

THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER

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Newsletter of the Washington Christian Church

JULY 2006

2006 - YEAR OF CONSTRUCTION

I Am Old Glory

I Am Old Glory: For more than ten score years I have been the banner of hope and freedom for generation after generation of Americans.

Born amid the first flames of America's fight for freedom, I am the symbol of a country that has grown from a little group of thirteen colonies to a united nation of fifty sovereign states.

Planted firmly on the high pinnacle of American Faith my gently fluttering folds have proved an inspiration to untold millions.

Men have followed me into battle with unwavering courage.

They have looked upon me as a symbol of national unity.

They have prayed that they and their fellow citizens might continue to enjoy the life, liberty and pursuit of happiness, which have been granted to every American as the heritage of free men.

So long as men love liberty more than life itself; so long as they treasure the priceless privileges bought with the blood of our forefathers; so long as the principles of truth, justice and charity for all remain deeply rooted in human hearts, I shall continue to be the enduring banner of the United States of America.

Originally written by Master Sergeant Percy Webb, USMC.

Focus on Our Family

by Caleb Henley

Caleb Henley Tells His Story

I was born June 22, 1977, in Joplin, Missouri, moved to Newton, Kansas, and grew up in Mark Twain's boyhood home of Hannibal, Missouri. My parents, Danny and Nancy Henley, raised five children of which I am the eldest. My other siblings are Jacob, Amber and Amanda (twins), and Anna. We are pretty well scattered across the Midwest.

After graduating from Hannibal High School, I attended college at Meramec Community College in St. Louis. My grandparents graciously opened their home and let me stay there three years before I received my Associates degree in Engineering and transferred to the University of Missouri, Rolla. There I stayed at the Christian Campus House and I grew a lot spiritually. I witnessed several guys who were serious about God and had a passion for Him. I also made several friends who I still keep track of today. In May 2001, I graduated UMR with my Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering.

I praise God for providing for me throughout college and providing for my needs before I even thought to worry about them! Before going off to college in 1995, a friend from church fixed up an old Ford Granada and gave it to our family. I was able to take that car to school and use it for quite a while before my generous uncle and aunt gave me their old '86 Camry.

The fact that I could stay with my grandparents and at the Campus House not only helped me financially, but helped me spiritually as well. But God provided even more than that. He helped me do well in school and I received scholarships, Pell grants, and was able to do work-study at the schools I attended. Over the summers, I worked at the Tourist Information Center just South of Hannibal, as well as at Dura, a brake cable factory (where I fell in love with macros). Because of all of these provisions and blessings, I was able to graduate owing only a few hundred dollars.

After graduating, I was able to relax at home for a few months while looking for a job. It may sound odd, but I wasn't sure what kind of job I really wanted. After a few dead ends and many inquiries, summer was drawing to a close, and I felt frustrated at not having a job and not being able to just make it happen. I prayed to God one night for a job and in the back of my mind simply added that if He felt

like it, maybe tomorrow. The next morning I awoke to the sound of a phone and then my mom tapping on the bedroom door. She said it was some company wanting to talk to me. It turned out to be a temp agency that had found my resume' on the UMR website and they led me to Caterpillar, my first full-time job after college. This, of course, boosted my faith tremendously! I asked God to help me find a place to live, a storage place, and many other things as I surveyed the area after an interview. Many places cost more than I wanted to pay. Over a lunch break I stopped at the chamber of commerce for a map but found them closed. I had the car in gear and was about to leave when I saw a "For Rent" sign in the window. I checked and found an apartment on "the square" where I have been ever since (with a handy storage unit just down the street). God answers big and little prayers.

I watched the events of 9-11 in bewilderment as the movers and I packed for my move to Washington. I was glad that Caterpillar paid for my move because I only had a few hundred dollars to my name (not enough to move and pay a deposit on an apartment). In mid-September 2001, I began work as a controls engineer for fuel systems, but it took a while to figure out what I should be doing in that very hectic environment. While at Caterpillar, I learned about large corporations, development of fuel injectors, and found that I love to write macros. After it became apparent that the job and I were not a good fit, I began to ask God for help. Because I had a long commute to Pontiac, I asked Him for a shorter commute. Because I was constantly being asked to work more hours, I asked for a job with fewer hours. Because I was frustrated at work, I asked God for a job I would enjoy, and after all that the pay would still be okay. I thanked God for what I had but was also frustrated.

One night at Bible study, I mentioned that I wished they would just let me write macros. A young lady named Christy said that her dad needed someone to write macros at Motorola in Chicago. I happened to meet up with him at the Morton Pumpkin Festival and that connection eventually led me to the job I have now, where I write macros from home, something I enjoy very much. I praise God for allowing me to do a job I enjoy, with a very, very short commute, working fewer hours, and still getting paid what I'm happy with -- all answers to prayer.

Before I graduated UMR, a friend and I prayed for me to find a church home. When I moved in, I asked my neighbor if he knew of a good church around here. He mentioned there was one up on Main Street (Washington Christian Church). I asked him if he went to it and he admitted that he didn't, but he grew up around here. I tried it and after being warmly welcomed, I felt like I had found a church home -- another answer to prayer. Since I use to run the sound at my old church, that was a natural fit for me here. I have also been involved with the Young Adult Bible Study (now LIFEGROUP) since before Jonathan and Amanda Moore left for the mission field, and I look forward to meeting with other brothers and sisters in Christ and studying God-stuff.

There are many other stories I have collected where God has provided for and/or protected me. There is the head-on collision on the highway on my way to work one day (just outside of the hospital driveway). There are mission trips he allowed me to go on when I was between jobs and had the time to go. There are things that are easy to ignore when they go right, like making it through the unexpected blinding snow storm on the way home from work one day when I could barely see a car-length in front of me but did not dare stop for the very same reason. He also provided small jobs and provisions for me during my unemployment.

My testimony is a bit harder to pin down, that is, exactly when I was saved. I grew up in the Christian Church, with Christian parents who always reminded me that "God and Jesus love you." I was baptized by my dad when I was 13, and made an intentional effort to read the Bible. Later on in college, I went through a year that was the worst I can remember. After being rejected by someone I thought I might marry, I fell deeper and deeper into darkness. I remember feeling a tug in the back of my heart that I was old enough to choose my way in life and I needed to choose God, specifically that I needed to be re-baptized. I rejected it for at least a year, but in September 1999, after much study and talking with my campus minister, I decided that I just needed to do it. After obeying God by being re-baptized and choosing Him, I felt a small light of comfort in my darkness. This marks the beginning of my return to a feeling of normalcy and beyond.

REFLECTIONS FROM THE MINISTERS

At the risk of becoming the Roger Ebert of Washington Christian Church, I am going to talk about movies again. I can't help it; Hollywood is just a treasure trove of moral illustrations!

At least to some degree, we are forced to trust the MPAA (Motion Picture Association of America). These are the guys that decide the ratings on the movies we watch. Their website uses the following words to describe a rating of PG (Parental Guidance Suggested):

The theme of a PG-rated film may itself call for parental guidance. There may be some profanity in these films. There may be some violence or brief nudity. The PG rating is thus an alert for examination of a film by parents before deciding on its viewing by their children. Obviously, such a line is difficult to draw -- the rating serves as a meaningful guide and as a warning.

On June 7, 2006, Terry Mattingly of Scripps Howard News Service reported the following shocking news:

The upcoming film, *Facing the Giants*, which tells the story of a struggling football coach at a Christian high school whose life takes a miraculous turn for the better, has been given a PG rating for "thematic elements." Among the themes the MPAA believes are worthy of a parental warning are its strong Christian message and characters who evangelize others. Kris Fuhr, Vice President of marketing for the movie's distributor, Provident Films, which is owned by Sony Pictures, said the MPAA gave this rating because it "decided that the movie was heavily laden with messages from one religion and that this might offend people from other religions. It is kind of interesting that faith has joined that list of deadly sins that the MPAA board wants to warn parents to worry about." Provident plans to open the film next fall in 380 theaters nationwide.

So *Facing the Giants* gets slapped with a PG for being too "evangelistic." The movie includes waves of answered prayers, a medical miracle, and a bench-warmer who kicks a 51-yard field goal aided by a prayer-driven gust of wind in there, too.

Does it make anyone else uncomfortable that talking about prayer and God in a movie about a Christian high school has become something we need to warn parents about? But wait; is this

something new? Remember, in Romans, chapter 1, Paul warned the people of his day about the wrath that awaits those who had "exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshipped and served created things rather than the Creator." SSDD - Same Sin, Different Day. "They invent ways of doing evil -- they are senseless, faithless, heartless, ruthless -- they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them." Doesn't this sound like today?

Indeed, it is nothing new that people have exchanged truth for lies, but we must not approve those who have. I don't know if *Facing the Giants* will be a good movie, so I'm not going to beg you to go see it when it comes out, but do try to set an example in our community that says Christianity is not something that needs to come with a "warning."

Visit the movie's website at:
<http://www.facingthegiants.com>

God Bless,
Ed

High Ameren Bills Are Coming!!! Let's work together to keep them as low as possible!!!!

Ameren/CILCO Rating Period is in effect now thru Mid-September. Ameren/CILCO watches our peak kilowatt usage, and from there they set our rates for the remainder of the year.

We have saved thousands of dollars over the last few years by keeping a careful watch on when we turn on various air conditioning units. Each time an air conditioner kicks on the kilowatts spike. If several ACs kick on at the same time, the usage spikes tremendously. Ameren records this and takes the highest spike and bases our rate on that, (even if it's only once). Please check with the Property Team or Jeff for instructions on how to use the AC more efficiently. Lets try to be good stewards of our money.

Thanks! The Property Team

Vacation Plans?

Schools out and many of us will be going on vacation. Please attend a Worship Service during that time. God doesn't take a vacation from you, so don't you take a vacation from God.

Need help finding a Christian Church in the area where you will be staying? Call the church office. We have a directory of Christian Churches throughout the country.

MissioNews

by Edna Neal

CMF International - Jon & Amanda Moore & Atticus

In May, at one of our FISH nights, Jonathan and Amanda shared with us about their abrupt departure from Africa, and about their life after their return to the states. Christianity was under persecution in their area of NE Africa, and the government in that area asked them to leave.

In February, 2006 Jon and Amanda moved to a house offered to them by a Christian Church in Greenfield, Indiana (near Indianapolis). They have been active in the church there with MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers), Bible study, Prayer Breakfasts, and have led a study on The Purpose Driven Life. This summer they have been helping with some VBS programs. So they are busy working "where they are" until they find a new CMF assignment which they prayerfully seek.

After completing a VBS in Colorado in June, they will be leaving for Indonesia to consider an assignment there. They will spend 10 days there looking over the university where Jonathan might teach. He would be teaching Muslim students. Amanda and Jonathan will be considering the living conditions there, the climate, the political climate, and the language school needed. Certainly they will be thinking of Atticus's needs also.

From the March Newsletter from Jon & Amanda:

"Please be in prayer with us as we walk through understanding where God has taken us over the last three years. We are waiting in His timing to show us where He needs us for future ministry and work. Still, even after being in the US for nearly three months, we wake up some days surprised that we won't be going back to our home in Africa. Then there are days filled with opportunity here, when we know God sent us to this place to be of service to new people, to encourage and lift up the Body of Christ that lives in Illinois/Indiana."

- Jonathan, Amanda, & Atticus Moore

Top Ten Cool Things About Living in the US:

10. Home in time to see the Narnia movie on the big screen!!
9. Chocolate chip cookies.
8. Unlimited flour and sugar on the shelf.
7. Canned soda pop.
6. Atticus gets to play on the playground.
5. Watching the current season of American television in English.
4. Scrapbook stores (even Jonathan doesn't mind them that much.)
3. Ribs, Ribs, and more RIBS.
2. Internet connections faster than 16.4 MB.
1. Drinkable tap water and seeing family and friends (even being invited to "crash" a wedding).

Charter Bus to Nat'l Missionary Convention

On Friday, November 17, 2006, a 55 passenger bus will leave the WCC parking lot for Indianapolis, IN and the National Missionary Convention. It will arrive in time for the second workshop of the day.

Lunch can be found in walking distance of the convention center or in the center itself. You may attend two more workshops chosen from the pages of available subjects in the afternoon. You will also have a time to visit the hundreds of exhibits in the exhibit hall. The evening service will begin at 6:45 and end about 8:30. The bus will pick you up at the door and return you to the WCC parking lot.

The cost is \$29.00 per ticket and it is first come, first served. Letters have been sent to all area churches inviting their members to come join the fun.

There is a poster on the bulletin board. Make checks payable to WCC and pre-date them November 10. They will be returned if we fail to fill the bus, or if you have to cancel BEFORE November 3. Joyce Nordhielm will take your reservation.

Youth Page

Fabulous Flamingo Fund Raiser!!

It's still going on, you haven't missed it yet!!! Don't miss this opportunity to add some "home

improvements" to our local yards! For a donation toward our Youth Summer Mission Trip to Mexico you can add a little 'tropical flavor' to a friends yard.

Give your donation to Jon or Jessica Pittman. Make any checks out to WCC; memo line reading "Flamingo Fund Raiser" and an address of which favorite friend you would like to "donate" our pink flamingo to for a short time period. Our little 'flamingo elves' will secretly decorate said yard with pink fun!

If the flamingo flies to your yard, how about a small donation for the elves to return for a "pick-up"? Don't miss the fun! We do all the work! The Flamingo-Mobile is just a phone call away! Jon-444-2550 or Ginny - 444-7732.

July's Youth Team Meeting will be held Wed., July 5th at 7:00 PM. Please see Cory Hynek if unable to attend.

Mission Trip Fundraiser Garage Sale A Huge Success!!!

Once again we had great support from our church family and community to make our Annual Fundraiser Garage Sale a fabulous success! We raised over \$1,550 towards our Mission Mexico Trip! Thanks to everyone who helped by donating item, sorting, pricing, setting up, selling, and cleaning up, oh, and not to forget buying. You are the ones who made this possible.

Update on C.O.R. (Church of Rock)

C.O.R. is a Christian band consisting of WCC 7th - 9th graders. They have been together for a little over a year. They have played for a few of our Youth Sundays and other gigs around the area. They just recently played for the Christian sing at the Cherry Festival in June.

Lucas Doremus has been helping out since December by directing them musically. He will be going back to college in August. The kids would like to keep their group going, but it would be helpful if they could find a musically inclined director.

If you have music talent, please pray for God's guidance to have you help this group keep going. They have all the music talent! They just need someone to help manage them. If you could help out or want to know more about them, contact Lucas Doremus -635-2177 or any of the kids or parents.

Mission Mexico Trip Will Soon Be Here

The kids and their Sponsors will be leaving on Saturday, July 8th and returning on Saturday, July 15th for their mission trip to Mexico. Please be in prayer for all those participating while they are preparing and while traveling.

Aluminum Can Drive

If you are saving cans for our Youth fundraiser you may bring them in plastic bags to the South Parsonage (Jon & Jessica's) garage. Please, we can only take aluminum cans. No other aluminum will be accepted. Please do not leave the cans in or by the new storage building.

Everyone: Check Out the Camp Schedule in the Fellowship Hall!

PRIME TIMERS PERSPECTIVE

Prime Timers Calendar of Events for July

Prime Timer Prayer Bfast: Sat., July 1st - 9 AM

Prime Timers / COR Leading Worship: Sunday, July 2nd – Both Services

All Church Picnic: Sunday, July 16th - 12:30 @ Rotary Shelter in Park.

WCV Volunteer Day ~ Tues., July 25th @ 9 AM.

VBS: Starts Sunday, July 30th and runs thru Friday, August 4th. We need everyone to help.

Mixing of the Generations

On July 2nd the Prime Timers will be a part of the worship service as Praise Team. We are working with and sharing the service with the Youth C.O.R. Group. See Pati Heller for details.

SENIOR SAINTS IN THE SMOKIES 2006

Johnson Bible College

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit" Romans 15:13

Johnson Bible College is located in Knoxville, Tennessee. It is a wonderful college and home to many students who learn here and also home to the faculty and staff who work here. Generations of young men have learned to preach Christ's teaching while in the walls of "Old Main" (such as our very own preacher, Jeff). This college is full of love and

caring people who truly want to be part of the lives of others.

The Senior Saints left WCC on Saturday, June 3, with Jeff driving the church van and De Hamilton the co-pilot. Ginny Browning, Pat Connaughton, Betty Hoyt, Edna Neal, Doris Froebel, and Dick and Norma Sinn also rode in the van. Daveyne Pugh rode with Tom and Leanette in their car. The motor homes followed with Bert and Joyce riding with Bernie and Rose Bankes, Daryle and Bonnie Keith riding with Doug and Marilyn MacDonald, Dick and Ceil Adams, Ron and Joellen Burton, and Hugh and Betty Patterson. The group in the van had quite a time with Dick Sinn keeping the group entertained. Ginny started out with a crown on her head for being the Queen (?) and then was passed on to different ones who earned it. We all were not sure what you had to do to earn it, but they had so much fun that Jeff took the crown away from them that evening.

We stopped at Owensboro, Kentucky, and visited the Owensboro Christian Church where Benjamin Browning is the Worship Minister. The church had once been a mall and was laid out exceptionally well. It was, of course, very large and beautifully decorated. This was a special evening for all of us, listening to the awesome voice of Benjamin with beautiful voices of the choir in the background. There was also a good sermon on "Is Anything Too Hard For God?" - (Genesis 18:9-15). The five motor homes stayed in the church parking lot that night, and the rest of the group went to a motel.

We left the next morning headed for Johnson Bible College. We stopped at the Cracker Barrel both days - everyone is always ready to eat. The motor homes stayed in the parking lot at Johnson Bible College, and again, the rest of the group went to a motel.

On Monday, we all registered in at 2 P.M. Everyone finally got all their luggage together and settled in their dorm rooms, the motor homes all hooked up, and we were all ready to eat. The meals were all wonderful and plenty of it. That evening we were entertained with a piano pre-concert and singing. There was a welcome and nice devotion given by Kevin O'Brien who kept us up on all the announcements and jokes each day. He was a natural comic as well as a wonderful Christian man.

Every morning there was a great breakfast followed by singing, praise and Bible study on Hebrews by

David Eubanks, President of Johnson Bible College. Then we went to a workshop/coffee break, followed by well-deserved lunch. The lunches were like breakfast, plentiful and delicious.

The afternoons were open to different activities available that day, or just to rest or see a movie. Everything was planned carefully and very organized.

Workshops: There were so many workshops each day; it was very difficult to choose which ones you wanted to see. We all went to many different ones. Following are only a few of the ones that were chosen.

David Wheeler's workshop (Curves Ahead) explains it may be time to negotiate some of the "curves" of change in churches. The churches mission (Matthew 28: 18-20) - is "To reach out to non-believers and develop them, along with existing members, into committed followers of Christ." The purpose of the church (Acts 2:42-47) is to win people to Christ by studying the word of God; getting families involved; worship daily; meeting people's needs; and evangelism.

The Da Vinci Code: with leader Carl Bridges, was a re-cap of the plot of the novel (and film). In the novel, the Holy Grail is not the cup used by Jesus at The Last Supper. Instead, the Grail stands for Mary Magdalene, the "vessel" through which Jesus passed the ancestral line. The book seeks to prove a conspiracy in the church to cover-up this marriage of Jesus and Mary Magdalene. Sources used are the gospel of Philip and the gospel of Mary (neither of which is included in our Bible). Another source, supposedly, is the Dead Sea scrolls (which contain nothing of the New Testament), so would not be authentic in proving the conspiracy. The Da Vinci Code is fiction and does not contain accurate theology or history. Hopefully, those who read it will not accept it as truth.

Myths and Realities of Reaching the Unchurched: (Dr. Carlus Gupton) In this workshop, we explored typical myths concerning what unchurched people really desire in finding a church home. They want to hear preaching that teaches the Bible and has life applications, the minister to be a "real person" (have a sense of humor, not a perfectionist), a person of conviction, a communicator, and a leader. Also, doctrine is important because of their desire to know truth or absolutes.

God's Word for All the World: With leader Gerald Mattingly, was a look at the reasons for missions and a brief look at changes in the mission field. The basis for missions is found in Matthew 28:16-20: "Go ye therefore, into all the world and preach the gospel." Looking at the history of missions, we in America are the product of the mission movement to Europe and beyond. In some churches (especially in the mainline denominations), there is a decline in the in the evangelical spirit, and thus, in missions.

Hearing the Voice of God (the other side of prayer): by Brent Brewer is a subject not talked about much in our churches. Most Christians don't really believe we can hear God. We don't have the faith that God will really talk to us. We ask God for help, but we don't take the time to really listen for the answer. We have read in the Bible that God did speak to people. Jesus expects us to hear the voice of God, he said: "He who belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God. We must have faith that God wants to speak to us. Hebrews 13:8 - "Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever." He wants to speak to us today, if we will listen expectantly and obey!

Activities: Everyone had their choice in the afternoons to sightsee, rest, or participate in any of the planned afternoon activities. Tuesday afternoon: Some took the trip to Bald River Falls, some made a bread basket in crafts, some saw a movie, and others went on the one-mile river hike to Lee and Lovella Richardson carrying their sack supper and listening to story telling. Wednesday afternoon: Some played golf, others went on a campus bus tour, or on the tour of Mayberry, Tennessee, and the women went shopping to Pigeon Forge. Thursday afternoon: There were three shows on that afternoon and everyone went in different directions to see: "The Miracle," "Come Celebrate America," and "Fixin' 2 Rain."

Evenings: Each evening there was great entertainment with piano/organ playing, singing, skits, and dramatization. One evening, we had a great sermon by twenty-five year old Brian Kelley on the generation gap between young people and seniors regarding the church. He said there needs to be more compromise where the young people can learn from the seniors' experiences and the seniors need to understand the change the young people want to make in the church. Another evening, Gary Griesser talked about meeting a man at a military

hospital with no legs. He thanked the man for what he had done for himself, his family, and his country. The man began crying; Gary said he was sorry if he offended him. He man said he was crying because he had been in the hospital eleven years, and this was the first time anyone had ever thanked him. Gary said from then on, he always makes a special acknowledgment to the service men who have served their country - which he did.

Friday morning, we all gathered at 6:45 A.M. for a final farewell with a closing prayer and light breakfast. We all said good-bye to a wonderful Christian family that all care about making a difference in the lives of other people. We will all miss Dr. David Eubanks, the President of the College, and his precious wife. He is retiring after 50 years at the College where he held many roles as student, professor, and President. Even though he is retiring, both of them will still touch many more lives.

Just looking over the beautiful scenery of the Smokies, you really see God's handiwork first hand. This is an inexpensive spiritual retreat/vacation where love of the Lord and love of people are of the greatest importance. Come join us next year in the month of June; you won't be sorry.

submitted by Betty Patterson

FYI

For Your Information

THANKS to Those of You Who Volunteered at the Cherry Festival

Once again WCC sponsored the Diaper Changing Station at the Cherry Tree Festival.

Bonnie Keith, Pat Huskins, and Anamarie Morris set up the tent on Wednesday before it rained. On Sunday, Sherrie and Steve Frazier, Jan & Stan Geisz, Brian & Pati Heller, and Anamarie Morris took down the tent.

The following people took time to make sure the tent was clean and neat plus regularly emptied the diaper pail while the Festival was going on. Celia Adams, Waldo Born, Stephanie Brown, Mary Fisher, Sherrie Frazier, Jan Geisz, Laurel Gillespie, Pati Heller, Betty Hoyt, Pat Huskins, Bonnie Keith, Jamie Libotte, Leanne Libotte, Anamarie Morris, & Carol Worthington.

Jackie Mason with the Festival Coordinators, was please that the tent was available and was used. Thank you so much for those of you who stopped your daily activities to share in the Christian outreach service to the community. There is really no place other than the church tent to comfortably change a baby or nurse a small one at the Festival.

Annual WCC All Church Picnic

The Annual Church Picnic will be held on Sunday, July 16th, starting at 12:30 p.m. at Lincoln Park under the Rotary Shelter.

Hot dogs, hamburgers, buns, tableware, condiments and drinks will be provided. We are asking each family to bring either a covered dish or dessert to share with others. We are also asking people to bring lawn chairs and their favorite game. Stan Powell will also provide games to play.

A sign-up sheet is already on the bulletin board. Let's enjoy the good food and great Christian fellowship.

Circle of Friends - New Officers for 2006-2007

On May 25th, Circle of Friends had their Induction Ceremony of new officers read by Pati Heller.

Anamarie Morris replaced Debbie Walker as President. Sherri Frazier replace Anamarie Morris as Vice-President. Ginny Browning replaced Terri Zotz as Secretary. Mary Fisher replaced Laurie Rau as Treasurer. Each of the former officers carried out their duties faithfully. Hopefully the new candidates will continue to do as well.

While the ladies munched on goodies provided by the new officers, many suggestions were given as ideas for upcoming programs during 2006-2007 year.

If any of the ladies of the church is looking for a purpose-driven activity, Circle of Friends will start up in the Fall with a meeting Thursday, August 24th. We will get plans finalized for our fund raiser, the cookbook, and do the remaining assignments for our January Ladies' meeting.

Mark August 24th at 6:30 p.m. on your calendar now. In spite of your busy schedules, make time to meet with other women who have a commitment toward the church, friends, and community.

Church Cookbook Being Planned.

WCC members, Circle of Friends is planning to produce a cookbook of favorite recipes. This is your opportunity to become a published author. We hope to have it back by Thanksgiving. But we need your help. Actually, we need your favorite recipes.

If you have or you want to share your family's fabulous, famous, or just plain good tasting recipes, please use the information forms found in the church foyer so that your favorite recipe may be shared with others. Time is running out!!! We will need the recipes turned in by Sunday, July 2, 2006. Questions? See Debbie Brown (256-6978) or Debbie Walker (886-2010).

Congratulations!!!

Congrats! go out to Jamie and Kara McClintock on the birth of their first born, a daughter, born May 28th at 5:19 a.m.

The little miss is named Lillian Adare and weighed in at 7 lbs. 13.25 oz. She is 20.5" long. The McClintock's reside at 402 S. Market St., Washington, phone #444-1751.

VBS Fiesta 2006 !!

Where Kids are On Fire for Jesus!

July 30th ~ August 4th, 6:00-8:45 p.m.

Let's get fired up about Jesus! It will be here before you know it!!! So, Mark it on your calendars and get signed up!

Each Crew member will learn Jesus is our friend, our life, our leader, our Savior and our helper! There will be daily challenges in Chadder's Desert Drive-in Theater, Cactus Crafts, Grande Games, Hot Bible Adventures, Maraca Munchies and lots of awesome music in Sing & Play Ole! Our mission for the week will be Mission Mexico 2006.

We still need a few volunteers so check out the sign-up board in the Fellowship Hall. Please prayerfully consider joining us and asking God to show you where he wants you to help. This is a week that not only touches the kids, but also touches the adults who help!

We also need many donations for supplies and such. These needs are on the bulletin board also. Check back often as some things may be added as VBS approaches.

Any items that you are donating their use, but wish to have returned, need to have your name put on them. All donations need to be turned in by Sunday, July 16th, unless it is food related and we need it that week of VBS.

This year the ages for kids to attend will be 4 year olds through 5th grade. We will take 3 year olds but only if you are a helper for VBS. Also, a Nursery will be available for worker's children.

Again this year we will offer a simple, fairly inexpensive meal before VBS starts each night, (except for Sunday evening) for those who are helping and their children that are attending. The menu and a sign-up sheet will be posted shortly before VBS starts. This allows those helpers who need to be here early or are coming directly from work to be able to eat and not have to worry about fixing supper.

Thank you in advance for your prayers and support! If you have any questions or want to help out, please contact either Jess Bochart (444-8531) or Jess Pittman (444-5868).

VBS Workday:

Mark your calendars for Saturday, July 8th for a VBS workday. We will start at 9 AM to work on painting and making decorations and backdrops. Anyone is welcome to come and help.

Attention Committee Heads:

There will be a special VBS meeting for all Committee Heads on Sunday, July 16th during 2nd service (11 AM) in the library. Please see Jessica Pittman or Jess Bochart if unable to attend.

Attention Walkers - Youth and Adults - We need you!

With VBS just around the corner we need to do some advertising. A very inexpensive way to do this is to go door-to-door with V.B.S. flyers. We have the flyers and now we need the people (walkers) to take them around. If you are available sometime between July 1-10 please contact Pat Huskins by phone or email. phuskins@insightbb.com or 444-7115 or. Let Pat know what neighborhood you'll be handing out the good news to. A sign up sheet is also available on the V.B.S. bulletin board. First come, first serve, and please don't argue over how many neighborhoods you get to walk. Also, if you live out of town don't feel down and out because we'll find a neighborhood for you too. Get signed up and grab a walking partner, good walking

shoes and a stack of flyers and start spreading the Good News.

LIFEGROUPS

Meeting Places and Times

Sunday @ 6:00 p.m. ~ LIFEGROUP @ Gillespie's, 1506 Kern Rd. (Jon-678-0645; Laurel- 678-0749)

6:00 p.m. ~ Men's Bible Study @ Groff's 1338 Hickory Hills Dr., Metamora, every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month. (383-4327)

6:00 p.m. ~ LIFEGROUP @ Heller's, 109 North Pine, (444-7700)

Monday @ 6:30 p.m. ~ LIFEGROUP @ Taylor's, 208 W. Holland

6:30 p.m. ~ LIFEGROUP @ location varies each week, check bulletin for weekly meeting place. Contact person: Bochart's. (444-8531)

7:00 p.m. ~ LIFEGROUP @ location varies each week, check bulletin for weekly meeting place. Contact person: Peterson's. (444-5174)

Wednesday @ 6:00 a.m. ~ Men's Early Morning LIFEGROUP @ Cummin's Family Restaurant Contact person: Frank Douglas. (444-5548)

6:30 p.m. ~ LIFEGROUP @ location varies each week, check bulletin for weekly meeting place. Contact person: McClintock's. (444-1751)

Questions about LIFEGROUPS? Contact Ed Taylor: 444-2550 or 712-6495.

Amen, and Amen!!!

One of the most important responsibilities a parent or adult has is to see that the eternal needs of a child are met as well as the physical needs. Yet some parents refuse to bring their children to church and Sunday School, saying they want their children to make up their own minds, and they won't influence them either way. This is tragic!

Children do not live in a vacuum. If they are not influenced for the Lord early in life, they will be influenced for the devil. If parents will not teach their children to pray, someone else will teach them to curse and swear. If parents do not influence their

children for the Lord and teach them righteousness, they will learn sin from their friends and associates at school.

How many children would go to school if it were not required? Yet we compel them to go, not only because it is the law, but because we love them, and want them to learn things that will enable them to meet the challenges of later life. Can we not show our love for them by seeing that they have the spiritual resource to meet the temptations and trials they will face later on? Shall we wait until we see the water rushing into the boat to decide to take a lifejacket on board? Then it will be too late. And if we wait until the temptations burst upon us to prepare for them, we will find it too late here as well.

Freedom of choice: Amen, and amen! But let us see to it that our young people have the resources it takes to make that choice. If they know nothing

about the Lord, and everything about sin, they can only be expected to make one choice. We tend to turn to the old familiar ways. How can we expect our children to make a wise choice when they only have seen one side of the matter? If they know nothing of the Lord, how can we anticipate their choosing the "stranger of Galilee"?

We cannot choose for them, but we can see that they have what it takes to be able to choose the better part, "How shall they believe except they hear; and how shall they hear except it be preached to them?" It is our responsibility to see that they are knowledgeable enough to be able to make that most important of all choices they will ever make, that decision which will determine their eternal destiny.

--Richard Edient, Windsor Christian Church
