



Connections

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THURSDAY, JULY 22, 2010

WE'RE ADDING A NEW WORSHIP SERVICE!

Someone once said that the only thing that remains constant is change. How true that is! Now, for some of us change is great! We love the challenges; we love moving things around; putting things in

new places and believe that sameness is stagnation!

Then, of course, we have the opposite end of the spectrum. We have those who believe nothing should ever be changed. As author/humorist Dave Barry puts it, "Nothing should ever be done for the first time! Nothing!" The battle cry for this group is "If it ain't broke; don't fix it!"



While most of us fall somewhere on the spectrum between these two extremes, I probably fall closer to the "no changes" side of the continuum. As a rule, I don't really like change. It messes with my "balance." I like the comfort of keeping things pretty much the same; after I get my routine worked out on something, without a pretty good reason or some prodding by outside sources, that routine is forever!



Good News About Worship!

When I get home at the end of the day, my truck keys ALWAYS go in the fish-shaped bowl on the bureau in our bedroom. Always. So, anytime I need my keys, that's where I go to get them. If they aren't there, someone else has

moved them - which makes me nuts. If my keys aren't there, I have to go on a search to locate them where someone else felt it was appropriate to leave them - which is wherever they think is an obvious location - which is great, except that if they aren't where they are SUPPOSED to be, they become invisible to me. Why would I look for my truck keys on the kitchen table or the table by the front door? That's NOT where they belong, and that's that!

While I'm not always good with change, I have to admit that sometimes it's a good thing anyway! We have to be careful that the turf we're protecting isn't so protected that it limits its growth. To make sure that a living and growing thing continues to grow into what God intends it to be, sometimes you have to change the way you tend it.

FAMILY PROMISE NEWS



Refuge for the Homeless

Family Promise of Greater Lafayette has a new director. Laurie Mann began in June. The Day Center for FPGL has moved to 2203 N 19th St., Lafayette. This location is just a couple of blocks north of St. Lawrence church. The Day Center office number is still 838-3651.

St. Andrew's week to host the Family Promise families is approaching fast—the week of August 1-8. It is uncertain at this time how many families will be with us. We will try to keep you all advised. For our host week, we have several needs. Those needs are:

- ❖ someone to pick up the trailer from Central Presbyterian on Sunday August 1. A standard 2" ball hitch and 4 point plug is required.
- ❖ a set up crew on Sunday, August 1
- ❖ take down crew Sunday, August 8 (before church service)

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Take our worship schedule. In our old building, we had three Sunday morning worship services.

Our early service was a traditional service, and we had two contemporary services. Each was great. Each had its own flavor and identity. It takes a lot of energy and staff and volunteer time to put in three quality worship experiences!

Eventually, we outgrew our old physical plant on Meridian Street. It was a great building, and we certainly enjoyed the proximity to Purdue University and the "heart" of West Lafayette. It wasn't that we wanted to leave there, but we didn't have the space we needed for parking and programming. We felt that God was calling us to a new site to minister not only to the faith family that we already had but to a whole new group of people. We believed that God had something special for us to do, and so we built this church and moved - now THAT was a change!

But now this building is our home, and we love it. I can't imagine us not having this beautiful building and the great parking we have. And one of the best things about moving to this new building was that we had enough room in our "Great Room" to go back to two services.

We outgrew our old building, and we believed God was calling us to minister to even more people than we could handle in our old building. So, while giving up the old building that we loved and moving out here

was tough, we felt we had done so with a purpose. Well, as you well know, God has rewarded our faithful decision to move out here by doing exactly what we thought He would do - He sent us more people to love - and we DO!

Church growth experts tell us that when our worship attendance regularly bumps into the "80% capacity rule," it's time for change. The "rule" states that when new people come to a worship service that has 80% of the seats filled, the perception is that, "It's too crowded. There is no room for me here." The experts suggest that, if you want to continue to grow, you either add a new worship service or you build a bigger gathering area. At this time, we are choosing "Option A."

Our growth has told us we heard what we thought we heard. It suggests that if we moved we would have room for more people, and we could do even more ministry. And, in spite of the fact that the major housing boom that was supposed to happen around us did not, and the economy tanked, still we grew. We want to continue to be as faithful as we can to include all the people God sends us. We want to make sure that everyone who joins us in any of our worship experiences feels welcome and that we have plenty of room for them.

So, beginning August 29, we will have a new Sunday morning worship service. We will continue our

great Traditional Worship experience at 8:45 a.m. We'll add the new service at 10 a.m. It will be very similar to our current second service except it will have a bit more intimate feel. We will be featuring an "unplugged" format (to keep the sound levels to an appropriate level to support our Sunday School opportunities) with less volume, fewer instruments and a smaller worship team. Our current 11 a.m. second service (Contemporary in style) will move back 15 minutes to 11:15 a.m. and become our third service and feature the large, high-energy praise team and style that we're used to.

We are grateful for the opportunity to continue to grow and welcome even more new people to our community of faith. We are also aware that this change will require a while to get used to for some of us and that there may be some adjustments necessary along the way. We'll make them as needed. Change can be great - even for those of us who don't like change. And, in this case, change is necessary to continue to be the faithful, loving, welcoming community we were called to be.

I'm excited to add this new service for one simple reason: we believed God called us here to grow - and we are. Growing churches need to continually find ways to make room for new people. Dying churches end up closing up space because they don't need it and can't afford it. I sure know which one I prefer!



Pastor Pat

COMING SOON...

Life changing, mind blowing, spiritual up lifting, faith growing and a really great time!!!

(In other words...Disciple classes are forming for the Fall)

The Disciple group experience will guide you into the Bible and build bonds with other seekers. It doesn't matter if you have studied the Word all your life or barely cracked the cover of your third grade Bible. If you come with a willing heart and an open mind, you will never be the same, just ask a Disciple graduate



Be a Disciple

Intrigued? There will be a call out in mid-August, but you can get a head start by contacting Becky and Andrew Daigle at 463-6814 or at bdaigle@comcast.net. At this time, the plans are to offer **at least** one class each of Disciple I, Disciple II and Disciple III. There is the possibility of one of those being offered in the early afternoon. Be sure to make your desire to participate known.

GIFT CARDS AVAILABLE

Please consider stopping by the Welcome Center between services on Sunday to purchase your grocery store gift cards (Marsh and PayLess), gas cards (Speedway), and restaurant cards (Texas Roadhouse and McDonald's). Are you planning to take in a movie soon? We have gift cards to Goodrich Quality Theaters which covers all theaters in the Greater Lafayette area.



While you get full value for your purchase, our educational ministries receive a percentage of the gift card sales from these businesses. Thanks for helping make this ongoing fundraiser a success.

ST. ANDREW T-SHIRTS

If you borrowed a St. Andrew T-shirt to wear during VBS, please return it to the church as soon as possible.



PARSONAGE MAKE-OVER

Trustees are looking for capable and willing bodies interested in doing some general maintenance and improvements at the church parsonage. We will be planning a work day or two in the near future and will need people with skills in painting, general carpentry, drywall repair, installing fixtures, etc. If that sounds like you, contact Trent Watkins at trenton_watkins@yahoo.com or Eric Williams, eric@gocubbies.net to get signed up.

FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED

Our Fall Sunday School will kick off on Sunday, September 5. We are still in need of teachers for Sprouts (2 and 3 year olds) and Kindergarten/1st grade. The regular Sunday school year runs from September-May. We use a team



teaching format where there are two teachers in ALL each classroom and usually two teams

of teachers per class, so the total teaching commitment is 4-5 months. Please prayerfully consider being a part of this important ministry. For questions or to volunteer, please contact Melissa Martin at 497-7755 or melissa@andrew-umc.org.

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- ❖ meals for Sunday and Tuesday through Saturday
- ❖ two hosts from 5-9 Tuesday through Saturday (one more for Monday)
- ❖ two overnight hosts Tuesday through Saturday (one more for Monday)
- ❖ hosts for the Day Center on Saturday, August 7, and Sunday, August 8.

What is God placing on your heart to do? Contact Susan Foster at 463-4349 to let her know how you can help.

St. Andrew Connections

St. Andrew United Methodist Church
4703 N. 50 W.
West Lafayette, IN 47906
Thursday, July 22, 2010

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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ST. ANDREW CONNECTIONS

St. Andrew UMC

Phone: 497-7755

Traditional Worship: Sunday 8:45 a.m.

Contemporary Worship: Sunday 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.

Childcare provided at all times

You can continue to access our web page at <http://andrew-umc.org>

Blueberry Palooza

Saturday, August 28 5-7 p.m.

Join us for an evening of
food, fun, and friends!



Your St. Andrew Staff

Pastor:	Tim Burchill
Associate Pastor:	Pat Sleeth
CrossRoads Dir. of Programs:	Dana Kirkwood
Administrative Secretary:	Donna Biehl
Financial/Office Asst:	Tricia Sembroski
Dir. of Children's Ministry:	Melissa Martin
Dir. of Music Ministry:	Dave Evans
Organist/Pianist:	LuAnn Boggess
Asst. Organist/Pianist:	Lisa Tally
Chancel Choir Director:	Ben Waltz
Dir. Of InTouch Ministry:	Monica Arrowsmith
Coordinator InTouch Ministry:	Laurie Klenosky
Joyful Sound Director:	Jeni Leaird
Caretaker:	Linda Hamilton
Nursery Coordinator:	Kathy Rogers

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