



North Central Network

A Publication of the Missionary Church, North Central District

June 2009

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RESOURCE CENTER MISSION STATEMENT

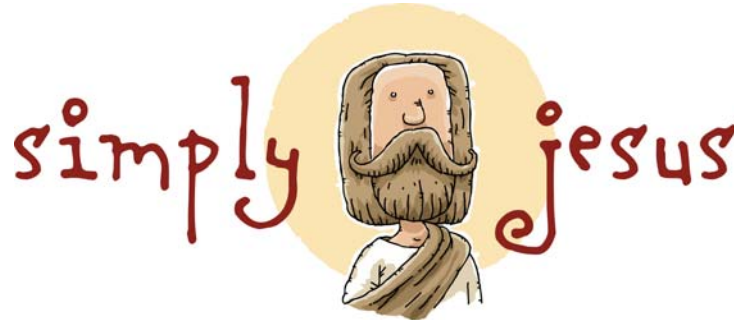
**WE EXIST TO RESOURCE
AND
SUPPORT OUR PASTORS
AND CHURCHES
TO ASSIST THEM
IN BUILDING
HEALTHY MINISTRIES.**



Father's Day
June 21st

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SUMMER CAMP AT PRAIRIE CAMP



We're just weeks away from starting what looks to be the greatest summer in Prairie Camp history. Programming is being fine tuned and counselors are ramping up all in anticipation of the campers' arrival; there truly is a buzz in the air. Why such a high expectancy about this summer compared to other summers? Maybe because it's the summer before us, a year to do things we've never done before, but mostly because we are excited about the theme. Our summer will be spent studying the person of Jesus Christ; a remarkable God and man who left us with an amazing model for how we are to live our lives. I cannot wait to see the campers fall in love with Jesus.

Will you pray for us this summer: for protection of the campers, strength and wisdom for the staff, and a summer of good weather? We want God to move! If you will promise to pray, we will promise to present the gospel. Lastly, send your children, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. Camp is no fun without the campers!

-Carrie Badertscher, Camp Director

Summer Camp Dates

(Grade just completed)

Beginners (K-2)
July 13-14

Rookies (K-2)
July 15-17

Juniors (3-4)
June 22-26

Preteens (5-6)
July 6-10

Young Teen Wilderness (7-9)
June 28-July 2



-Registration forms are at your local church or the District Resource Center

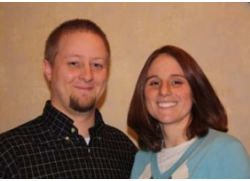
EASTER HIGHLIGHTS



New Paris Missionary Church (Rev. David Hackney): Our community, including five other churches worshipped together during a Tenebrae Service held at New Paris on Good Friday with close to 280 in attendance. It was apparent that the churches involved were excited about participating in the service. It was a true “community” service. Resurrection Day we celebrated as a congregation with 11 baptisms during our Sunrise Service with a record attendance. Breakfast involved the Men’s Ministry and Youth Ministry working.

The Children’s Bell Choir was a blessing and we closed our worship with Holy Communion.

New Hope Missionary Church, Jackson (Rev. Byron Maynard): We had a wonderful Easter Sunday. We had 130 in attendance and we also had a Baptismal Service where nine people were baptized!



Liberty Community Church (Rev. Matt Yoder): One of the things that we have focused on at Liberty is “remembering the past and telling your story, and that we are to be a community that remembers God’s faithfulness and passing on our stories to the next generation.” One of the areas of emphasis has been the period of Lent and sacrifice. Then Easter was a time of celebration and partaking of what we had previously surrendered. During the service our children sang and our CE director told the Easter story using plastic

eggs. It was a fantastic time of celebration and community. Our attendance was up about 20%!



Cedar Road Missionary Church (Pastor Jeff Truex): On Easter Sunday we presented a very simple gospel message to the lost family and friends present. We had 144 in the service. We had a lent series of “Spiritual Disciplines” that went very well. On the first Sunday of Lent we had sixty people commit to adding a spiritual discipline or give up (fast) from something during that time period.

Crystal Valley Missionary Church (Rev. Chris Garner): We had three services for the first time in the churches history! Total attendance was 523—highest attended service ever in our history! We took a special offering for our local food pantry and received over \$5,000. A neat thing—a man who just has come the last two weeks (Chris did his girlfriend’s graveside service 3 weeks prior to this—cancer death at 43), sent an email after the service and talked about how it touched him and he wants to be baptized!



The Revolution (Rev. Ryan Flemming): Since we are meeting in a bowling alley, we decided to do an Easter egg hunt prior to the sermon and tie it into the message as an illustration. Following the service, we opened the lanes for bowling. We had 75 people come out, this is at least double our average attendance, close to tripled it! The invitation to come to Christ was given to several first time visiting families.

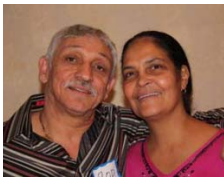
LaPorte Missionary Church (Rev. Carl Galloway): We had 224 different people at our Easter services and 142 for breakfast. We had 124 in the Sunrise service and 162 for our cantata. The good news is that we had 193 people attend the following Sunday!



Lake Missionary Church (Rev. Lance Witham): Easter attendance was a record of 212 for two identical services - first time breaking the 200 barrier! We continue to see salvations and new steps in Christ. On Good Friday we had a first time decision and several recommitments. Youth midweek attendance has new kids coming all the time and new commitments as well!

Lockwood Community (Rev. Shayne Looper): The Spirit of God seemed to be at work. A number of people responded to the invitation, including a man who was “coming back after being lost for ten years.” Our children’s ministry saw nine children pray to receive Christ and receive counsel in the Way! One of them was a Muslim girl. She and her family and other Muslim families have become friends with Rev. Bob DeBolt and his family. Our attendance for both services was 560.

EASTER HIGHLIGHTS, CONTINUED



River of Life (Rev. Roderick Hoffman): We did a special Resurrection music special and had Pastor Walter Day preach. It was a powerful message that touched many hearts. The place was packed, front to back and many indicated that they were challenged by the message.



Plymouth Missionary Church (Rev. Pat Puglisi): We had a very nice and well attended breakfast followed by our morning service of 102 that was encouraging. The greatest blessing was a young family that we have been praying for. They attended our breakfast and worship service. I renewed their vows in February and they agreed they would do some Bible study and talked a little about healthy and Biblical marriage. She has started to read her bible and have some

accountability with one of the gals here, and he said the last time we met that our time together has impacted his thinking about faith. I am praying and trusting that they will choose Christ and be a great answer to prayer!

DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS



Congratulations to **Rev. Rick and Carlyn Schultz** who was ordained on May 17th at the **Berea Missionary Church**, where he serves as Senior Pastor. Rev. Mike Peters officiated for the ceremony.



The **Women's Leadership Brunch** took place at Sturgis Missionary Church in March. Their next event is scheduled at Prairie Camp during Family Camp week on Tuesday, July 28th. Watch for more information. The Ladies Retreat, sponsored by the District Women's Ministry, is scheduled for October 10 at the Essenhaus Inn and Conference Center, Middlebury, Indiana featuring Shari Minke.

The **Prairie Camp Golf Outing** was a great success! With forty-six golfers and over fifteen sponsors, the outing raised \$4,700. Several prizes, such as a free night's stay at the Ivy Court Inn were given, with the winning team each receiving a \$25 gift card. A big thank you to everyone who was a part of making this outing a success!



The winning team from Brenneman Memorial!

"I needed this!" These were the words of one lady with tears in her eyes as we were going up the elevator at the close of the **JOY Retreat** at Amigo Centre. Another shared, "Sounds like you had not only a 'joyful' time, but also a BLESSED time with each other and the Lord." The "Soul Purpose" quartet from the Brenneman Memorial Missionary Church shared in concert and Dr. Dennis Engbrecht inspired with challenges of how seniors can be a blessing to others. We thank God for His presence. "Walk with the King and be a Blessing" was the theme that inspired us all. —Hilda Brenneman, Co-chairman JOY Committee



Networking

Pray for our churches who are seeking their next pastor:
Burr Oak Missionary Church
Gospel Center Missionary Church
Crossroads Missionary Church



Congratulations to **Rev. David and Barbara Nicholls (W. Eckford)** who have celebrated their 40th Wedding Anniversary this year!



Congratulations graduates! Awarded Masters of Ministries degree from Bethel College:
Pastor Brad Bullock
Rev. Linda Hartman
Pastor Samuel Ochstein



Congratulations to **Rev. Ryan & Karen Powell (Osolo)** on the birth of their third son, **Andrew James** on May 14th.



Prairie Camp needs volunteer bus drivers for the summer camping program! You and your guest will be covered to get into any event you drive for. If you can help please contact Amber Kreider as soon as possible: amberkry@gmail.com or 574.612.1680.

District Conference



The North Central District Conference took place this year on May 8th at Brenneman Memorial Missionary Church in Goshen, IN. A concert of prayer led by Rev. Tom Swank and worship led by Julie Swihart blessed those who attended. A wonderful tribute was given to Rev. Terry and Peggy Powell in thanks for their many years of service. The business of the district was cared for including a discussion and question and answer time led by Dr. Bill Hossler on the denominational restructuring information. The conference closed with remarks from and prayer over the Superintendent Elect, Rev. Chris Knight and Assistant to the District Superintendent Dan Bridges, who will assume office July 1st.



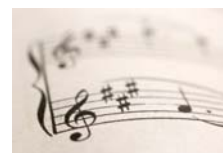
General Conference

Ask the Lord of the Harvest is this year's theme for the 20th Missionary Church General Conference, July 14-17, hosted by Bethel College, Mishawaka, Indiana. Two notable speakers will join the conference: Jim Cymbala and Jerry B. Jenkins. A new pre-conference event is scheduled for Monday, July 13th, *Celebrating the Past, Embracing the Future* for those 60 plus years of age and looking for a good outing with those of the same music and language style! Also, on Monday, July 13th you can participate in a concert of Prayer at 9:00 a.m. with Dr. Ben Jennings leading.

For more information on General Conference go to our website: www.mcncd.org and click on the Resources tab. There you will find the Missionary Church, Inc. link. Or you can call 260.747.2027 and ask for Lynn.

Networking

Denominational Reorganization Discussion Meeting to be held June 7 from 3-6 p.m. in the gymnasium at Beulah Missionary Church. You will find the reorganization document at our website: www.mcncd.org. Contact Cheryl: Cheryl@mcncd.org or 574.293.1332 with your reservation.



Forestbrook Missionary Church is looking for hymnals to replace their really "old" hymnals. If you have hymnals (125-150) you are no longer using, contact Ron Drake at draker@bethelcollege.edu.



Hillside Gospel/Bluegrass Jamboree takes place each month at **Hillside Missionary Church** on the 3rd Thursday from 6:30—9:00pm. For more information: 574-784-8222.

If your church would like to list items to sell or give away in this column, please send an email to: cheryl@mcncd.org by the 20th of the month.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July

June

5	Stats due	3	District Resource Center closed
5-7	Camp Counselor Orientation	4	Independence Day
7	Denominational Reorganization Discussion Meeting	5	Stats due
14	Flag Day	6-10	Preteen Camp Week
21	Father's Day	13-14	Beginner Camp
22-26	Junior Camp Week	13-17	General Conference
28-July 2	Young Teen Wilderness Camp	15-17	Rookie Camp
		24-Aug 2	Family Camp

DISTRICT PRAYER UPDATE

Recent Prayer Requests and Praises:

- **Dr. Norman Bridges** (NCMEF—Lilly Chairman) is hospitalized in Texas and scheduled for surgery on June 2nd to remove a cancerous tumor and his kidney. There are four life threatening problems. Pray for healing from this complicated surgery.
- **Ethan Nicholls (Jason & Terri)** (Redeemer), 5 month old diagnosed with a hole in his heart. After a month of medication treatment to see if the hole will close, they will determine if surgery is necessary.
- **Rev. Mike Cain's wife, Kathy**, (Lake), has recently been hospitalized for colitis and his **mother** has been diagnosed with breast cancer with treatment to be scheduled soon.
- The family of **Rev. Matt Yoder** (Liberty) after the home going of his grandmother.
- **Rev. Chuck & Nancy Lambdin** beginning a new ministry in Texas and needing to sell their home in Mendon, Michigan.
- The family of **Jim & Wanda Hartman** (Governance & UMLI Board) after the passing of Wanda's father.
- The family of **Rev. Norm Fuller** (Fairview) after the passing of his brother in April.
- The family of **Rev. Lance Nothstine** (Crystal Valley) after the passing of his father in April.
- The family of **Rev. Charlie & Debbie Keller** (Diamond Cove) after the passing of Deb's sister in April.
- **Maggie Jernas**, who is 3 years old, has been diagnosed with cancer in her bone marrow. Maggie's parents are **Rodney and Rachel Jernas**, is on staff at Nappanee Missionary Church. **Rev. Bill & Silvia Greenwood's** (Pleasant Ridge) granddaughter.
- Pray for the smooth transition of our new **District Superintendent, Rev. Chris Knight**.
- Continue to pray for the health issues of some of the spouses of our pastors: **Nancy Lee Ashley, Angie Lamason, Cindy Maynard, Jean Breniser**.