

September 10, 2007
Volume 44, Issue 15



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“Friends” is the focus for September’s “Saturdays at the Park” worship service

“Saturdays at the Park”
Every fourth Saturday
September 22, 2007

The theme for the “Saturdays at the Park” worship service is “Friends.”

Some friends collect / hobby together –

At **4:00 pm** we are inviting persons who collect/ restore cars (full size or miniature motorized); Scrap bookers with special project to share their hobby at Davis Park.

At 5:00 pm – Worship Celebration – “How to be a Friend”

“Saturdays at the Park” Hobby _____

Name _____

At 5:50pm – Campfire Cook-out complete with s’mores and campfire pie and talking around the campfire.

Plan now to join in the festivities, September 22 for our “Saturdays at the Park” worship service!

If you have a car full size or miniature motorized; Scrap book project or

other hobby you would like to share, drop an e-mail or note to Rev. Wortinger (john@andersonfirst.org) or the Church office.



Are you a collector?

Do you collect coins, model cars/airplanes, antique toys, dolls, Beanie Babies, memorabilia, etc.

Maybe you’ve purchased your dream car or restored an old classic.

Have you been working on a special project?

Perhaps you have a special scrapbook, quilting, sewing, needlework project. Maybe it’s a woodworking project or photos? Whatever it is that brings you joy, consider sharing it September 22, 2007.

The Pastor's Prayer

Everyone hungers for friendship – in fact, God designed us that way! God wants you to have friendships with others and with him. Therein lies the meaning of life itself. Jesus gave expression to that as he named the two great commandments as love of God and love of neighbor.

And the truth is, friendships with God and others look a lot alike. A friendship with God may seem like some sort of impossible, intangible idea... but it's not. Friendship with God is within reach; it's as real and enjoyable as friendship with another person. God made us to be friends with Him, just as God made us to

have meaningful friendships with other people. In fact, our friendships with people are the greatest metaphor for our friendship with God. Just as you spend time with friends talking and hanging out, God desires to spend time with us and be in conversation with us. Just as it's important to trust a friend – to be open and honest – it's important to trust God and be vulnerable with him. God is still God – mysterious, powerful, infinite – but that doesn't mean you can't engage in a friendship with God. Often our friendships with others points the way to friendship with God.

On Saturday, September 22,

our 5:00 pm worship celebration at Davis Park will focus on Friendship and the question of "How to be a Friend?" Plans are to have a campfire cookout afterwards complete with s'mores and campfire pie.

On Sunday, September 23, invite a friend to attend worship with you at any one of our 3 worship services. We will have a special gift for all our friends who join with us for this special service of worship. The good news message for this service will be "Grace Seeks" based on Ezekiel 34:11-16 and Luke 15:1-10.

We give thanks Gracious Friend, for all those who

show kindness without thought of their own gain. We thank you for all those who have been friends to us, showing us some dimension of your love. Forbid, O God, that we should ever take them for granted. Help us, Lord of Life, to be a friend to those near us, to those in need, to those to whom you have directed us. Amen

Pastor John

Disciple I - Bible Study

Tuesdays from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

The goal of Disciple Bible Study is to help us as Christians to claim this great gift of God's love as a guide for living the Christian life. Disciple I is a 34 week study which will give you a superb overview of the Old and New Testaments along

with their major themes. It is the best study I have found to make the Bible a working tool for our life in faith. There will be daily reading assignments, a workbook, and a weekly 2 hour group session designed to help participants apply biblical

insights to their lives. The group session will be led by Pastor John and will include a video component with leading theologians, as well as opportunity for group sharing. Child care will be available if needed. The orientation session

will be held the week of September 17.

The study group will meet Tuesdays nights from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm.

Please register below if you're interested in participating.

Yes, I would like to be a part of a Disciple I Study Group.

Name _____

Phone: _____ Email _____

Mail to Church Office – 1215 Jackson, or place in offering plate on Sunday morning.

Musings

We've moved the nursery everyone! Yes, we've moved a lot of things during the summer! It'll be exciting to see who notices which changes and what people think about them.

I took it easy over the summer. Alright, maybe "took it easy" isn't quite correct. I did a great deal of mental work and found out just how much energy it takes to get other people to think too. But it was easy work, at least for my body, mostly.

Do you know what else is easy? Asking people to do things is easy if you don't absolutely need them to do what you're asking them to do! It's true, it was a great deal easier to ask the students in my School of Christian Mission class to care and even to specifically take on an act of service toward Israel and Palestine than to ask people to be in ministry with me by teaching or assisting in a Sunday School class for the ensuing school year. I think it was easier because

I didn't know them very well.

I KNOW the members of our congregation are hard working people with priorities of their own choosing. I know my asking them to be in ministry with the Education division of our church is going to require them to shift those priorities and I know they're not going to find that an easy task. However, I knew the questions had to be asked and I know the priorities will have to be shifted.

So I wonder, as I sit here the week before Sunday School starts, what I could have done differently so people would have volunteered to be a Sunday School teacher. I wonder what I could have said which would have caused them to desire to lead our children and youth on their faith journeys. I wonder why the members of my faith community weren't open to stretching their faith and commitment beyond where they are right now.

Have I been closed minded to the point where people are afraid to come to me with their desires and fears concerning Christian Education?

I don't know.

Parents and grandparents tell me they worry about their children in this scary world we live in nowadays. I worry too. I think when we give them a strong foundation of faith and correct their misconceptions about the church and missions we can support them while they are out in the world and we can keep them faithful. But they don't have a chance if we don't take the time to teach and lead them.

I feel guilty because I am still scrambling to find teachers and assistants for the children's Sunday School classes. I feel grateful because God continues to bring people who are willing to reach outside their comfort zone at a moment's notice. I feel sad because our children and youth are not only our future

but our today, I'm worried about them. I feel blessed because I can see they continue to grow in hope and faithfulness.

Maybe I'm simply being taught a lesson by the best Christian Education Director of them all. I know my prayer life is growing and my personal Bible study is expanding as I work through all the changes this year is bringing. I hope that's where you are too.

Even if you haven't been led to teach a class this year, I pray you will be led to a Sunday School class to attend. I hope you will check out the changes in the Education Wing of our church and once you do, I hope you will remember where the new things are so you can help others find them. And I especially pray you will feel the changes in your soul as you grow closer to Christ this year!

Faithfully yours,

Miss Mary Margaret

Sunday School - It's for Life!

Check out the opportunities available for the entire family.

We have many different Sunday School classes for you to choose from this year! Sometimes the difference is where the class is located and sometimes the teacher is different. We hope you'll come and join us and find your place with the SON!!!!

Nursery – This class is for children 0 to 3 years in age. It will meet in room G122 – The Fireplace Room. This area will be staffed by members of our congregation from 9 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. each Sunday morning.

Pick Me Class – This class is for students aged 4 and 5. Mrs. Alisa Perrel will be the lead teacher in this room and will be assisted by other members of our congregation. The class will meet in room 101 (That's where they were last year too!)

Ready To Grow – Kindergarten and First Grade students are welcome to this class. Mrs. Ingrid Childs will be the lead teacher for this class. It will be meeting in room G120.

1, 2, 3 Go! – Mr. and Mrs. Brian and Leisa Jones are the new teachers for this class of 2nd and 3rd graders! They will be meeting in room G119.

Discover – Mrs. Peg Peter will be leading the 4th and 5th graders this year. They are moving up in the world! Their new classroom will be on the 2nd floor, room 210.

Junior High – This class needs you!!!! This class will be led by Mrs. Nina Kline during the month of September but we need you to minister with our 6th and 7th graders during the Sunday School hour. If this is your calling and feel you can help our Junior High students continue on their faith journey, let Miss Mary Margaret know! This class meets in the Youth Room, room 207.

Confirmation – If you are in the 8th grade or above and have not yet made a confirmation of your faith regarding church membership, this is the class for you. Miss Becca Holdzkom will be leading this group.

Senior High – This class for 9th through 12th graders (and above if you wish to!) will meet in the Youth area. Your help in leading this group in Sunday School is requested.

Pathfinders – This class for adults of all ages meets



in the East/West Parlor (room 113) and is being taught this year by Mr. David Perrel. This group loves to welcome new people and enjoy

the differences that occur when various ages come together.

Covenant Community – This small group meets together in support of one another with the goal of increasing their spiritual gifts as they work to share the Good News. Mr. and Mrs. Ken and Donna Ward lead

this class which meets in room, 216.

Balanced Life – This group meets each week to increase the balance in all areas of their lives. They are lead by Mr. Ron McNabney and meet in room 217.

Alpha Omega – This group of deep thinkers meets in room 219 and is always ready to welcome in new members.

For Men Only – Our lay leader, Mr. Dave Peter, leads this small but mighty group of men who are learning how to be the men God has called them to be. They meet in room 220.

“Pick-Me” Sunday School Class

NOTE!!!!!!

For those children who will be leaving the sanctuary to go to the Pick Me! Class – there is a time change!

This year we are encouraging the 3, 4 and 5 year olds who attend the Pick Me! Class to stay in worship with their families until JUST BEFORE THE SERMON. Mrs. Perrel will

meet you in the Narthex where you came in and escort the children to the Pick Me! Class room. This allows our children to see a bit of what is involved in worship and yet allows the parents and other family members to be able to concentrate on the sermon and other aspects of the worship service.

Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University offered as part of Fall Quest

PREVIEW MEETING

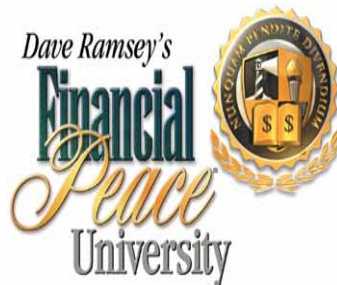
Sunday, September 16 at 10:15 am in the Sanctuary following first service.

Classes begin Tuesday, September 18, 2007

Preview Meeting is not a pre-requisite for participation. Cost per family or individual is \$90 which includes audio CD of video presentations, CD of forms and

handouts, Workbook and beginning envelope system.

For more information call 643-6977.



Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University (FPU) Tuesday Nights: 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. September 18-December 11. Room 120 North/South Parlor.

FPU is a 13-week, life-changing program that empowers and teaches you how to make the

right money decisions to achieve your financial goals and experience financial peace. This course will be led by Pastor Donna Goings and Dave Perrel, who've completed the course and have successfully put into practice what they learned.

Mission: Peru, South America Men and Women invited to Women Alive in Faith Brunch

Pastor Donna Goings, associate pastor at Anderson First United Methodist Church and R.N will share about her mission experience to South America and her visits to the cities of Trujillo, Chimbote, Huancayo, and Lima in Peru.

We'll learn about her proximity to the area affected by the recent quake and whether the quake affected the city she had visited and the impact it had on the area. We'll learn a little about their culture and the similarities / differences our countries share in common. We'll learn about ways to be in mission,

supporting Peru (and various other mission needs) both locally and abroad.

Participants are encouraged to bring items for a "health kit." Please refer to our website www.andersonfirst.org or call the church office for specific details. This program is open to both Men and Women.

The suggested cost is \$6 per person which will be collected at the door.

We invite you to bring items to be contributed towards the Midwest Mission Trip scheduled in October 2007.

Health Kits:

- 1 Hand Towel (not fingertip or kitchen size)
- 1 Wash Cloth
- 1 Comb (regular size, not pocket size, no rat-tail combs, no barber combs; suggestion- Little Goody 2 pack)
- 1 Fingernail Clipper (No files or emery boards)
- 1 Bar of soap (3 oz or larger in original wrapper)
- 1 Toothbrush (in original wrapper - no multiple packs please)
- 1 Tube of Toothpaste (4.5 oz or larger, in original wrapper. Check expiration dates - must be at least six

months.)

6 Adhesive Bandages (Band-aids; no pictures, regular size and wrapped in a rubber band)

**Women Alive in Faith
Saturday, September 29, 2007
9:30 a.m.**

**Davis Park Lodge
4507 Nichol Avenue**

Childcare is available upon request. Please RSVP by calling the church office at 643-6977.

Memorials given in August, 2007

Martha Williams

to Bus Fund

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Atteberry

Ruby Geeting

Connie Skeels

Col. and Mrs. Larry Girton

Nola Amos

Jane Utterback

Harriett Wheeler

Fredrick Stecher

Beverly and Richard Briles

Fredrick Stecher

to Bus Fund

Joyce and Bill Mathys

Greta Greenland

to Bus Fund

Joyce and Bill Mathys

Wilson Boys and Girls Club Tutoring Program

The Wilson Boys and Girls Club is offering free tutoring to students in Grades 1-8 who need assistance with math and reading skills. For further information, contact Rodney Nichols at Wilson's, 642-9188, or by e-mail, bgccpo@insightbb.com

Gateway to hold a Scholastic Book Fair!

Gateway Child Development Centers would like to invite the First United Methodist Church to attend its upcoming Scholastic Book Fair during the week of September 24 – September 28th.

The book fair will be held in the East / West Parlor (Room 113) on the main level and will be open our regular hours Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – Noon and 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Also we will hold some special hours: Wednesday from

6:30 – 8:00 p.m., Thursday (Family Night) from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. and a special Sunday, Sept. 30th opening for the last day 9:00 a.m. – Noon. We accept cash, check and all major credit cards.

Quarterly Statements

Quarterly statements are available at the welcome center, downtown in the narthex for pickup. If you are unable to come in to pick up your statement or would prefer to have it mailed to you, please contact Karen Ambler in the church office, 765-643-6977.

Discovery Sunday School Class Collecting school supplies for Operation Classroom!

In some countries, children don't have books or school supplies. Many have no schoolrooms; classes are held in inadequate or half-destroyed buildings, tents, or even the open air. Often students must write down everything the teacher says or records on a board. Their teacher's knowledge and their own notes are their

only textbooks. School kits may be these children's only educational resources. This UMCOR kit is designed for a variety of ages.

1 pair blunt scissors (rounded tip)
2 pads (or loose leaf) of 8 1/2" x 11" ruled paper
1 30-centimeter ruler
1 hand held pencil

sharpener
6 unsharpened pencils with erasers
1 eraser, 2 1/2"
12 sheets construction paper (varied colors)
1 box of 24 crayons (only 24)

Kid's Night Out (KNO) and KNO Extreme 2007 - 2008 Schedule Announced.

KID'S NIGHT OUT

5:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Select Friday Nights

This program offers children ages 0 to 12 years a chance to learn different aspects of the Christian Faith and their lives and to have fun doing it!

KNO X-treme!

KNO X-treme is for pre-teens from the age of 10 – 12 years old. Xtreme kids will have their own

experience, geared toward their age group. It will include age-appropriate movies, gym time, study and game time, snack time and an opportunity to hear the new and latest Christian Music in the youth area. Genres include, Rock, pop, country, rap, and more. All with a Christian message.

Mark your Calendar:

Friday, September 28

Friday, October 12

Friday, November 9

Friday, December 14

Friday, January 11

Friday, February 8

Friday, March 14

Friday, April 11

What's the cost?

Cost is \$5.00 per child if you register by the Friday before the event and \$6.50 at the door. Call the church office at 643-6977 for details.

A space to eat dinner!

For the convenience of our families, our East/West Parlor -Room 113 will be open from 5:30 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. each Kid's Night Out so your child can have a place to eat the supper you send.

We've Moved!!!



For the convenience of the parents of our children aged newborn to three years, we have moved the location of our nursery closer to the sanctuary and downstairs Fellowship Hall!

The nursery will be in room G122 – The Fireplace Room - from 8:45 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. each Sunday morning.

If you have children aged newborn through age 3, you are welcome to take your children downstairs before the service begins or whenever you feel they need a change in environment!

There are cribs, toys, changing tables, imagination tools and even an area where you can nurse in ease and comfort.

If you DON'T have children in that age group, please make note of where the nursery has moved so YOU can help a mother or father find the new nursery!

Annual Kick Off All Youth - grades 6 through 12 are invited!!

The Annual Youth Kick Off will be **September 16, 6:30-8 p.m. at Davis Park.** Kids entering grades 6 - 12 are invited! Families are invited! We will have a

delicious Alice-made dinner together, go over some of the year's highlights and play some amazing games to get to know one another!

Don't forget to bring a friend or two!

Worship Schedule

(September through May)

9:15 a.m.

Traditional Worship

Sanctuary

10:30 - 11:20 a.m.

Sunday School

It's for Life!

Opportunities for all ages.

11:30 a.m.

Connections - Intimate Prayer and hymns

Room 120

11:30 a.m.

Modern Worship

*Worship Center
on lower level*

Pastors:

Rev. John K. Wortinger

John@andersonfirst.org

Rev. Donna K. Goings

Donna@andersonfirst.org

NEW Quest Opportunity: “Parallels”

18 Key Events - The relationship between critical Old and New Testament Events

Parallels

Wednesday Nights

6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

September 19 - November 14, 2007

Location: Fellowship Hall

Contact: Pastor John K.

Wortinger, 765.643.6977

Email: john@andersonfirst.org

A Bible Study of the parallel key events in the Old and New Testament. The thesis of the class is that there is a relationship between critical Old and New Testament Events. The meaning of each event is more completely

understood in the light of the parallel event in the other testament. This class will focus on 18 Key Events, one set of parallels each week.

September 19: Creation and Incarnation

September 26: Garden of Eden and Garden of Gethsemane

October 3: Tower of Babel and The Day of Pentecost,

October 10: The Call of Abraham and the Call of Mary

October 17: The Sacrifice of Isaac and the Cross of Christ

October 24: The Burning Bush and The Road to Damascus

October 31: The Passover and The Last Supper

November 7: The Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes

November 14: The Call of Isaiah and The Call of the Disciples.

Quest - (kwěst)

It is defined as:

1. The act or an instance of seeking or pursuing something; a search.
2. An expedition undertaken in a medieval romance by a knight in order to perform a prescribed feat: *the quest for the Holy Grail*

We're all searching for something. Perhaps it is.....

.....Treasures of living, the meaning in life, hope, connectedness, or maybe

Kids Quest

Class #1 - Room G122

“Bible Business“ with Ryan McCleery will be the Quest Class for children 4 years old through 2nd grade. These children will work and play with Ryan as they gain a foundation of Bible Stories and religious concepts like love and faithfulness. They also will have a chance to begin to learn about the foundation of The Church, both in general and at Anderson First United Methodist Church. This class will meet in Room G122, the Fireplace Room from 6:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.

Class #2 – Room G119

“Bible Mechanics” with Miss Mary Margaret and Miss Brittni will be for 3rd through 6th graders. This class will increase our knowledge and skills with our Bible. This class will run from 6:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. BUT THERE’S A CATCH!!!!

While this class is necessary for all 3rd graders, 4th through 6th are encouraged to be involved. The 5th and 6th graders will meet with Miss Mary Margaret from 6:30 p.m. until 6:45 p.m.

Class #3 – Room G120

“Junior Chimes and Bells” with Miss Mary Falkenberry will meet at 6:45 p.m. and will continue until 7:30 p.m. This is for 5th and 6th graders. This group will work primarily with hand chimes and will prepare music to present in Sunday morning worship services periodically throughout the year.

At 7:30 p.m. any 3rd and 4th graders who wish to be a part of the Junior Hand Bell choir will meet with Miss Mary for 30 minutes of concentrated rehearsal

time. This group will also be preparing music to present as a part of our worship services.

Welcome to Kids Quest

Home Communion to be offered on World Communion Sunday - October 7, 2007

Pastors and volunteers are going to bring Holy Communion for anyone who is unable to attend worship on World Wide Communion Sunday,

October 7, 2007. Anyone wishing to receive home communion should contact the church office at 765-643-6977. Those who will be providing this

ministry will be meeting for training on Thursday, October 20, at the church 4:00 p.m. Any additional volunteers wishing to help should call the church

office at 765-643-6977

Marion District Hispanic Committee Volunteers and Financial Support Needed

The Marion District Hispanic Committee is a brand new committee. Now every district in the North Indiana Conference has a Hispanic Ministry Committee. The purpose is to reach out to our Hispanic community with Christ's love and

understanding. Our next project is to provide tutoring to the Harvest Camp children who will be here through the end of October. Please contact Dianne Motto if you can help out with this ministry. It will be such a blessing to you and to the children (who are mostly

bi-lingual). Call or email Dianne Motto at 642-6373 or Dimotto@aol.com

You may also visit the conference website:

<http://www.nicumc.org/cd/hispanic/>



Children of Migrant Workers were part of a Mini Vacation Bible School offered by the Marion District Hispanic Ministry Committee.

Twenty children of migrant workers at Harvest Camp between Alexandria and Elwood had a wonderful time at Mini Vacation bible School sponsored by the Marion District Hispanic Ministry Committee. The theme of the first day was Jesus is My Friend; the second day was Jesus Is My Saviour. Crafts, bible

stories, snacks, singing and recreation were provided - even a tub of water balloons. Lunch was served by Louise Melander and Evelyn and Chad Chadbourne from Anderson First. The second day all of the children wanted to commit their lives to Christ. We were transported by Chad and

Anderson First's bus to the new Splash Park in Marion. We can't thank Mt. Olive and their youth staff enough for all they provided including materials, videos, music, teachers and even youth who interacted with the kids. Pastor Doris Winford from New Hope UMC brought the Bible stories to Life! Even our

district superintendent, Rev. Craig Lasuer was there to provide support. His wife Joy was our craft expert. Muchas gracia to all!

Diane Motto



First United Methodist Church is a community of Christians committed to the kingdom of God, focused on Loving First and inviting all to join us in Caring, Sharing, and Connecting through joyful service in Jesus Christ.

Caring, Sharing, Connecting

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Anderson, Indiana 46016 Anderson, Indiana

Phone: 765-643-6977
Fax: 765-642-5232
E-mail: mail@andersonfirst.org

Visit us on the web at
www.andersonfirst.org

Coming Events

- | | | | |
|-----------|--|-----------|---|
| Sep 16 | Youth Kick-off | Nov 10 | All-Church Thanksgiving Dinner |
| Sep 21 | J.O.Y. Luncheon | Nov 10 | Women Alive in Faith Brunch |
| Sep 17 | Quest Studies begin this week | Nov 15 | Unbinding the Gospel: Real Life Evangelism Conference |
| Sep 29 | Women Alive in Faith Brunch | Nov 15 | Cluster Charge Conference at New Horizons |
| Oct 5 | Bon Amis - Boggstown | Nov 15 | Cluster Charge Conference at New Horizons |
| Oct 7 | World Wide Communion Sunday | Nov 28 | Bon Amis - Indianapolis Children's Museum |
| Oct 13 | MarriedLife Workshop - The Three "C's" of a Healthy Marriage | Jan 19 | Leadership Retreat |
| Oct 19 | J.O.Y. Luncheon | Feb 15-16 | United Methodist Spiritual Retreat |
| Oct 25-26 | Fall Break Vacation Bible School | Mar 2008 | UMW Jurisdiction Meeting |
| Oct 27 | Saturdays at the Park | | |
| Nov 5 | Church Council Meeting | | |
- For updated and current calendar information, visit us on the web at www.andersonfirst.org.