

*Celebrating 180 years*

# The Voice

Love First: Caring, Sharing, Connecting

## *Are You More Like Jesus Than You Were A Year Ago?*

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The day I am writing this article is my younger daughter's birthday. Wow, I can't believe that she is another year older! I don't get to celebrate it with her in person this year, because she is currently in Spain. She is living there for the next five months doing research for her doctoral degree. It's so hard for me to realize she is all grown up.

As Christians we also are to grow up into our faith—our Christian journey is to be one of growth and progress. Sometimes it's hard to tell if we are growing. Donald Whitney, a Christian author, states it this way: "Trying to determine the progress of a soul is like looking at the growth of an oak—you can't actually see it

growing at the moment, but you can compare it to where it was some time ago and see that there has indeed been growth."

He identifies ten questions that can help us measure our progress and growth. Use these questions to evaluate your spiritual progress and to then intentionally plan your continued growth in 2007.

1. Are you more thirsty for God than ever before?
2. Are you more and more loving?
3. Are you more sensitive to and aware of God than ever before?
4. Are you governed more and more by God's Word.
5. Are you concerned more

and more with the physical and spiritual needs of others?

6. Are you more and more concerned with the Church and the Kingdom of God?
7. Are the disciplines of the Christian life more and more important to you?
8. Are you more and more aware of your sin?
9. Are you more and more willing to forgive others?
10. Are you thinking more and more of heaven and being with the Lord Jesus?

(The source for the quote and the questions is an article by Donald Whitney in Discipleship Journal Issue #97 January/February 1997.)

### Look Inside:

- New JOY & Bon Amis Schedules are posted inside - Page 3
- Register for the February Women Alive in Faith Brunch - page 8

## *Mayor Visits "Hope for the City"*

First Church is pleased to welcome Mayor Kevin Smith to our 9:15 Worship service in the sanctuary. After receiving an invitation from Senior Pastor Derek Weber, Mayor Smith agreed to visit at the conclusion to our worship series titled "Hope for the City" and to share some of his hopes for

the future of Anderson. "Hope for the City" is an opportunity for us to remember our charge to be salt and light and to participate in building up our wider community. Be sure and join us for worship on Sunday, January 28th at 9:15 to meet our mayor.



Mayor Kevin S. Smith



*News.....information that causes you to change something*

## *Something for the Newsletter*

That's my mission this week. It may not seem like a lot, but it seems to have me stumped today. And yesterday. And the day before when it was really due. Sorry Mary Kay! But I'm trying to accomplish my mission. I'm supposed to write something for the newsletter. Folks have come to expect it, I've been told. Though I often wonder whether it would be missed if it wasn't there. I'll do it anyway. Partly because I enjoy it, most of the time. Partly because it is expected. Partly because it is another opportunity.

I don't know what you think about newsletters in general or this newsletter in specific. Sometimes we just add them to the pile of stuff for the recycle box. Sometimes we glance over them and dare something to catch our eye. Sometimes we set that aside to look at later, but then later doesn't always come and they get binned anyway.

I know that happens because I often hear from people who tell me they didn't know something was happening even though it was printed in the newsletter. And I also know it happens because it sometimes happens to me. Someone is trying to tell me something that is important to the teller, but I'm not always so sure of that importance.

Maybe it has something to do with the concept of "news" in our newsletter. We have become the world's best consumers of news. We have 24-hour news outlets, we have news at our fingertips any time we want to log on to find it, we

have news thrust at us, news that comes when we call, and news that is just there all the time as we drive around town. It becomes so all pervasive we no longer even notice it is there. News becomes a part of the scenery, the wallpaper of computer screens that is just there and not really noticed.

Someone once said, news is information that causes you to change something. Finding out snow had closed work for the day would be news. Reading snow had shut down the Denver airport was information since it didn't change anything, unless we were planning to fly to Denver that day! Reading in an email that a beloved family member had died suddenly would be news as your whole life would be turned around for a while. Reading another soldier had been killed in Iraq, or another civilian kidnapped or killed would be information since our lives would continue on as they were. Unless it caused you to launch a campaign to support military families or to protest the war or to ask your congressperson to vote differently, then it would news by that definition.

It may be what you read in this newsletter or in this section of the newsletter doesn't ask for any change at all. Though sometimes I ask you to do something, to attend something or to decide something, so there is potential change involved here. But often I am just rambling around, trying to do my job and provide you a moment's diversion in a busy day. Nothing wrong with that! A

little diversion once in a while is a good thing. I hope I sometimes bring a smile or make you pause or plant a seed through this space. However, as someone who deals with news, the good news, all the time I guess I also hope for more.

That's the opportunity I spoke of in the first paragraph – that opportunity to give some news. I don't know what might cause a change in your life. You may not know it either. So, I'll keep tossing out items, newsy bits of information and maybe stumble across something that takes root in your consciousness. Because of something you read you might move a little closer to the light that is Jesus the Christ. Because of something you read you might be more open to performing acts of service. Because of something you read you might have a deeper understanding of just how much you are loved.

It's possible. And it is also possible you might give someone else the news they need to make a significant change and move closer to Christ too. Unfortunately, you may never know what it was you said, or wrote, or did that was transforming news for someone else. Which is why we need to keep talking, or keep writing, or keep acting in the name of Christ. Because you never know.

Now, if I could just think of something for this newsletter...

Shalom,

...it is also possible you might give someone else the news they need to make a significant change and move closer to Christ too.

## *Bon Amis on the Road Again!*

The Bon Amis travel group has a busy year of traveling ahead of them.

In January the group is headed to the Hostess House in Marion. This gracious house was built during the early part of the 20th century and was the site of many parties, dinners, and afternoon teas. It was given by J. Wood Wilson to his bride as a wedding gift. Many furnishings for this beautiful home were purchased by the newlyweds on their travels to Italy, France, and the Orient. Today many cultural events such as art exhibits are held there, and many brides walk down its grand staircase to be married.

A costumed interpreter will share the story of the house, and the group will also enjoy a

tour and lunch. The cost of the trip is \$7.50 for the tour and the bus fee. Each person will order and pay for his/her lunch individually. We will leave the church at 10:30am.

In February Bon Amis will make a short jaunt over to Yorktown to "Tea in the Country" to have lunch. This tea room has just expanded, and a gift shop is now part of the facility. The owner will share her vast knowledge of the history and uses of tea. Guys, the food is great, so sign up!

Options for lunch will be the petite tea or high tea. Petite tea includes a coup of soup, 3 or 4 tea sandwiches, fresh fruit, one dessert, and one scone. This is all served with your choice of tea for approximately \$11.

High tea includes 5 or 6 assorted tea sandwiches, fresh fruit, 2 desserts, and a scone along with your choice of tea. The cost is approximately \$13. (It's a lot of food!)

The cost for the day will be \$1 for the cost of the bus and then the cost of lunch (each person will order and pay individually). We will leave the church at 11:30.

The schedule for the rest of the year is:

March—tour and lunch at the United Methodist Wesley Home in Frankfort

April—La Comedia dinner and show—"Oklahoma"

May—to be determined

June—tour and lunch at Fair Oaks dairy (This is a repeat from a couple of years ago.)

July—Symphony on the Prairie at Conner Prairie

August—lunch and show with Guy and Rollna from Lawrence Welk show at Bear Creek Farms

September—lunch and tour of Warsaw Biblical Gardens

October—lunch and show at Boggstown Cabaret

November—tour of Indianapolis Children's Museum and lunch at Hollyhock Hills restaurant

December—Yuletide Celebration at Hilbert Theater

Further details about all of these will be announced in each issue of the Voice. Further information is also available on the church website: [andersonfirst.org](http://andersonfirst.org)

## *J.O.Y. (Just Older Youth)*

The J.O.Y. (Just Older Youth) group meets the third Friday of each month at 11:30am for lunch, fellowship, and a program. The schedule for the first quarter is:

January 19—The speaker is our own senior pastor, Rev. Derek Weber. He will share highlights and experiences and perspectives from his journeys during his sabbatical last summer.

February 16—Linda Teeple, the columnist who writes "The Nature of Grace" in the Sun-

day paper, will be our speaker. She will share selections from her recently published book about her encounters with the grace of God through nature and relationships. Copies of her book will be available for purchase, and \$2 of each sale will go to mission outreach for our church.

March 19—The speaker will be our own historian, Dick Bowman. As part of the 180th anniversary of First United Methodist Church, he will entertain us with stories and interesting details and facts about

our own church history.

A donation of \$6 is requested for the cost of the lunch. Sign up for each monthly program in the church office. If you have ideas for upcoming programs, please contact Pastor Donna.



*Rejoicing!*

## *Musings from the office at the end of the hall*

I feel sorry for people whose birthday isn't in January! January can be a dark, snowy, empty, let down kind of month but not for people who celebrate in January! Isn't that right, Heather and Carlene!

The staff was guests at an Epiphany Party last week, which is sort of like a birthday party. Even though the weather was very dark and dreary, we came with joy in our hearts and smiles on our faces and experienced once again the peace God gives when we celebrate together. Don't you agree, Karen?

The Upward Cheerleaders have begun practicing in earnest in order to lead the rest of us into a happy place...sometimes in spite of ourselves. They pray together, jump together, shout together and make us celebrate teamwork at its God-given finest! Can I get an AMEN on that, Jack?

Oh! There are so many different ways to rejoice with the knowledge of how much God has given us! It might be another year (by the way, I'm not celebrating my birth year anymore...just the day!) or it might be a good game (The Upward Basketball starts its

season January 27. Make a point to go to one of the games!) or it could be good friends around your table (Thank you, Pastor Derek and La Donna).

I still feel sorry for you people who don't commemorate your birthday in January, but I know you'll be able to find plenty of other reasons to share the light of Jesus Christ as you party down this bright, white, filled-to-the brim start of the new year month!

Faithfully yours,  
Miss Mary Margaret



## *The Upward Cheerleaders are in the building!*

Each Tuesday evening at 5:30 p.m., beginning January 9, the children's classrooms are the practice rooms for this year's Upward Cheerleading Squads. The girls are divided by age

and are coached this year by Hannah Steeval and her team of Anderson University cheerleaders, students and parents. They respectfully request your prayers for them,

for the safety of the young girls cheering and for Jesus Christ to be made more real in the lives of the young people participating in Upward Cheerleading this season.

## *Attention! Attention! Attention! February Kids Night Out Rescheduled!*

The February 16th KNO has been RESCHEDULED to February 9th. The times remain the same.

This change was due in part so workers could attend the Spiritual Retreat in Fort Wayne

where our own Pastor Derek is leading the retreat entitled "Where the Heart Is".

Note:

KNO in February will be on the 2nd Friday (February 9)!

## Quest for Kids

The following classes will begin on January 17th and will run through February 14th 2006.

### Class #1 – “Bible Business”

This class is on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.

“Bible Business” will be for children 4 years old until they enter the 3rd grade. These children will be led by Ryan McCleary. They will be looking at different big ideas from the Bible. Games, puzzles, pictures, stories and even

growing plants are involved!

### Class #2 – Bible Mechanics

This class is on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. “Bible Mechanics” are students in the 3rd, 4th and 5th grade who are eager to learn more about how to find and understand their Bibles. This class is taught by Miss Mary Margaret and Miss Brittini Thompson. We find many different ways to study from games to readings to puzzles and recitations! You are welcome to join us any Wednes-

day!

Junior Hand Bells will begin rehearsals on JANUARY 24, 2007. (Make note: This is a week later than the other children’s Quest classes!)

### Junior Hand Bells

This group of 4th and 5th graders will meet from 6:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. They are led by Mrs. Mary Falkenberry and practice music they will be playing during worship services throughout the year.



## Dave Ramsey’s Financial Peace University



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 Gary and Sue Robinson who’ve completed the course and have successfully put into practice what they learned.

For more information on this or future opportunities contact the church office at 643-6977

**Dave Ramsey’s Financial Peace University**  
Tuesday Nights:  
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.  
January 23 to April 17, 2007  
Room # 113  
(East/West Parlor)

## “Joyful Noise!”

Joyful Noise will be led by Jim Strock. Do you love to praise God in song? If so, please join us. In this group, our quest will be to share songs with

guitar, voice, and maybe a few other instruments of praise. We have much to offer one another, particularly if you are a beginning or accom-

plished guitarist. If you just love to sing and learn new songs, we’d love to have you with us as well .

Ps 33:3

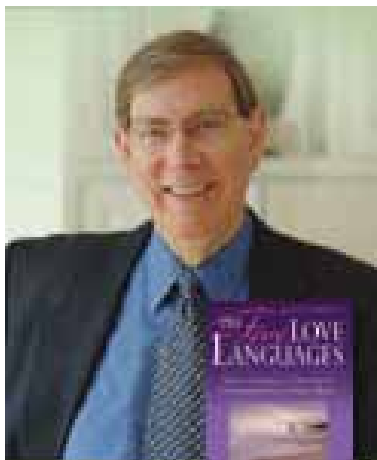
(Praise Him with strings and loud shouts!)  
Wednesday Nights: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.  
Jan. 17 to Feb. 14, 2007  
Room # 202

## “Love Letters to the Church”

“Love Letters to the Church”  
Wednesday Nights:  
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.  
Jan. 17 to Feb. 14, 2007  
Room: Fellowship Hall

Pastor Derek’s Bible Study class will study the “pastoral epistles.” He plans on comparing and contrasting his travels and what he learned with

what the early New Testament writers shared.



Dr. Gary Chapman  
Author of  
The Five Love Languages

## *A Growing Marriage Conference*

*with Dr. Gary Chapman, author of The Five Love Languages*

***Dr. Gary Chapman, author of The Five Love Languages will be the featured speaker at a one day even sponsored by Moody Bible Institute.***

A day of laughter and learning with your loved one!

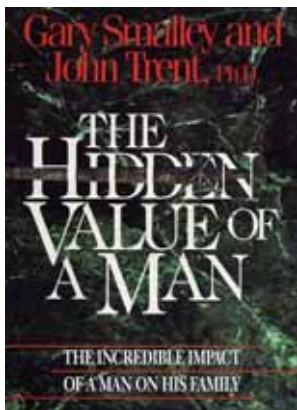
Whether you're getting married in 3 months or have been married 30 years, you'll get solutions you can use. With

biblical advice and a healthy dose of laughter, Dr. Chapman will give you valuable tips to break unhealthy patterns and choose steps to develop a God-honoring, happy marriage.

This event will be held at Sherwood Oaks Christian Church in Bloomington Indiana on February 3, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

There is a cost of \$50 per person but if we get a group of at least 12 to go...the price drops to \$35 per person!

If you're interested in this activity, call Miss Mary Margaret right away so we can get the registrations in and get some practical advice to help us real people maintain real love in the real world!



Book Study  
Starting February 4, 2007  
In New Men's Sunday School  
Class

## *New Men's Sunday School Class*

The goal is to provide fellowship and growth in an upbeat no pressure environment. We will be starting by reviewing the book "The Hidden Value of a Man" starting February 4, 2007. Most

chapters are only 10 pages and are a fairly easy read. The class won't be limited to that, so if there are materials or activities you would like to participate in, come and share your ideas.

The class will be held in room 220 which is the furthest North class room on the second floor. Led by Dave Peter

## *Bible Study to help us prepare ourselves for Easter*

Pastor Dan Motto will be the Bible Study Leader for the Tuesday Quest Bible Lenten Bible Study. Yes, I know we've barely made it through Christmastide and Epiphany and already we're working on LENT!!!! We all know how busy our schedules get so I wanted to make sure you plugged in this extra Lenten study opportunity.

The class, which is a Bible Study designed to help us prepare ourselves for Easter, will be held from 6:30 until 7:30 each Tuesday evening from February 27 through March 3.

If you would like to attend, and if you would need childcare for that hour each week, please contact Miss Mary Margaret as soon as possible!

**Remember:  
Lenten Bible Study  
Tuesday Nights  
6:30 -7:30 p.m.  
February 27 to March 3!**



## *We're Having a Birthday Party!*

**.....and you're invited!**  
**God's coming too!**

At 5:00 p.m. on Saturday  
 January 27, 2007 in the lodge at  
 Davis Park.

We're going to have a worship

service to celebrate the joy of  
 birthdays and our gratefulness  
 to God for new beginnings!  
 Included in the worship service  
 will be a time for games and  
 breaking bread and merriment  
 with others who have  
 birthdays!

We're having a party! A  
 Birthday Party for all those  
 friends of Anderson First  
 United Methodist Church who  
 have had a birthday within the  
 last 12 months!

This party is just for YOU!!!



## *Party Supplies Needed for Saturday Service*

Hi Everyone!

I am working with a team of  
 people to make our January  
 Saturday at the Park service a  
 special one. One of the  
 activities we've got planned  
 involves food. And I need you  
 to help supply the basics so we  
 can make this special food. If  
 you can donate any of the  
 following items, please let Miss

Mary Margaret know by next  
 Monday (the 22nd).

7 5-lb packages of flour  
 1 box of baking soda

1 can of baking powder  
 1 1-lb box of salt (real)

7 packages of brown sugar  
 7 5-lb packages of granulated  
 sugar

10 packages of chocolate-  
 covered toffee chips

10 packages mini candy-coated  
 chocolate pieces

10 packages peanut butter  
 chips

10 packages milk chocolate  
 chips

5 lbs salted peanuts, chopped

50 1-qt containers with lids  
 (glass jars, plastic containers,  
 sealable bags)

NOTE: You DO NOT have  
 to donate the total amount of  
 any of the above items! You  
 could donate 1 package of  
 milk chocolate chips or 5  
 plastic 1 quart containers....!

Thanks,

And Happy Birthday to you!

Miss Mary Margaret

## *Couples Ministry*

The couples group that meets  
 on the first Tuesday of each  
 month will be attending the  
 Financial Peace University  
 Course being offered on Tues-  
 days at 6:30 p.m. starting Janu-  
 ary 23, 2007. We will begin  
 meeting at Davis Park on May  
 1, 2007.

## *Women to Women Sunday School*

The Women to Women  
 Sunday School class will join  
 Pathfinders and begin meeting  
 with the Pathfinders Sunday  
 School from this point  
 forward. The Pathfinders class  
 meets in room 113 (East/West  
 Parlor) which is across the hall  
 from our normally meeting  
 room.

## *Offering Envelopes*

If you would like offering envelopes and haven't  
 picked yours up yet, they are in the hallway  
 opposite the office. If your box of envelopes  
 was missing the "initial offering" yellow envelope,  
 they are also located on the table in the hallway  
 and are arranged in numeric order. For more  
 information or if you have questions, please  
 contact Karen Ambler at 643-6977.

### United Methodist Women

#### Bible Study Circle

February 1, 2007 at 9:30 a.m.

Hostess: Mae Ellen Gale, 3536 Woodglen Way.

Co-Hostess: Bev Briles

Program: Louise Melander

Lesson 2: How to Really Love Your Enemies

Matthew 5:38-48

*Meetings are scheduled the first Thursday of each month.*

#### Action Circle

February 14, 2007 at 9:30 .m.

Conference Room #125

*Meetings are scheduled the second Wednesday of each month.*

#### Lydia Circle

February 13, 2007 at 7 p.m.

North/South Parlor

Hostess: Cheryl Eiler

Program: Shine, Shine, Shine

*Meetings are scheduled the second Tuesday of each month.*

#### Friendship Circle

February 1, 2007 at 9:30 a.m.

Hostess: Joyce Mathys - 24 N. Park Drive

Devotions: Mary Carter

Program: Bill Mathys

#### Book Club

Morning Book Club meets the second Tuesday of every month in the church library from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday, February 6, 2007 we will discuss the book "Circle of Grace" by Penelope Stokes

## Winter Jam 2007

### Are you ready for this!!

*Six great artists, lots of music, comedy and more.*

Don't miss this awesome evening. NewSong will host Winter Jam 2007 with special guests, Steven Curtis Chapman, Jeremy Camp, Hawk Nelson, Sanctus Real, Britt

Nicole and Tony Nolan. Tony is tour pastor to Mega-band Casting Crowns. Tony will share a message relevant to you. But it doesn't end there - You'll hear the comedy of John Morgan as "The President" and be entertained by Andre the Hollywood Cowboy with his special "fire breathing act."



Reserve your seat on the bus by sending an email to Steve@andersonfirst.org or by calling the church office at 643-6977.

## Women Alive in Faith Brunch The Stories Behind The Stitches

February 24, 2007

### "Memories of 1984"

Presented by special guest: Irene Campbell

Irene has made a beautiful quilt that she will be showing and explaining to us. It has many scriptures and also symbols we use here at First United Methodist Church and churches world wide. Come listen to the story behind the stitches.

All women are invited to come and share a beautiful morning together as we gather together to chat, sing, and laugh with one another. We will have a light brunch and a presentation from our special guest speaker.

Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. You are encouraged to pre-register by sending a note to Jill@andersonfirst.org, call 643-6977, or mail to 1215 Jackson St. Anderson, IN 46016.

Cost: \$6 per person and can be paid in advance or at the door.

All programs are held at Davis Park which is located at 4507 Nichol Avenue (on the corner of S.R. 32 & Layton Road) in west Anderson (Edgewood, IN)

Bring a friend with you and come enjoy a wonderful morning together with an old friend and perhaps make a new friend or two.



**Women Alive in Faith  
Registration Form**

*Registration Deadline: February 19, 2007 for Brunch*

Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Childcare (How Many): \_\_\_\_\_ Ages: \_\_\_\_\_

## *When the Old Becomes the New*

I was a Methodist for 20 years of my life, then attended an AOG for 30 years, and now am a Methodist again. In broad brush terms, I went from lots of structure, to little structure, back to structure again. What gives? Is it about home? Is it about tradition?

My current residence is the longest I have lived anywhere (currently going on 16 yrs) . Growing up I moved 10 times, and after I started college I moved 7 times. Peg was born and raised in the same home, and moved 4 times since graduating from college, all work related moves. In looking at the juxtaposition of our lives, we have come to understand the value of stability, especially in children's lives. As much as possible, we want our grandchildren to know we live at 3411 E 8th St, and to feel like it is a stable and safe place. Moving is a last choice for us, we feel our home is a ministry to our

grandchildren.

Stability definitely has a part in our lives. We all need a way to find our bearings, to get a fix on where we are. There are those that don't want to know where they are, because that would mean they might have to change course, they might have to take responsibility for where they are. Then there are those who don't want to leave their known position. Fear or irresponsibility are the same culprits. Needless to say that home or tradition has a part, but it is not the only thing.

I find it odd, even sad sometimes, that those who get their bearings using time and a sextant, throw stones at those who use GPS (Global Positioning System) . And those who use GPS think sextants are useless (and may not know what they are). Some of us get our bearings with quiet time, with liturgy that reminds us of who we are and

what our purpose is, with song and hymn that inspires us. Some of us get our bearings with lots of interaction. I believe we need to feel like we can trust our bearings, that we can trust the instruments that tell us where we are. Both sextant and GPS work, both have their pros and cons, and both can be misapplied. Getting a proper fix using either instrument requires understanding how they work, not just pushing a button or going through the motions. Whether we get our bearings through traditional or other forms of worship, trust and understanding are key elements.

I believe there is great value in understanding our traditions. Tradition is one of the sides of the Quadrilateral or one of the legs of the "3-legged stool". Pastor Derek and our staff do a good job of bringing this to light. I had an opportunity to delve into some of the liturgies

found in the Methodist Book of Discipline and found the to be quite moving. For example, the great thanksgiving has tremendous meaning if we would take the time to slowly meditate on what it says. It may be one of those meaningful things we take for granted, many traditions seem to end up that way. The Lord's prayer is another one.

I would ask that in the next worship service you attend, if there are parts that seem wrote, like you are just going through the motions, ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you the meaning of the tradition. Ask that He would make Old things New.

## *NEW Service: Connections Worship begins January 21*

Many of you will remember the Connections worship service we offered in the North-South parlor last summer. It's coming back! The

Connections service is an intimate prayer and praise and preaching service designed to get us back in touch with God and with each other. We will

be starting it up again on Sunday, January 21, at 11:30 am (note the time change) in the North-South parlor. The service will include the opportunity to share joys and concerns, to sing favorite hymns, and to hear a variety of pastors preach the Word. If a later time for more traditional

worship opportunity works best for you, come join us! Contact Pastor Donna with any questions.

### **Worship Opportunities**

#### **Sundays**

9:15am—Traditional Worship

10:30am—Sunday School for Everyone

11:30am - *ensemble*

**Modern Worship**

11:30 a.m. - Connections - Prayer & Praise Worship

#### **Saturdays**

February 24—Saturdays at the Park—5 pm

## HUNGER: DO YOU KNOW THE FACTS?

It is estimated that one billion people in the world suffer from hunger and malnutrition. That's roughly 100 times as many as those who actually die from these causes each year.

About 24,000 people die every day from hunger or hunger-related causes. This is down from 35,000 ten years ago, and 41,000 twenty years ago. Three-fourths of the deaths are children under the age of five.

Famine and wars cause about 10% of hunger deaths, although these tend to be the

ones you hear about most of ten. The majority of hunger



deaths are caused by chronic malnutrition. Families facing extreme poverty are simply unable to get enough food to eat.

In 1999, a year marked by good economic news, 31 mil-

lion Americans were food insecure, meaning they were either hungry or unsure of where their next meal would come from. Of these Americans, 12 million were children. The

Hunger Site ([www.thehungersite.com](http://www.thehungersite.com)) began on June 1, 1999. Your click on the "Give Free Food" button funds food for the hungry, paid for by site sponsors whose ads appear after you click and provided to people in need around the world through the efforts of Mercy Corps and America's Second Harvest.

Please remember to click every day to give help and hope to those with nowhere to turn. Every click counts in the life of a hungry person.

## Memorial Gifts

### OCTOBER, 2006

#### Eddie Rockwell

Joyce and Richard Speelman  
Betty and Jim Wilkinson  
Joellen and Wendell Hilligoss  
Anita and Augie Seulean  
Carla Haynes  
Robert E. Foltz and Family  
Christy and Raymond Haynes  
Mr. and Mrs. J. Phil McDonald  
Yolanda and Richard Collins  
Martha Williams

#### Eddie Rockwell to Bus Fund

Virginia Musser  
Joyce and Bill Mathys

#### Minnie Draper to Baptismal Font

Willodean Dye  
Marcile and George McGlennen  
Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Scott,  
Deb and Pam  
Betty Hart

#### Minnie Draper to Community Dinners

Shirley and Max Culler

#### Freda Morrison to Bus Fund

Virginia Musser

#### John Hempleman to Steeple Project

Annabelle Shanklin

#### John Hempleman to Bus Fund

Virginia Musser

#### Virginia Wagner to Margaret

Ann Hudson Library  
Beaux Arts Club

#### Lillian Hiatt to Bus Fund

Joyce and Bill Mathys

### NOVEMBER, 2006

#### John Hempleman

Hazel and Charles Dickmann

#### Lillian Hiatt

Kenneth Hiatt  
Sandy and Dean Manship  
Renee and Keith Manship  
Brydgette and David Manship  
Karen and Steve Weflen  
Carolyn H. Troesken  
Terri and Randy Lee  
Pam and Dennis Butler  
Beth and Chet Brandenburg  
Helen Hiatt

#### Lillian Hiatt to Radio

Ruby Geeting

#### David Hilbert to Organ Fund

Paul Hilbert

#### Christopher S. Wyman to Bus Fund

Virginia Musser  
Joyce and Bill Mathys

#### Mary Jane Underkofler to Bus Fund

Virginia Musser

#### Jane Fribley

Hazel and Charles Dickmann

#### William Kahle to Bus Fund

Joyce and Bill Mathys

#### William Kahle to Funeral Dinners

Marsha and Craig Dunkin

## “I Saw the Lord” - Check it Out!

If the only book you read during 2007 is THE HOLY BIBLE, you will be making a great choice. However, after reading this holy book you decide to read others, please check out Anne Graham Lotz's book "I Saw the Lord" and devour what she has written.

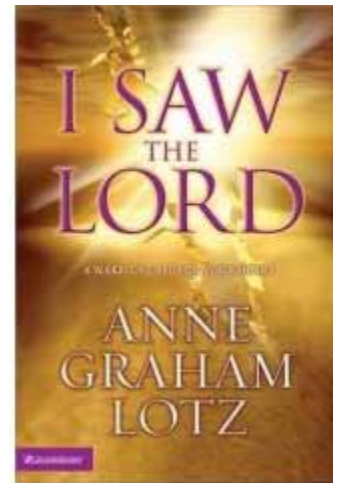
The greatest chapter in the book is the final one. In this

chapter the writer gives instructions for daily praying. These ideas will make your prayer life come alive and bless you in so many ways.

Using the call of Isaiah for the framework for this book, Lotz gives us an exciting wake-up call to our own ministry. If you are aware of God's call on your life, you will be directed to

some fantastic response activities. If you want your life to take on eternal meanings, read "I Saw The Lord." The book is in section 243.5 in our library.

Check it out!



## Hospice Volunteer Training

Heartland Hospice Services is holding a free comprehensive volunteer training session in Anderson, IN.

Comprehensive training is required for all volunteers who wish to work directly with our patients. Our volunteer training course provides new volunteers with information regarding the hospice philosophy of care, volunteer roles, compassionate

communication skills, psychosocial and spiritual aspects of death and the interdisciplinary team approach to hospice care. We introduce prospective volunteers to our many programs with a focus on finding the best place of service for them and their gifts.

**Volunteer applicants should be able to attend all 4**

**training dates.**

**Class is 6:00-8:00 p.m.**

Session 1-Tuesday, February 6

Session 2-Thursday, February 8

Session 3-Tuesday, February 20

Session 4-Thursday, February 22

**Location:**

CrownPointe Senior Living 2727 CrownPointe Circle Anderson, Indiana



### Hospice Volunteer Training

For more information or to register contact Volunteer Coordinator, Dana Criss at 1-800-558-6928 or email

4620officestaff@hcr-manorcare.com

## Deep Water new sermon series

When calling the disciples, Jesus first invited them out into the deep water (Luke 5:4). Faith needs to go beyond the surface to have any effect on our lives. It has to be deep enough to sustain us, relevant enough to engage us, and challenging enough to inspire us.

Come and explore the "deep waters" of our life in Christ.

February 4, 2007

### *Of First Importance*

St. Paul claimed to be unfit for the task of serving the Lord and building the church. Yet, because of something called *grace* he became something more, something useful for God. Where do we start to make something of our lives? Where do we start to be useful?

February 11, 2007

### *If (Youth Sunday)*

OK, there is a lot of disagreement out there. But in the end, what is the essential truth upon which our faith is built? What is it that we can't do without – if it wasn't there, we wouldn't be here, we would just be fooling ourselves? What's the bottom line of this deal?

February 18, 2007

### *With Unveiled Faces*

So, our usual question in these situations is "What's in it for us?" If we accept the fundamental truths of the Christian faith, what happens to us? How are our lives changed, improved, renewed because of what we believe?



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Fax: 765-642-5232  
E-mail: [mail@andersonfirst.org](mailto:mail@andersonfirst.org)

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## We're on the Web!

[www.andersonfirst.org](http://www.andersonfirst.org)

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## Coming Events

Jan 19	JOY Lunch	Feb 9	Kid's Night Out	Mar 16	JOY Lunch
Jan 23	Financial Peace	Feb 16	JOY Lunch	Mar 16	Kid's Night Out
Jan 27	Saturdays at the Park Worship	Feb 16 -17	Women's Spiritual Retreat	Mar 24	Saturdays at the Park Worship
Jan 28	Mayor Visits First Church	Feb 18	Youth Sunday		
Feb 2	Winter Jam	Feb 21	Ash Wednesday		
Feb 3	Growing Marriage Conf.	Feb 24	Women Alive in Faith		
Feb 8	Bon Amis to Yorktown	Feb 24	Saturdays at the Park Worship		

## V.I.T.A. Tax Center to open January 29

The Alberta Bowman VITA Tax Center will open Monday, January 29 assisting local taxpayers with filling their tax returns.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance is available for low

income and the elderly at the First United Methodist Church, 1215 Jackson St.

Appointments should be made for Mondays and Tuesday, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. by calling the church office at

643-6977 during regular office hours (9:00 a.m. to 4 p.m.) Monday through Friday. Assistance will be available each Monday and Tuesday until April 10.