

WHITING COMMUNITY CHURCH BAPTIST LIGHT

From the Pastor

Engage Your Mind to Engage Your World

“But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.” -1 Peter 3:15-16

Recently I had two young gentlemen visit me from the Church of Latter Days Saints. You might have heard of them by a different name as well, “Mormons.” I knew where I wanted the conversation to go, but I strained to remember some particular points. So what’s a person to do? Well, I remembered a Bible study I led on the book of Hebrews in the spring of 2014. I specifically put some things on that handout I knew would be helpful for such a time as this. I pulled it up on my computer, and listened to my guests. First, my work was to listen, respect, and practice hospitality. Second, whether in this conversation, or in a subsequent conversation if the door was open, I wanted to get to the crux of the issue, “Is Jesus God?” Christians say, “yes,” but Mormons say, “no.” Who knew that the Bible study handout prepared a year and a half prior could come in so handy?!

I share this story as an example to share the importance of our mid-week discipleship ministries, called Christian Education and Fellowship (CEF). What I teach mid-week is sometimes of greater value than my message Sunday morning. I prepare handouts often with the intention to provide clear bullet point takeaways to be used in the future. This was the case with my recent, “Morality of God,” teaching held on January 10th, where I provided a Q + A section. I encourage you to keep an eye on our website and other communication pieces for mid-week discipleship opportunities to be trained in your faith.

~ Pastor Nick

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 December, we are \$5,063.33 over budget.

Gen fund income:
\$85,773.31

Gen fund expense:
\$71,925.08

Phone Number

Church cell: 920-722-4312

Game Night

Saturday, February 13
6:30 pm

Bring your favorite game, friends, and snacks to share!

All ages are welcome.

Ladies' Bible Study

Wednesday, February 10,

6:30 - 7:45 PM

Ephesians 2 : 1 - 22

Guest: Saul/Paul of Tarsus

All ages are welcome!

February Mission Project

February Mission Project is WEMI radio's Help for the homeless

We will again participate in WEMI radio's help for the homeless. The drive will be Feb 21-March 13. Our collection box will get delivered to church between Feb 12-19 but we can start collecting items anytime before that the box arrives.

Items collected will help provide the needed supplies for 79 crisis agencies in 13 counties. Donations remain in the communities in which they are collected.

Items to be collected are cleaning supplies, hair care, dental, baby care, personal care and first aid supplies.

"I don't know what I would do if I could not have a shower and clean clothes. Being homeless is one thing but trying not to look and smell homeless is another thing" Client at the Fox Valley Warming Shelter

Your donation will help people in need within our community. Please give these basic living supplies to help this effort.

Parking Lot Replacement Project

As you are aware, our parking lot is in need of replacement. The estimate to replace the parking lot is \$75,200; this cost is for removal, grading, reinstall, and installation of 2 required storm drains.

Our goal is to raise the funds and complete this project in 5 years.

A person in our congregation, who wishes to remain anonymous, has generously offered to match up to \$3000 that is donated to this project in February - May. Let's make this match be a reality!

Please consider to give generously & sacrificially toward this project. Please write "parking lot" on your offering envelope or check for the amount you would like to go toward this project. To give sacrificially, this donation would be over your regular giving amount.