups last year) from last year. We're also doing a fundraiser on November 22nd right after church that Sunday morning. We're going to be auctioning off the youth to congregation members to help them out with any work they might need done.

There are a lot of pretty good things going on with the youth ministry in the upcoming months, and there

is a whole lot of reason to get excited about it. Check out the calendar for all the dates and events presented in an orderly fashion. Also check out which youth have birthdays this month. Wish them a happy birthday and send them a card. Have a great October! Go out and try a pumpkin spice latte; I love those things.

Jake

Youth Calendar

- October 4 – Community Café
- October 17 – Rake and Run
- October 25 – Youth Worship Service Kickoff
- November 7 – Operation: Weatherization
- November 22 – Youth Auction Fundraiser



Youth Birthdays

- October 1 – Danielle Hunt
- October 25 – Natalie Griner
- October 30 – Whitney Hardison

J.O.Y. LUNCHEONS AND PROGRAMS



J.O.Y. (Just Older Youth) will meet at 11:30 am on Friday, October 16 for lunch, and a program. Watch for details about the program in upcoming bulletins.

J.O.Y. luncheons are opportunities for adults to gather for fellowship, entertainment and education. A \$6 donation is requested for the cost of the meal. The contact person for further details is Pastor Donna Goings. Reservations are requested-please call the church office (643-6977).

Home Communion
World Wide Communion Sunday
October 4

Plan now for World Communion Sunday. If you wish to receive home communion on that day you may call the church office at 643-6977 or Kaye Casterline at 643-4957.



IT'S NOT WHAT YOU SAY, IT'S HOW YOU SAY IT

In order to provide improved information about the happenings at Anderson First to our members and friends, the Executive Committee has approved the formation of a Communication Committee. This committee will report to the Church Council and continue under its direction. Currently serving on this committee are Peg Peter, Fran Plummer, Nicki Ross, Bill Surbaugh, Doug Nelson and Al Rowley.

Several short term and long term efforts were identified as part of the role for the Communications Committee. Mainly we are to evaluate the current methods of communication used by our church. These include things such as our Website, Radio Ministry, E-mail Community, Sunday Communications, Advertising and Publications, the Voice and several others. We are looking to improve and optimize what we currently use within the church and community.

Our first need is to know **"How effective are our current methods of communication?"** In order to evaluate their effectiveness, we have included a survey in the Voice for you to complete and return to the church. The survey is also available on our website for you to download, answer and return.

The purpose of the survey is to collect your feedback so we can give you and the outside community what you require in methods and formats you choose. The form is simple to use and should only require a few minutes to complete.

There will be a box in the narthex for you to return your survey to us. We ask the surveys be returned by Sunday, October 18. Extra copies of the survey will be available as well, just in case you don't receive The Voice, or have access to our website andersonfirst.org.

All responses are confidential and will be used to evaluate the direction for future communications. There is space on the back of the survey for you to include any suggestions you may have to improve our methods of communication.

If you have **any** questions concerning this survey or our current methods of communication, do not hesitate to contact any of the committee member listed above. Our phone numbers and e-mail addresses are listed below.

Peg Peter	643-9769	peg@andersonfirst.org
Fran Plummer	643-2626	estatelady@juno.com
Nicki Ross	643-8324	nross@c21rg.net
Bill Surbaugh	649-2701	bill@surbaughandson.com
Doug Nelson	649-6250	jdnelson@anderson.edu
Al Rowley	641-0017	abrowley@comfortmotion.com

Thank you in advance for your responses and for helping Anderson First improve our level of communication.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Wednesday night Quest class (6:30-7:30)

Come join the Wednesday night adult study from 6:30-7:30 pm, in the East-West parlor. We are exploring Christianity's family tree-what other Christians believe and why. Topics include Catholicism, Lutheranism, Anglicanism, Baptists, Pentecostalism, and our own Methodism. The class is facilitated by Pastor Donna and includes video segments from Rev. Adam Hamilton.



SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH WORSHIP SERVICE

I know it really has seemed like a myth, nothing more than a rumor.

"A Sunday morning youth service? Will it actually happen? I've only heard about it, but never thought it would actually come to our church."



Well, start believing the rumors because it has actually come to our church. For the longest time I've been trying to figure out a good schedule for it. I wanted to find a balance between still offering something on Sunday nights, having something on Sunday mornings, and still creating an opportunity for the youth to go to the service at 9:00 A.M.

Since it's a rather novel and experimental idea, the Sunday morning youth service will only be held one Sunday a month, which will be the last Sunday of the month (unless something special happens). There will not be a Sunday night youth group on that Sunday. We'll have Sunday night youth group every other Sunday night of the month, so those who can't make it to the service on Sunday morning for whatever reason can still come to a regular youth group time. Also, it allows for the youth to be in the 9:00 A.M. service the rest of the month.

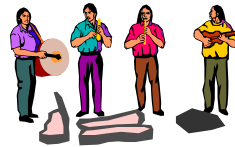
This looks to be the format for at least this first year. I want to see how it goes and how people respond to it. I'm really excited for this and I believe that it has potential to be something we can all get excited about and to leave us wanting to come back for more! It should provide an amazing experience to connect with God and with others. The first service will be on Sunday, October 25th at 9:00 A.M.

THE VOICE

YOUTH BAND

After a long summer break of not having the youth band, it is time to resurrect it. I'm calling on all who are interested in participating. It doesn't matter how old you are or what instrument you play, we want you in the band! If you want to join but can't play anything (or sing), Jake is willing to teach you! We are in need of just about everything – guitar, bass, drums, singers. We won't be meeting for the next couple of weeks, but we will meet again on October 4th from 6 P.M. to 7:30 P.M. We actually have a sound system/

worship area set up in the youth room, so we will meet and practice up there. However, we are still lacking a few things. If you happen to have any extra sound equipment lying around, we could really use it! We are in need of microphones, a snake, monitors, direct boxes, or anything else you'd like to donate. Thanks and hope to see you on the 4th!



The Gathering Grounds Coffee Hour

Our coffee fellowship hour is a wonderful time to gather and catch up with friends. A cup of coffee and friendly conversation is a perfect way to end our worship service. If you are a visitor, you are invited to stay for refreshments. It's a great opportunity to get acquainted. You may even make a new friend or two!

If you would like to volunteer to host a coffee hour, please sign up on the board in the Narthex for the 9:00 service. This is a unique ministry and one of the most appreciated! You may also contact Kathy at 644-3286 or Kathy@andersonfirst.org.

New Additions to the Library

The librarians have been busy cataloging the new additions to the library. We add new books each month (and Pastor Bill doesn't get to review all of them) so check them out!!

Adult Books:

The Wednesday Letters—Jason Wright
I Love You, Miss Huddleton—Phillip Gulley
Above the Line: Take One—Karen Kingsley
The Rising Tide—Jeff Shaara
The Steel Wave—Jeff Shaara
The Last Full Measure—Jeff Shaara
Off Season—Anne Rivers Siddons
Up Island—Anne Rivers Siddons

The Lost Quilter—Jennifer Chiaverini
Enough: Discovering Joy—Adam Hamilton
Awaken the Leadership Within—Bill Perkins
Ministry Marketing Made Easy—Yvon Prehn
Friendship First—Tom and Joani Schultz
Sabbath Keeping—Lynn Babb
The Patton Papers: 1940-1945, Vols. 1&2—Martin Blumenson
Who Stole My Church—Gordon Macdonald
Above the Line: Take Two: Karen Kingsley
Handle With Care: Jodi Picoult
Heart and Soul—Maeve Binchy
The Life of Pi—Yann Martel

Young Adult Books:

The Last Summer (of You and Me) - Ann Brasheres

Children's Books:

Fancy Nancy at the Museum: Jane O'Connor
Fancy Nancy: The Dazzling Book Report: Jane O'Connor
Fancy Nancy: Pajama Day—Jane O'Connor
A Good Night for Ghosts—Mary Pope Osborne
Some Pig! - E.B. White
Ramona Quimby—Age 8—Beverly Cleary
Bunnicula (a collection of stories) - James Howe

OPERATION SHOEBOX

Anderson First United Methodist Church is getting into the game! We are going to have an **Operation Shoebox Packing Party!** This is part of the Samaritan's Purse organization but instead of asking each person or family to *pack a shoebox*, we are asking each person and family to *gather supplies for a shoebox* and bring them to the church.

As a part of the Advent Workshop and All-Church Thanksgiving Dinner on November 14, we will put all the supplies we have gathered around the room. Then each person or family will pick up a shoebox and go around and fill up the box they have in their hands.

We hope to fill at least 25 boxes and we hope to have a lot of fun as we give to those children in war-torn and impoverished countries throughout the world.

Please help by gathering any of the following supplies and bringing them to the church!

School Supplies (on clearance at Wal-Mart and Target!)

Pens, pencils, sharpeners, crayons, markers, stamps and ink pad sets, writing pads, paper, solar calculators, coloring books, picture books

Toys: (NO war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures)

Small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, small Etch-A-Sketch, toys that light up or make noise, batteries, Slinky's

Hygiene Items: (do not include liquids, lotions, aerosol cans)

Toothbrush, toothpaste, mild bar soap (in a plastic bag), comb, washcloth

Thank you!



MEMORIALS GIVEN IN AUGUST, 2009

Wilbur Roby

Ron Muench
Corbin King
Deane and Jack Cunningham
Elizabeth Shearer
Willodean Dye
Sharon and Gary Baker
Sandy and Pete Moffett
Judy Dillman
Louis Hensley III
Hadley Boys



Wilbur Roby to Bus Fund

Virginia Musser
Lottie and Earl Marmon
Ruby Taylor

Godna James to Bus Fund

Virginia Musser

Al Litsey

Nelma Hostetler

Al Litsey to Bus Fund

Joyce and Bill Mathys
Betty Litsey

Bob Shafer to Bus Fund

Bev and Dick Briles

Jean Marshall to Bus Fund

Lottie and Earl Marmon

Eleanor Vinson

Conrad Gaunt
Sue and Gene Wright

Eleanor Vinson to Bus Fund

Virginia Musser
Deane and Jack Cunningham

Mildred Gustin to Bus Fund

Annabel Moore

Albert Lee Bailey

Dan T. Fisher

ADVENT WORKSHOP PLANNING

This year's Advent Workshop is scheduled for the afternoon of Saturday, November 14th – before the All-church Thanksgiving Dinner. We already have crafts for this year planned, but could use helpers for each table (6-7) and/or donations of necessary supplies. All of our crafts are pretty easy because they're planned for little hands.

If you'd like to help, please contact Leisa Jones at 649-1598 or Peg Peter at 643-9769. We'll contact you back with information about who and what we need for a successful afternoon. And be thinking of crafty ideas for next year! Don't forget Operation Shoebox, also to be scheduled during the Advent Workshop.



Notes from the Office

When addressing mail to the church, please use our street address—1215 Jackson Street. The Post Office doesn't like mail addressed to 12th and Jackson, and can refuse to deliver. Thank you for your cooperation!!

Thanks to all of you who have made purchases at Gordon Food Services through the Fun Funds Program designating First UMC as your organization of choice. Through the program, we have received our first check of \$62.55. Every little bit helps our fund raising efforts. If you haven't yet signed up to be a part of the Fun Funds Program, pick up your signup sheet in the church office. You will receive a \$10 coupon to use on participating purchase at GFS.

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY

We received the Summer, 2009, newsletter from the [Anderson Weekday Religious Education Council \(AWRE\)](#), and I'd like to share some information about it:

Did you know:

AWRE teaches 4th grade students
400 students were enrolled in AWRE classes during 2008-2009
70% of those students make a first time commitment to Christ
15 churches support AWRE
AWRE classes meet for 13 weeks
Tuition for 13 weeks is \$30
A box of 24 Bibles costs \$50

If you would like to be a supporter of this outreach into our community, you can contact the Anderson Weekday Religious Education Council at 260 W. 9th Street or your local school. Call Miss Mary Margaret if you need more details.

MORE THOUGHTS ON WISDOM

Father Knows Best was a popular television show when I was growing up. Mr. Anderson was the loving father of three, successful in work, devoted husband. The assumption, played out week by week, was that no matter what problems came along in life, he could provide solutions.

As years went on, television shows changed. Fathers were portrayed as bumbling men who needed to be rescued from everyday challenges. They seemed to stumble through life, providing no leadership in the home and no inspiration to their families. Wisdom was lacking in these characters.

Some of us had wise fathers, kind fathers, good fathers. Some fathers were funny and made us laugh. Other fathers were serious and taught us how to think and how to figure things out. For some of us, our father was neglectful or cruel and mean. Some of us had no father in our lives at all.

Solomon was fortunate. He had a good father. We know David was not perfect; his sins were well known and scandalous. However, Solomon's tribute to David in this prayer focuses on his father's faith. He pays homage to David, calling him righteous and upright in heart. Solomon gave his father credit for influencing his own walk with the Lord.

Our relationships with our father are unique. A father can be as close to us as God was to Jesus. A father can also be as damaging or as absent as anyone could ever imagine. Some of us come to God because of our fathers. Some of us come to God in spite of our fathers. But God is there for us always-keeping us close, no matter what kind of father we have.

God, thank you for those who are wise and loving. Protect and heal those who have been hurt by those who should be closest to them. May they know your kind tenderness. Amen

Written by Janet Casterline, published in "Upper Room Disciplines 2009"



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Anderson, Indiana

Visit us on the web at
andersonfirst.org and
follow us on Facebook

Love First: Caring, Sharing & Connecting

COMING EVENTS

October 4	World Communion Sunday
October 11-16	Mission Trip to Chatham, Ill (UMCOR Depot)
October 16	Joy Lunch
October 23	Bon Ami Trip to Metamora
October 25	Youth Worship Service—Youth Area
October 31	Trunk 'n' Treat at the Park 5-7 pm
November 3-7	Directory Pictures (sign up in the Narthex)
November 13	Bon Ami Trip to La Comedia
November 14	Advent Workshop 3-5 pm Narthex
November 14	All-Church Thanksgiving Dinner 6 pm Fellowship Hall