



The Baptist Observer Magazine

BECKY SEPTOSKI, EDITOR • VOL. 10 NO. 5 • SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER, 2011

HIGHLIGHTING THE MINISTRIES OF AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES IN INDIANA & KENTUCKY

2011 Mission Conference Reaching and Touching Lives Saturday, October 1, 2011 First Baptist Church of Greenwood REGISTER NOW!



Rev. Lauran Bethell, Global Consultant for International Ministries will be the keynote presenter and a Breakout Session leader. Lauran lives in Amsterdam and travels the world on behalf of IM consulting on issues of human trafficking.

You can go to either the ABC-IN/KY website: www.abc-indiana.org or the ABCGI website: www.abcgi.org to download a registration form and view more details regarding the conference.

The 2011 Mission Conference is a joint ministry of the ABC of GI and the ABC of IN/KY.

ABY Jr-Sr High Convention November 11-13 Franklin College



Theme Verse: "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."
Ephesians 2:10

The 2011 ABY Convention promises to be an exciting and uplifting weekend. Youth pastors be sure to look for the ABY Convention booklet coming to you soon. You can also download all the information regarding the convention at the region website at www.abc-indiana.org.

ABY 2011 Scholarship Recipients Chosen!

Brandi Blakley and Hilary Lanman were chosen to receive the 2011 ABY College Scholarship.

Brandi Blakley is the adopted daughter of Peggi Blakley and granddaughter of Wilma Blakley. She has been active in high school through Naval Junior ROTC, National Honor Society, student council and many clubs. She has served in her home church of FBC Bloomfield in many ways including choir, special music, assisting with various children's ministry programs and even through missions along with her participation in the youth program and ABY Conventions. Her pastor puts it best, "Brandi's life is a testimony to the goodness of God and the power He gives each of us to prevail over adversity—to learn first hand that nothing is impossible with Him." Brandi will be attending IUPUI in Indianapolis this fall as she pursues a career serving others through Physical Therapy focused on pediatrics. It is her desire to bring hope and strength to struggling children.



Brandi Blakley



Hilary Lanman

Hilary Lanman is enrolled at Huntington University to study Worship Leadership and Music Ministry. She is the daughter of Patrick & Jacquita Lanman. Throughout her life, she has used her love and talent for music to serve and point others toward Jesus. Hilary has shown herself to be a leader in church, in school and in the community. She is not a stranger to community service or mission programs. She volunteers in numerous ways and places including a local food pantry and with the Good News Club at an elementary school while staying active in the local 4-H program for the last 10 years as well. Hilary is a member of Olive Branch Baptist Church where she serves as a worship leader, sings in the choir, directs music at VBS, leads devotions at youth group among many other things. One of her most favorite ministry opportunities is serving as a member of the praise band each summer at the Westport Baptist Youth Camp.

ABC-IN/KY Vision Statement

"As the hands and feet of Christ, *compelled* by his love, we will *do whatever it takes* to reach the lost and serve our communities and churches."



Dr. Don Scott
Interim Executive Minister
donscott@abc-indiana.org

Anniversary Musings

For several of our churches, 2011 marks a very significant milestone. For instance, both Terre Haute FBC and South Bend FBC have celebrated 175 years of ministry. Such anniversaries are special. Recently, I wrote a letter to the western New York church in which I was raised in recognition of their 100th birthday.

So what's the significance? After all, if a church manages to keep its doors open, at some point, it will celebrate an important anniversary. Celebration is a wonderful thing for a church and I think congregations need to seize every opportunity to celebrate. As important as they are, there is more to a 175th birthday than a dinner and a festive worship experience. Let me suggest two things.

First, it is important to reflect on the past...not on buildings and property, but on people. Any church reaching its 175th anniversary or its 50th or 25th will have directly touched hundreds, even thousands of individuals. Added to that are the ever expanding circles of people throughout the world who have been touched in the name of Jesus directly and indirectly through a given church. Over and over again through the years, I have heard people lament that their church is small and, therefore, not capable of significant ministry. Frankly, while a church may be small, it can have important, life changing ministry which potentially extends to the four corners of the world. So regardless of size, I think it is fitting for a church to use an anniversary time to have a party and reflect on the people who have been blessed by the church's ministry through the years.

Secondly, while we celebrate the past, an anniversary celebration gives a church the opportunity to look at the present and to the future. While we celebrate the blessings and ministry of the past, we live in the present and we look forward to the future. Therefore, I encourage churches to remain faithful as they walk with Jesus today and as they envision future ministry and mission for tomorrow.

The truth is every year can be a celebratory year as a church thanks God for the opportunity to make a lasting difference in peoples' lives and as the church makes plans to live in God's plan for the future.

Let's be a people characterized by celebration of God and God's continual calling to mission!

Longkumers are Commissioned & Ready for Departure

Taku and Katie Longkumer were commissioned as American Baptist Missionaries at their home church in Springfield, Illinois on Sunday, August 21st. The ceremony was presided over by IM President, Ruth Clark and the Reverend Doctor Ben Chan, Area Director for Asia ministries.



Pastor Reg Mills hosted the commissioning at Central Baptist Church. The Missionary Partnership Team, convened by Rev. Dr. Joseph Huse, was installed as well.

Commissioning is the last step in the missionary deployment process before new missionaries are sent to their area of service. The Longkumers will be leaving the US for North East India in mid-October. They will serve on our behalf as development workers, assisting the Council of Baptist Churches in North East India to train lay leaders in local churches and the sending of indigenous missionaries into remote areas where the Gospel message has yet to be preached.

Each missionary depends on the direct targeted support of churches and individuals. Please remember the Longkumers as you give generously to the World Mission Offering this year.

Chile Mission Encounter January 16-26, 2012

Dr. Lee Riggs, Pastor Emeritus of FBC Greensburg, will be the Mission Team Coordinator with Dr. Don Scott serving as the team's co-leader. Dwight and Barb Bolick will be the missionary hosts.

The cost for this 11 day mission experience is \$2,880.00 per person and includes round trip travel and expenses from Indianapolis.

**Team Selection will be limited to 10-15
Application Deadline is September 28, 2011**

Based on this year's unique invitation to the Chilean Baptist Annual Meetings, a first priority will be given to pastors or representatives of our Chilean Prayer Partnership churches.

For more information, or to indicate your interest, contact Dr. Lee Riggs by phone at 843-424-7658 or by email at rev.riggs@gmail.com

The application form is available on the region website:
www.abc-indiana.org

**Article Submission Deadline
for the
November/December Issue
of The Baptist Observer
is Friday, October 7**



ABW History Shared at Summer Conference

By: Ruth Wells, Historian

At Summer Conference, the ABW celebrated their 75th Diamond Jubilee. A portion of the ABW history was shared at the conference. Here are a few of the interesting snapshots through the years. In a June 1982 update page, Mary Helen Baney gave some interesting facts. Our second "House Party" was held in 1938 at Lake Waubee's Camp Mack which is a Brethren Church Camp. Dishes were washed in tubs. When it rained, the women gathered in the center of the room to avoid getting wet with some even using umbrellas. The dining room floor was dirt, so the women walked in mud.

In 1940, the ABW moved to Franklin College. During the two years of Elsey Hall renovations, "House Party" was held at Anderson College.

In 1963, the name "House Party" was changed to Summer Conference.

At that Summer Conference, more than 800 goody bags with information and ideas were given to the ladies. There were two sessions: Mon-Wed and Thu-Sat. The last evening banquet contained a special feature.

Throughout the years, the AB women have seen a need of meeting together and sharing. There have been speakers, readings, discussions, interviews, visual aids, literature, and workshops with times of singing praises, Bible studies, and missionary moments too.

May the Lord give the ABW the wisdom and strength to continue this history of giving praise and glory to Him.

ABW Women's Day - 2011

By: Robin Nolin, ABW President

Having come from the National Women's Conference at Green Lake, I am so blessed to represent the women of ABC-IN/KY! I wish everyone could have been there! When I am invited to your church – hint, hint – I will tell you that I chose ABW Ministries as the tool to serve God. Through this ministry, I can do all the things God is calling me to do and be the hands and feet of Jesus.

I hope to see many new and familiar faces at the Indiana Women's Day on October 8th, 2011 in Crawfordsville. Barbara Anderson, the ABW Ministries National President, will make the day full of fun, friends and information. Emphasizing the theme, *In The Potter's Hands*, prepare to come and be stretched, molded, and shaped into His vessel for His service. AB Girls are also being sculptured - bring some!

For registration information, contact your officers or retrieve it online at www.abc-indiana.org. You can call me at 812-988-2808 or contact ronolin@indiana.edu.

Please keep this event in your prayers/praises. Join with other AB women in this ministry. Do not hesitate...for now is the time God has planned for you.

ABW Special Interest Missionaries for Indiana 2011-2013

International Ministries

Barbara & Dwight Bolick
Debra Mulneix
Kihomi Ngwemi & Nzunga Mabudiga
Katie & Taku Longkumer
Carlos Bonilla & Mayra Giovanetti
Ann & Bruce Borquist
Scott & Tan Coats
Madeline Flores-Lopez
Anita & Richard Guitierrez

Home Missions

Susan Harding
Yvette Kenner
Tysha Sellers

For contact information go to:

www.internationalministries.org
www.abhms.org (Home Missions)

AB Women's Ministries Fall Conferences Schedule

WEEK 1 - OCTOBER 17-20

Monday, Oct 17	ASSOCIATION	CHURCH/CITY	TIME
	Logansport	Metea BC/Lucerne	5:30/6:00
	Flat Rock	Shiloh BC/Columbus	9:30/10:00
	Northeastern	Faith BC/Ft. Wayne	9:30/10:00
	Brownstown	Tampico/Brownstown	5:15/5:30

Tuesday, Oct 18	ASSOCIATION	CHURCH/CITY	TIME
	Judson	Judson BC/Kokomo	2:30/3:00
	Decatur	Greensburg BC/Greensburg	3:30/4:00
	Northwestern	Cornerstone BC/Dyer	9:30/10:00
	Bedford	Bedford FBC/Bedford	9:30/10:00

Wednesday, Oct 19	ASSOCIATION	CHURCH/CITY	TIME
	Mt. Zion	Unity BC/Morgantown	5:15/5:30
	Madison	Graham BC/Butterville	4:45/5:00
	Monticello	United Church of Morocco/Morocco	8:30/9:00
	Union	Petersburg FBC/Petersburg	5:30/7:00

Thursday, Oct 20	ASSOCIATION	CHURCH/CITY	TIME
	White Lick	Amo FBC/Amo	12:30/1:00
	Sand Creek	Zion BC/North Vernon	4:45/5:00

WEEK 2 - OCTOBER 24-27

Monday, Oct 24	ASSOCIATION	CHURCH/CITY	TIME
	Freedom	New Market FBC/New Market	8:30/9:00
	Salamonie	Warren FBC/Warren	8:30
	Curry's Prairie	Friendly Grove BC/Lewis	4:30/5:00
	Bethel	Culbertson BC/New Albany	5:00/6:30

Tuesday, Oct 25	ASSOCIATION	CHURCH/CITY	TIME
	Orleans	Mt. Horeb BC/Orleans	4:15/4:30
	Harmony	Anderson FBC/Anderson	4:15/4:30
	Tri-County	Lebanon BC/Midland	9:00/9:30
	Coffee Creek	Coffee Creek BC/Paris Crossing	9:30/10:00

Wednesday, Oct 26	ASSOCIATION	CHURCH/CITY	TIME
	Evansville	Forest Hills BC/Evansville	9:30/10:00
	East Central	New Castle FBC/New Castle	
	Friendship	Bethel BC/Spencer	9:30/10:00
	Long Run	New Liberty BC/Rising Sun	9:45/10:00

Thursday, Oct 27	ASSOCIATION	CHURCH/CITY	TIME
	Laughery	Lawrenceburg FBC/Greendale	2:30/3:00

SOUTHEAST AREA

Memorial BC, Columbus Hosts Community Socials

Memorial Baptist Church in Columbus is taking the love of Christ to the church's east Columbus neighborhood with a series of community socials. These outreach events began in June with an ice cream social. July brought the "Dog Days of Summer", with grilled hot dogs. In September, "Sip and Slide" will offer root beer floats and water games.

Each event has included live music, games, and a bounce house for children. Music has been provided by Memorial's own praise teams and a duo from the New Hope Christian Church. July's "Dog Days of Summer" featured clowns, including Pastor David Schill from Crothersville FBC.

Memorial's members have and continue to work hard to canvass the community for each event, making personal contacts and offering personal invitations to experience what God is doing at Memorial.

These outreach events have built upon concepts highlighted during Memorial's participation in the Missional Church Learning Experience (MCLE) which was offered by the American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS) in partnership with regions. The MCLE encourages creative thinking about ministry, focusing on



intentional interactions with our churches' host communities.

The vision and organization for this outreach series came from Megan Bozell and the leadership from The Water's Edge, Memorial's relaxed Thursday night worship experience.

"These events have given us a low-pressure opportunity to connect with our neighbors," says Pastor Jimmy Collins. "Based on our conviction that 'Church isn't Church until we get out of the building,' we are seeking to show our host community that there's a welcome for them in God's family at Memorial."

If any churches are interested in learning more about MCLE, contact Phyllis Goodyear at phyllisgoodyear@abc-indiana.org or Jim Walter at jimwalter@abc-indiana.org.

Long Run Association News

In August of this year, the Long Run Association had two persons graduating the Region Leadership Program through CLI. Rev. Jay Baker has served as the bivocational pastor of New Liberty BC since 2008. KC Banta is a deacon at the Long Run BC and has shared preaching duties in his church for the past few months while the church seeks a new pastor. They committed to a round trip drive of five hours to attend classes at Franklin College for the past three years to receive the training that CLI offers. Baker and Banta join a long list of CLI graduates from the Southeast Area, some of whom now serve as bivocational ministers and others who serve as lay

leaders in their churches.

The Church Leadership Institute is a region ministry dedicated to equipping men and women for leadership positions in their churches. Classes are taught by individuals with the academic credentials and ministry experience to make their classes highly informative and practical. It is foundational training that every *bivocational pastor and deacon* should have. For more information about CLI and to learn how to register for upcoming classes, be sure to check our website at www.abc-indiana.org or call Jennifer Greene at 317-635-3552 X 221.

China/Tibet Mission Trip

By: Rev. Bob Langdon

In April of 2011, Pastor Bob Langdon and his wife Jean of Little Blue River BC went with ten others on a two week mission trip to China sponsored by American Baptists of Massachusetts.

Accompanied in China by American Baptist Missionary, Judy Sutterlin, the team visited the Chinese Christian Council in Shanghai, Amity Foundation, Amity Press and the Theological Seminary in Nanjing.

The team learned about Christianity in China and visited the Jatson Chumig Special Welfare School in Lhasa, Tibet. The school's founder, a former Buddhist monk, Jampa Tsundup, began caring for disabled and destitute children in 1995. The 145 students attend school and learn Tibetan crafts. The mission team helped students with their English skills by



Jean Langdon with the 4th grade class sharing with them in their classes. Some team members provided therapy for physically challenged children.

American Baptists have contributed funds toward the rebuilding of the girls earthquake-damaged dormitory. International Ministries has endorsed this project. To learn more about this school visit www.jatsontibet.org. Rev. and Mrs. Bob Langdon are available for a presentation of their mission trip. They can be contacted at (812) 378-0608.

FBC Columbus Youth Enjoy Summer Activities

Early in June, Associate Pastor David Doles took approximately 20 youth and leaders to Ceraland Park in Columbus for an overnight camp out. The youth ranged in age from fifth grade through high school. Food was cooked over camp fires.

This proved to be a time of bonding for the youth, as well as, providing a chance to get to know Pastor Doles better amidst the fun and learning. It was a new experience for many and a great time for all!

A couple of weeks after the camp out, the youth came together for a "beach party" at the church. A huge slip and slide was erected, and the youth played sand volleyball and other water games. Even though it was a little chilly, nobody seemed to mind. What is a beach party with out lots of hot dogs and all the fixins'! The youth enjoyed being together.



David Doles shares conversation with one of the youth

Southeast Area news continued on next page →

SOUTHEAST AREA

Randy Ollis Guest Speaker at Shiloh BC

On June 5, 2011, meteorologist Randy Ollis of WISH-TV 8 Daybreak News gave a wonderful testimony at Shiloh BC, Columbus. Members and their guests thoroughly enjoyed learning more about Randy's life. After the 5 p.m. presentation, a light dinner and dessert was served in the Fellowship Hall. Many thanks go to Pastor Ancel Harden for arranging this inspirational evening.



FBC Columbus Holds VBS in Park



FBC Columbus chose a different venue for their VBS program this year with children from the surrounding neighborhood as well as those from FBC Columbus attending. VBS was held in the park each evening beginning with a meal served in the Shelter House.

The meal was followed by Bible School which included Bible stories that were told in a tent along side of the

Shelter House. Using a sound system, music was played in the Shelter House as well.

The first evening held a special treat for those in attendance. FBC Columbus rented the swimming pool located in the park and all of those who attended enjoyed a time of swimming free of charge.

The VBS program was a success and will most likely be repeated next year.

WEST CENTRAL AREA

1st Baptist - Your Port in the Storms of Life

"1st BAPTIST YOUR PORT IN THE STORMS OF LIFE" was the float theme for the annual Amo Fish Fry Parade. Pulled by a tractor, a fishing boat served as the float. A mast constructed from PVC pipe supported the sail. Fishing nets draped the front of the boat. The "fishers" threw small bags of Goldfish crackers with the Amo FBC church witness card attached to those watching the parade. The church also had a witness table in the vendor tent throughout the Fish Fry. Many Christian pamphlets were handed out. In conjunction with the Fish Fry, the church sponsored a clothing drive to support Sheltering Wings in Danville, IN. Sheltering Wings is a place of refuge and hope that provides emergency housing for women and children suffering from any form of domestic abuse. The



clothing actually goes to Goodwill Industries which pays \$5 per bag of clothing. With the use of a Goodwill trailer, 156 bags of clothing were collected which amounted to \$780 in vouchers to Sheltering Wings residents. The congregation and community truly came together to support these ministries. THANKS BE TO GOD for all the lives touched through the three days of the Amo Fish Fry!

Unity BC Celebrates Homecoming Sunday



With the theme of "A Day of Reunion", Unity Baptist Church in Brown County, Indiana (founded 1845) celebrated Homecoming Sunday on June 12, 2011. The program centered on interviews with members who shared memories of the little one-room church, before electricity and modern conveniences, up through the construction of the present day church located directly across the road. Among the nostalgic memories were inspiring stories of Salvation and God's

faithfulness to the members of this little country church.

After the program, everyone enjoyed a "picnic on the grounds" of fried chicken and all the trimmings. Activities for the afternoon included Pine Wood Derby races, corn hole, croquet, tricycle races and members were invited to bring their vintage/antique cars to display.

The day was beautiful and enjoyed by all!

WEST CENTRAL AREA

Bloomfield FBC & Gary FBC Serve Together

On Friday and Saturday, July 15-16, two ABC churches joined together in ministry. Gary FBC traveled to Bloomfield FBC in southern Indiana. On Friday, the two youth groups joined forces to work on projects in the Bloomfield area. A fresh coat of paint was applied to the entrance of the Bloomfield FBC Family Life Center, complete with a mural. Weeds were pulled and mulch applied at a shut-in's house. A

garage was cleaned out for someone who was moving. Trees were trimmed, trash was picked up at a local landmark-the Covered Bridge, and 500 pounds of cereal was divided into one pound bags to be given away by the Food Pantry. The two churches visited one of Bloomfield's claims to fame, the Viaduct (or Tulip Train Trestle), which is the third longest train trestle in the world. On Saturday, the

groups enjoyed a day at Holiday World. Sunday morning worship was led by the youth. It was wonderful to sing and worship together, knowing that friends can be made in new places because we are all brothers and sisters, worshipping the same Lord.



NORTHEAST AREA

It's Been A Summer of "Fishing" at New Castle!

New Castle FBC has been keeping busy this summer with outreach activities and partnerships for helping others in the community!

FBC's Children's Ministry coordinated with the Henry County Ministerial Association to hold four VBS outreach events on Saturdays in June and July ... and "went fishing" in four neighborhood parks that seem to be crying out for Jesus! The parks are in the most economically strapped areas of town, and the event concluded with a free lunch for all participants.

Volunteers served as shepherds to

preschool and elementary-age children as they went from ice-breaker activities to crafts, and from water games to a time of personal testimony of how God can work in everyone's life.

Children were given an opportunity to invite Jesus into their life, or recommit to living for Christ. Nearly 160 children attended at least one of the VBS outreach events, with several making life-changing decisions for Christ!

The events also built stronger relationships with two other congregations in the community, which we pray will continue into future seasons.

Adults at New Castle FBC were

Adults are Being Trained to "Fish" at New Castle FBC

encouraged to get out of the comfort of their church building and attend Wednesday evening discipleship training sessions in a park atmosphere this summer.

Participants were equipped in a small-group atmosphere to live out their lives as daily evangelists for Jesus Christ. They received real-life training, and were allowed to practice several aspects in making that happen, including:

- Prayer walking their neighborhoods and the areas of the VBS outreach events,
- Practice in giving their own story to their co-workers and neighbors, "God's Story through Our Story," and

- Encouragement to live a lifestyle of evangelism among their neighbors and friends.

In addition, the "Going Fishing" theme continued with a new Sunday morning discipleship class with an emphasis on spreading the Gospel to those around us whom we might not know very well. *The Way of the Master* has been equipping Sunday morning participants with the knowledge and foundation for reaching the lost among us.

Training session plans are being formed for pre-school to adults to find ways to expand the "fishing expeditions" through outreach opportunities next summer.

It's Been a Great Summer at Camp!

Yes, it has been hot, but with extra time in the lake and pool, campers at our ABC Indiana/Kentucky camps have had a great summer.

Indian Creek hosted 618 (same as 2010) campers this season. This included 48 persons of all ages taking part in Special Persons Camp. The camp season ended in August with 50 youth visiting the camp from the Edna Martin Christian Center. There have been many volunteers serving as Camp Directors, Cabin Leaders and Camp Pastor. A majority of the youth are from ABC churches, however many additional campers attend with other denominational backgrounds, as well as, no church background at all. It's just great when the youth bring their friends to camp!

Tippecanoe Camp had approximately 500 (down 60 from 2010) campers, despite two camps being cancelled. Tippy also hosted a large rental group before the ABC camp season began. Tippy benefited by many volunteers. I would like to thank two persons in particular. A special thank you goes to Delores Fitzpatrick who comes to Tippy from FBC Bunker Hill and spends the entire summer helping in the office. Thanks also to Phyllis Arvola from Ft Wayne Baptist, who served as Camp Nurse for the entire camp season. Many thanks go to the Youth Praise Team, Wildfire, from Calvary BC in Kokomo. This group is comprised of four young people who spent the entire summer leading worship and also helping out at the camp wherever needed.

Both camps benefited from another volunteer this summer. Alisa Coats,



daughter of ABC Missionaries to Thailand, Scott and Tan Coats, spent 6 weeks volunteering between the camps. Alisa is 17 and will returned home to Thailand in August. Alisa had the opportunity to visit several colleges while here this summer and would like to work at our camps when she comes to college in the fall of 2012.

The summer camp employees worked very hard as lifeguards, maintenance, cooks, music leaders, and supervising the boating activities at Tippy.

The success of our camps is due to all kinds of the volunteers who have helped build and maintain the camps over the years. They are vital to camp operations throughout the summer. There is no way we could have such a successful camp season without our volunteers.

Our Camp Managers are Jordan and Mindy Morris at Indian Creek (812 279-2161) and Rebecca Scott at Tippecanoe (574 834-4184). The camp managers took a week away from the camp for well deserved rest after their groups departed. They will be busy from fall to spring preparing the camps for the 2012 season. Both camps are eager to work with our churches and groups for weekend retreats. Give them a call. They would love to host your group.

The Tippy Camp Cat, Webster, Writes to His Cousin, Bedford at Indian Creek

Well, our camp season is over and it sure is quiet here at Camp Tippy. I miss the sounds of children and adults laughing, singing and learning about Jesus.

There were many campfires and lots of swimming and splashing in the lake here at camp. (I really don't like the water, but the kids sure do!)

I am looking forward to groups coming in for the special weekends we

are having here at camp. I know I will get lots of ear scratchin' on those weekends!

Along with hosting retreats this fall, Rebecca will be busy getting the camp all "bundled up" for the winter months. I can't believe how many leaves fall from the trees here at camp. I really enjoy playing and hiding in them, but Rebecca always does such a good job of gathering them all up!

I sure do hope all of the churches in the

ABC-IN/KY will encourage their youth and adults to come to camp next summer. They will have such a wonderful time and learn so much about Jesus!

Well, I have to go and check on the cabins to make sure the mice are staying away. I look forward to hearing from you about Indian Creek soon!

See ya! Webster



“A Tale of Two Regions”

Submitted by: Pastor Dennis Patton, Woodland BC

The following is an inspiring account of cooperation between the ABC-IN/KY and ABC-GI regions. Woodland BC, located in Indianapolis, had a family that worshipped with them for approximately a year. The family moved to the Indianapolis area so their daughter could pursue her Masters Degree at the University of Indianapolis. Upon finishing school, she began to search for a teaching position and asked the congregation to be in prayer.

Their daughter was soon offered a teaching position in Evansville. The position brought great joy and also a sense of disappointment as the family and the people of the church had grown very fond of each other.

Pastor Dennis Patton was approached by a family member with the news of the move and asked if the congregation might offer assistance with the move. The assistance included driving the truck to Evansville, as the family would be driving their cars, and also helping with unloading the truck. Pastor Patton remembered a program from the past that encouraged pastors to contact an ABC church in the new area when a family is moving. He decided to approach an ABC church in Evansville, to see if they could

assist with unloading and welcoming the family to their community.

He contacted the ABCIN/KY region office in Indianapolis and was given the telephone number of Pastor George Huffsmith at Evansville FBC. Pastor Huffsmith was very receptive to his request and said that Evansville FBC would provide people to help. Pastor Huffsmith called to suggest that those providing help from Woodland come to the Evansville FBC for lunch upon their arrival and then go to the apartment together to unload.

The group from Woodland arrived about noon on moving day and enjoyed a good lunch. Evansville FBC had seven people available to assist the three from Woodland along with the three family members. It was 90+ degrees in the heat of the day, but the truck was emptied in about three hours. The family treated those available to dinner to express their appreciation.

Those from Woodland BC and the family appreciated the assistance of the folks from Evansville FBC and the spirit of cooperation between the regions. Pastor Patton stated that while he is sure neither Pastor George or he would want to get into the “moving business”, it was a unique ministry that Woodland BC and Evansville FBC will not forget.

Year of Discipleship

Every summer for the past forty-two years, I have had the privilege of teaching theatre with my husband at an arts camp in northern Michigan. We teach the basic skills of acting to older elementary age students who perform two plays during the camp season. One of those skills is “keeping in character” the entire time you are on stage. Recently a young girl playing the role of Dick Whittington’s cat made one of her exits, rushed up to me backstage and asked “Did I stay in character, even when my ears fell off?” I assured her that she had done a fine job, even while picking her ears headband up off the floor. We got her cat ears back on, a little more securely this time, and off she went, back on stage to resume her role.

Staying in character is perhaps one of the most difficult of all the acting skills to attain and it comes about as the result of several other skills – focus, listening, observation, proper use of the body and voice, being able to take direction and, most of all, practice. That’s why good rehearsals are so important. Practice makes permanent, as well as, the hoped-



for perfect. When the unexpected happens on stage, that practice allows the actor to deal with the situation as their character would.

Discipleship also requires practice and the more we practice, we are better equipped to stay in character as Christians, even in the face of difficulties....even when “our ears fall off”. Our churches strive to provide the rehearsal opportunities of deepening study, equipping and ministry. Contact Ruth Proctor at 260-493-1694 or at proctor606@frontier.com for more information about how Discipleship Partners may be able to help as you plan ways to practice discipleship in your congregation, so that all may stay in character – the character of Christ.

The Journey Continues Discipleship Workshops September 10, 2011

“How do you motivate persons to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ?”

“How can you increase the spiritual vitality of your congregation?”

Attend The Journey Continues discipleship workshops on September 10 and you will receive answers to these questions!

On this day, there will be 6 different in-depth workshops that touch on several areas of ministry for your congregation. These workshops will encourage persons from youth through older adults to be involved in discipleship everyday. There are two sites to choose from - Peru FBC in the north, and Columbus FBC in the south. You will receive practical, hands-on experience to take back to your congregation and put into practice. Go to www.abc-indiana.org to download the brochure and registration form. Deadline for registration is September 2. If you have any questions, contact Jim Walter at jimwalter@abc-indiana.org.

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RIVERCITY FAITHFEST 2011
September 17, 2011

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RiverCity Faithfest is a FREE Christian music festival sponsored in part by Evansville FBC. For more details, visit the website listed above!



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SENIOR ADULT ACTIVITIES



2011 Conference on Ministry with the Aging

Tell Me Your Story
Thursday, September 29
Four Seasons, Columbus

Registration only \$30.00
CEUs Available

Deadline Registration is: September 22

For more information, contact:
Phyllis Hawkins, Chaplain
Conference Coordinator
Phawkins@fourseasonsretirement.com

Senior Adult Day
October 13, 2011

Journeys Then and Now
Seymour FBC

Program Highlights Include:
Inspiration through devotions and song
Lori Keith - The Sock Lady
Matha McIntire - Historian
Michelle Mayer - Director of Outreach - Indiana Attorney
General's Office
Senior Center of Columbus - Variety show of song &
surprises

Reservation deadline: Wednesday, September 5
Seating limited to the first 225 registrants!

Go to: www.abc-indiana.org to download information
and a registration form