

WHITING COMMUNITY CHURCH BAPTIST LIGHT

From the Pastor

The “Yes’s” and “No’s” of Love

Our behavior does not always represent our God. When this happens, what does God do? Look the other way? Pretend sin isn't there? Minimize it, and say it's no big deal? Play the passive or the avoidant, and sweep sin underneath a lumpy rug? When our actions or attitude is ungodly, God speaks. This is love. God's love can be seen in God's correction. The discipline and “no's” of God equally point to His love for us just as much as anything else. God says “no” because God loves us.

Discipline is different from punishment. God does not punish us. The wrath meant for us was laid upon Jesus at the cross. For those who call Jesus friend and Lord punishment ended at the cross. "He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree" (1 Peter 2:24). Christ paid for our wrongdoing.

Discipline and punishment have a different relationship to time. Punishment looks back. It focuses on making payment for wrongs done in the past. For example, Christ's death was payment for our sins. Discipline, however, looks forward. The lessons we learn from discipline helps us to not make the same mistakes again: "God disciplines us for our good, that we may share in his holiness" (Hebrews 12:10).

How does that help us? It frees us to make mistakes without fear of judgment, without fear of loss of relationship: "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus" (Romans 8:1). Romans 8:1 suggests to us isolation and judgment will not be the result when Christians sin. However, do be sure, there are consequences when we sin. Sin costs us intimacy with God among other things.

Yes's and no's just don't come from God. Yes's and no's come from other humans too. They too, can come out of love. Think of the following as examples: the no of parents, the no of siblings, the no of teachers, the no of friends, the no of bosses and supervisors, the no of spouses, the no of health problems from overeating, alcoholism, or an irresponsible lifestyle, the no of police, court, and prison.

Some people learn to accept and respect “no” from parents. Other people need law enforcement to intervene and enforce a “no” that was not learned earlier in life. Proverbs 19:27 says, “Stop listening to instruction, my son, and you will stray from the words of knowledge.” Whether the instruction is from God, or the instruction is from other humans, understand the “no” can be said out of love.

The last thing any human needs is to be surrounded by friends who nod their heads like bobblehead dolls to everything they say or do. What kind of true friend is that? It may stroke the ego, but it doesn't help grow and mature. We need friends who love us enough to say “no,” and seek out a way to lovingly disagree with us to our face. We need friends to help

Financials

Our 2015 General Fund Approved Budget is \$80,710. Our goal is to raise a minimum of \$6,725.83 per month in order to meet this budget. As of the end of October, we are \$1,887.09 over budget.

Gen fund income:
\$69,145.42

Gen fund expense:
\$55,197.39

Phone Numbers

Church: 920-722-4312
Pastor Nick's cell:
920-252-1290

Church Rummage Sale.

THANK YOU!!

A big thank you to all who helped make the church rummage sale a huge success. We raised over \$800.00.

It could not have happened if not for all of you who donated items, bought items, helped set up, worked during the sale and helped pack away and clean up after the sale. Your help was greatly appreciated.

hold up the mirror of reality. "Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses" (Proverbs 27:6). We need to be secure enough in our relationship with God and with ourselves that others "no" do not undo us emotionally. Then we can see a "no" as coming out of love, or at least gain better perspective on the situation.

-Pastor Nick

Church Christmas Party - Save the Date

December 13th after the church business meeting is the date for our Christmas potluck, gift exchange, fellowship and fun. Gift exchange can be either a gently used white elephant, homemade food or gift item, or inexpensive purchased item. Details to follow in the bulletins and weekly church updates.

Christmas Orchestra

Do you have an instrument in storage that you haven't touched in years? Dust it off and join us in the Christmas Orchestra!

Anyone who has had 2 years of playing experience at any point in their life is invited to join a Christmas Orchestra. If you have ever played a string, brass, woodwind or percussion instrument we would love for you to join us. We will be playing fairly simple music, but with many parts and instruments we can sound beautiful!

We will be playing on Christmas Eve about 20 minutes before the service begins. Rehearsals will be Monday nights Dec. 14th and 21st at 6:30, and before the service on Dec. 24th. Please talk to Holly if you are interested or have questions.

Fall Budget & Nomination Meeting

The Fall Budget & Nomination Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 13 after worship. We will be voting on the 2016 budget, Velte Benevolent Fund requests, and a number of positions that serve the church. Be sure to come to worship, attend the important congregational meeting, and stay for the Christmas party & pot luck.

A Free Way to Raise Funds for Our Church

We are part of a free program that can help raise substantial funds for our church. Over 200 area businesses including Festival Foods, Pizza Hut, Panda Express, Moto Mart, Express, Applebee's, Solea Mexican Grill, Papa Murphy's, HuHot, Copper Rock, Culver's of Neenah and Gordman's, just to name a few, currently participate in this program.

You would register your VISA credit card or debit card, and every time you make a purchase with the card(s) that are registered, a portion of the purchase will be applied to this program.

Register now to help raise funds for our church.

It is free to register:

1. Visit www.ucmission.com/join and click "Join Now".
2. Choose to support "Whiting Community Baptist Church" when registering.
3. Our church will receive 0.5-10% cash back on the purchases you make.

Thanks in advance for your support!

I will have full listing of businesses available at Church If you are unable to view on-line. New

You should know that when you complete the pledge card and return it to Sheila Piunti, Financial Secretary, it is kept confidential.

Please complete the pledge card below even if you are not making any changes in your pledge. I will also use this card to distribute envelopes.

WHITING COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH OFFERING PLEDGE FOR 2016



GENERAL			MISSIONS		
_____ wk.	_____ mo.	_____ yr.	_____ wk.	_____ mo.	_____ yr.

IF YOU HAVE LEFT OVER ENVELOPES, PLEASE CONTINUE USING THEM AND WRITE YOUR NAME ON THEM.

WOULD YOU LIKE OFFERING ENVELOPES? _____ YES _____ NO

**** Return to Sheila Piunti or place in offering plate. This information is kept confidential****