Wabash Church of the Brethren

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Here is what I'm thinking...

Summers can be tough on small churches that get even smaller while members disperse for vacations and celebratory gatherings. Also, we don't have air conditioning, and the sanctuary can get unbearably hot and so we move worship to the more comfortable fellowship hall. Our routine is interrupted and it can feel strange. But summer is not without its advantages. Because we cannot do business as usual, we have the opportunity to get out of our rut and let the Spirit move and shake things up a bit.

I have been reading a book called PREACHING AT THE CROSSROADS; How the World and Our Preaching Is Changing, by David Lose, noted preacher, preaching professor, author and Director of the Center for Biblical Preaching. In his book, Lose makes a compelling case for why preaching, even good preaching, needs to change to meet the needs of people in what he is calling the "Age of Digital Pluralism". He says, "I have identified the problem facing Christians in the 21st century as an overwhelming plethora of sources from which to construct religious identity, none of which hold a privileged place...Christian congregations will therefore thrive in this environment only to the degree that they offer the biblical narrative to their members as a creative and compelling resource with which to create an identity that brings greater understanding of both self and world and invites them to see God in their everyday lives. For this to happen, Christian's churches cannot be content, as I have suggested, simply to promote biblical literacy (knowing the content of the Bible), but also and more importantly, biblical fluency." (the ability to connect faith to their daily lives and to share it with others) Lose has found that one way to address this problem is "*Participatory Preaching*." He suggests that preachers invite people to participate in the sermon before, after, and during the presentation of the biblical material.

So here's what I'm thinking...why not use the already disrupted time of the summer to our advantage—to try something a little different? Our congregation has always been willing to approach worship in unusual and creative ways and seems to have fun doing it. Though I am uncertain exactly how this will look, I do know that it means that I will be asking all of us to be more interactive with the scripture and with each other. It may seem awkward at first, and I am expecting that there will be some confusion and missteps. But as we all participate in creating the message together, maybe we will find the places where our daily lives and the scripture connect in new and more meaningful ways.

Let's open the windows of worship and invite the Spirit to move and shake things up a bit.



May2015

Blessings,

Worship Schedule

Summer Series on the Ten Commandments

June 7	God's Top Ten
Scripture	Exodus 20:1-17, Deuteronomy 5:6-21
Message	Pastor Kay Gaier

The Ten Commandments have gotten a lot of press over the years as a religious symbol of dedication to the law of God. The problem is that people often pay more attention to the symbol than to what the commandments actually say and how we might live differently if we really followed them.

June 141. God comes first—no exceptions!ScriptureExodus 20:2-3, Deuteronomy 5:6-7, Matthew 22:37-38MessagePastor Kay Gaier

Few of us would argue with this at face value, but it gets a little murky when we are honest about our real priorities in life—and this is just the first one. We are hardly out of the gate and we find ourselves tripping all over ourselves with our fingers crossed behind our backs. Who or what do we really love?

June 21	5. Heroes and Humans
Scripture	Exodus 20:12
Message	Michelle Roudebush

This is the day that we set aside to honor our fathers. But how can we still do that if maybe our father is someone who, you know, isn't someone we think we can honor and respect?

June 28	2. No Graven Images!
Scripture	Exodus 20:4-6, Deuteronomy 5:8-10
Message	Pastor Kay Gaier

We are talking about idols here and so many of us may feel we are off the hook on this one. The idea is that God cannot be contained in one image or manipulated by hands, or one kind of form or face and limited to one place for the purpose of worship. How and in what do we try to contain God?

Prayers for

Also remember Sharon Larrowe and her family,

Wayne Barkey as he deals with ongoing pain.

Judy and Joe Rodecap Judy notified us that Joe's Grandmother has died. In addition, Joe's father has cancer and is taking chemotherapy.

In response to the request for prayer and fasting from the Nigerian church, each congregation is being assigned the name of the abducted school girls. Wabash COB is being asked to pray for: **Solomi Titus**.

Linda Garber's family as they adjust to life without her. If you wish to send a card, it can be sent to: Bickey Garber 11593 North 300 East, N. Manchester, IN 46962. If you wish to make a memorial, they can be sent to ARC of Wabash or Hickory Creek of Huntington.

We are all deeply saddened and shocked at losing Marcy on May 26. She was a longtime member of our church and dedicated so much of her life to not only the church but also to care for those in her family and community. Please keep **Jim Finnell and family** in your prayers as they adjust to her not being present in the same way.

Special Offering

May 31—Nepal

Earthquake Victims Rebuilding Lives

In response to the recent earthquake in Nepal, the head offices in Elgin, IL have committed to raising one million dollars to support relief efforts.

June 21—Growing Grounds

Our Vision

Out of our faith in the transformative power of living God's love, we believe there is potential for healing and growth where opportunity comes together with respect and compassion.

The guiding vision for Growing Grounds is to provide a nurturing space where we bring together justice, respect, compassion, and opportunity, so that hope can take root and blossom into a new life.



Our Mission

The purpose of this initiative is to provide a starting place for women whose choices have become limited by the impact of past incarceration, but who are motivated to improve their quality of life and expand their options through education, training, building supportive relationships within the community of Wabash.

Our Program

Determine needs and barriers to success by listening to the concerns and problems of women while in jail and their experiences as they transition back into the community.

Collect information from the jail population that will guide future program development and provide statistical justification for funding requests.

Provide the option of connecting with a trained volunteer Mentor to offer support during incarceration and continuing through a period of transition back into the community. Offer classes on Wednesday afternoons and Thursday evenings at the jail for a variety of life skills and personal development.

Opportunity on Tuesday evenings for the women to share with Kay Gaier, Pastor of the Wabash Church of the Brethren, about whatever is concerning them.

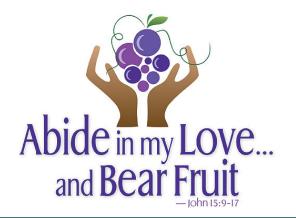
News from the Pew



We have begun adding the audio of the Sunday morning worship service to the church website: <u>www.wabashcob.org</u>. It isn't added until Michelle works on Wednesday afternoons, but we hope you check this out when you are unable to join us on Sunday morning.

Annual Conference 2015–Tampa FL

What does a visit to the Florida Aquarium and Museum of Science and Industry, singing and crafts, a talk/sing-back with Ken Medema, a trip to the Glazer Children's Museum, all have in common? These are just some of the activities offered for children and youth at Annual Conference. Many will also learn about Church of the Brethren Youth events, Bethany Theological Seminary, On Earth Peace, Youth Peace Travel Team, Brethren Volunteer Service, Brethren Benefit Trust, New Community Project, and much more! For detailed information about all Age Group Activites visit http://www.brethren.org/ac/2015/agegroup-activities.html



Congratulations Dave Hahn!

Best wishes to Dave as he retires from Blair Pointe Elementary.

"Hahn is stilled inspired as he starts his 27th year at Blair Pointe — the only principal the school has had since it opened. When he strides the halls, there's an aura of respect accorded to him from students and staff. Before going to Blair Pointe he taught sixth grade for 10 years in Wabash, where he still lives." Taken from the Kokomo Tribune, Aug 21, 2013, Ray Moscowitz.

Senior Living Community

Second Annual Summer Festival

- Saturday June 20 from 11 am—8 pm
- Children's Carnival
- The Shane Brothers Quartet at 1:30pm
- Singer Hubie Ashcraft at 6pm
- Several food trucks will be there
- Admission is free

Our Community At Large

Wanchester University

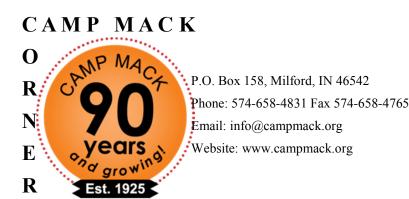
June 5 2:00pm—June 7 1:00pm Scrapbooking Retreat June 8—12 9am –12pm Chess Success, for Grades 3– 6 June 10—7:00pm MU Alumni at Wagon Wheel Center for the Arts, Warsaw—Disney's Little Mermaid June 12—9:00am—7:15pm 26th Annual Friends of Manchester Golf Outing, Bridgewater East Golf Club, Auburn, IN June 22—26 8:00am —11:00am Grades 1—3 1:00pm—4:00pm Grades 4—6 Lego Camp June 29—July 1 10:00am—5:00pm Ages 10—14 Culinary 101

June 29—July 1 1:00pm—4:00pm Grades 4—6 Science Camp

In Our community

- Mihayla Haughn graduates from high school in Ohio and is the granddaughter of Bonnie and Jim Haughn.
- Kasey Brubaker graduates from Manchester University and is the granddaughter of Nancy and Larry Jamerson.
- Ian French and Aaron Hartley graduate from Wabash High School and are grandsons of Nancy and Larry.
- Logan Schneider graduates from Ball State and is the grandson of Norma and George Schneider.
- Samantha Pascoe, a friend of Cassi Mullett who has attended our church worship and events on occasion, graduates from Southwood High School.

Congratulations!



This year's theme: Power Up! Living in the Spirit "But you will be my witnesses...to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8

LOOKING AHEAD:

South Central IN Women's Camp
Family Fishing Day
Samplers Camp
Archery Camp
Eco Adventure Camp
Grand Camp
Dune Challenge Camp
Seekers Camp
Survivor Camp
Pedal & Paddle Camp
Youth Camp

PRAYER REQUESTS: Please pray for: Children making summer camp decisions, Camp staff, and program and support volunteers. Growing From the Ashes Capital Campaign

A Quiet Place Quote: "The battle is lost or won in the secret places of the will before God, never ^Pirst in the external world." – Catherine Martin.

Additional Information: You can get information by going to <u>www.campmack.org</u>, <u>www.facebook.com/campmack</u>, call 574-658-4831, or contact Carol or Dennis Horn. If you are writing to someone at camp or sending donations, the legal address of the camp is PO Box 158, Milford, IN 46542.

This Month's Campers

Please keep them in your prayers these weeks, that they are able to enjoy themselves, meet friends, and develop a deeper relationship with Christ.

Ben Roudebush	Archery	June 14 - 18
Keegan Laird	Archery	June 14 - 18
Ava Bishir	Beginners	June 14 - 16
Chloe Bishir	Samplers	June 11 - 13
Ava, Carol & Dennis Horn	Grand Camp	June 18 - 20
CJ Cervera	Youth	June 28-July 4
Mikayla Genovese	Youth	June 28-July 4
Beatrice Snavely	Youth	June 28-July 4

Campers like mail when at Camp Mack. Mail should be addressed like the following sample: Chris Camper, <u>Seeker Camp</u> PO Box 158 Milford, IN 46542

June 2015

June 20	15				26 27 28 29 30 1 2	28 29 30 1 2 3
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Sun 31	Mon 1	Tue 2	Wed 3	Thu 4	31 1 2 3 4 5 6	Sat 6
b. Nancy	b. Ross Haughn 7 PM GG Narcotics 6:30 PM Executive mtg. 4 PM South Central IN Women's Camp					
amerson b. Gene DeLauter	🗮 b. Joshua Mullett	Anonymous			🗮 b. Laurale Kreps	🗯 b. Maya Benysh
b. Jane Unger					2 PM Scrapbooking Retr	eat >
						a. Dennis and Carol Horn
,						b. Ava Bishir
						9 AM Family Fishing Day
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
< 2 PM Scrapbooking Retreat	Soup Kitchen		a. Jim and Marcy Finnell		🗯 b. Angel Miller	9 AM Bike Trek
letreat	9 AM Chess Camp		rumen			
		7 PM GG Narcotics Anonymous	6:30 PM Commission mtgs.	9 AM Homes For All Gathering		
			7:30 PM Board mtg.			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
🗮 b. Trudy Butler		7 PM GG Narcotics	 a. Wayne and Linda Barkey 	Reminders about newsletter	🗯 b. Maxine Pickle	🗯 b. Leslie Pettit
a. Jim and Bonnie Haughn		Anonymous	6 PM GG Gathering &	newsiettei	🗯 b. Scott Miller	
luugini			Meal		2 PM Natl Jr High Conf	1
						10 AM Life Defenders Workshop
						11 AM Timbercrest Summer Festival
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
ather's Day	8 AM Lego Camp					🗯 b. Ethan Wells
< 2 PM Natl Jr High Conf		 a. Willie and Laurie Kieffaber Cornett 		🗮 b. Jean Martin		7:30 PM NIGERIAN WOMEN'S CHOIR
		♥ a. Stan and Linda Miller				
		7 PM GG Narcotics Anonymous				
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
7:30 PM NIGERIAN WOMEN'S CHOIR	10 AM Culinary Camp			🗯 b. Johnnie Hanger	🗯 b. Chloe Bishir	Independence Day
	1 PM Science Camp		b. Ashley (Tyler) Spann	🗮 b. Susan Eakright		
		7 PM GG Narcotics Anonymous	6:30 PM Executive mtg.	Spann		

MAY 2015

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MTWTF

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JUL 2015

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SMTWTF

Wabash CoB Board Minutes for May 13, 2015

PRESENT: Laurie Kieffaber Cornett, Bethene Gill, Carol, Dennis Horn, Larry Jamerson, Sharon Larrowe, Stan Miller, Karen Odiorne, and Michelle Roudebush

The passing of Linda Garber was noted. Kay will be doing the funeral.

Dennis shared from the Upper Room devotional booklet.

Treasurer's report – Stan distributed the March and April financials. There was a decrease of \$1321 in March in the operating fund. The budgeted amount needed each Sunday is \$1595.. There was one Sunday that church was cancelled due to weather which affects the giving. March outreach got paid in April due to Stan's illness. There was a decrease of \$2419 in the operating fund in April. The average offering in April was \$1459. Bethene will update the memorial book after Martha Shepler sends the thank you notes for gifts related to the passing of Jill DeArmond and Bonnie Genovese. Michelle will contact Martha about these memorial gifts. Karen/Larry, unanimous to accept this report

Minutes for March 11 and the informal minutes for April 8, 2015 were perused. Larry/Karen unanimous to approve

Nurture Commission – Carol reported that a Nigeria video has been developed that can be used for the church service. Kay suggested that it could be used for a Sunday she is gone in July, such as the 12th. Pulpit fill for other times when Kay is gone include: June 21 with Michelle, July 12 possibly using the Nigeria video, Aug 30 is yet to be filled. Kay probably will also be gone July 19 and 26. Karen showed the brochure telling about NOAC, National Older Adult Conference, to be held September 7-11, 2015 at beautiful Lake Junaluska in North Carolina. If the registration is paid on or before July 15, the fee is \$169. There is a \$25 conference discount for first time attenders. Karen and Kay will be driving down and would invite others to join in. Kay might be interested in taking jr hi kids to the Jr. High Conf. in PA. There are work camp spots still open also. Carol has obtained a copy of the Heifer Project curriculum that has many ideas for engaging children. There is some interest in continuing the movie nights into the summer. Grandchildren of members and attenders who are graduating were noted.

Stewards Commission – Larry reported that 4 new Peace Pole signs are here costing \$117. After looking at the parsonage the Stewards found gutters in the back are going the wrong direction. Also, the pine tree in the front of the house brings needles down into the spouts. The tree might be removed. The planter at the front of the church yard could be removed as it is not in good repair. A ground flower bed might be substituted. The sign needs repair and posts need to be replaced or covered. Larry met with boiler inspector who reports that we need another control on our boiler as mandated by the insurance company. One bid for this was \$680.

Witness Commission – Sharon reported that the 5th Sunday breakfast is May 31st and she circulated a sign-up sheet for food contributions. A special offering was suggested for the Nepal earthquake disaster with the first Sunday in June, the 7th, chosen. Laurie/Bethene unanimous to approve these commission reports

New Business – Bonnie Genovese was our Annual Conference delegate. Laurie is interested in attending Annual Conference and would be willing to be our delegate. Karen/Sharon unanimous to have Laurie be our Annual Conference delegate. Michelle can get the registration switched over if help is needed.

The parsonage renters asked about having a trampoline in the yard. This is a safety and insurance issue. The board could not vote on this as a member left early and we did have a quorum. This will be investigated further.

Announcements – Michelle has been going through the file drawers in the mail room and found many of Fred Kline's papers. Michelle will go through the district office to try to find family members to which these could be given. She also found the Bible that is on display at the back of the sanctuary. Board Meeting Dates for 2015: June 10, July 8 (if needed), August 12, Sept. 9, Oct. 14, Nov. 11, Dec. 9

Carol Horn, Clerk

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