

WHITING COMMUNITY CHURCH BAPTIST LIGHT

From the Pastor

“We will.”

We must not make “we will” statements if “we will not” is our intention. I fear social pressures and traditions press people to say things they do not affirm. Let our “yes” be yes, and “no” be no. Let us not succumb to a false expression of discipleship and fellowship rooted in tradition rather than the Holy Spirit's promptings us to say “we will.” With sober-mindedness, we must consider the cost of joining individual voices to provide a corporate expression of our faith.

Baptists believe baptism is reserved for people who are saying, “we will” live for the glory of the God of the Bible. Baptism is a personal response by way of public declaration. The community of faith watches as believers are baptized. Baptism holds a community element. The “we will” follow is said for others to hear. People listening hope the baptismal candidate's confession carries sustained commitment.

We held child dedications on April 26th. Child dedications also hold a community element. Young children are not of age to say “we will” commit our lives to making God look great whatever the cost of personal sacrifice. More development needs to occur before a person prayerfully enters into such a life commitment. Therefore, parents, the faith family, and the pastor are the ones saying “we will.” Our prayer is someday the children dedicated will become believers baptized. The “we will” in the commitment statements of April 26th come from individuals, and are made to have a corporate expression in the months and years ahead. We've made commitments to represent God well to these children. Let us be image bearers of our God who displays sacrificial covenantal love. My brothers and sisters, may God be faithful and strong when we are fickle and weak.

-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 March 31st, we are \$2,299.55 short of budget.

Gen fund income:
\$17,877.95

Gen fund expense:
\$18,880.34

Pastor Nick on Vacation

Pastor Nick has a few vacation days planned in May. Pastor Nick will be out of the office on vacation on May 13 & 14 and on May 26 & 27.

Camp Tamarack

The last day for early registration for Camp Tamarack campers is April 30. Notify Jenne Steffen by May 10 of any campers planning on attending a camp this summer. Vette funds can be set aside for camp scholarships.

Youth Volunteer Opportunities

Attention Middle and High School Students

On Saturday, May 16 the youth are having an outside spring cleanup day at the church. The cleanup activities will start at 10:00 and last until noon. Pizza will be served for lunch after the cleanup .

Spaghetti Dinner & Game Night

Jeff Steffen & George Strohmeyer are pulling out the old church spaghetti sauce recipe and cooking up a batch for dinner before a night of your favorite games. The spaghetti dinner will begin at 5:30 with games to follow. A \$5 per plate donation is requested to cover the cost of dinner. A sign up sheet will be in the front of church. Anyone interested in attending is asked to sign up to help with dinner planning.

Take Me Out to the Ballgame

ATTENTION:

MEN AND BOYS OF WCBC (AND FRIENDS)

Mark your calendar for

SUNDAY JUNE 28TH. 1:05 PM.

TIMBER RATTLERS GAME

BOX SEAT TICKET - TAILGATE LUNCH - FELLOWSHIP

\$12.50 PER TICKET

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!!

Families Connecting with the Lord (FCL)

In Families Connecting with the Lord (FCL), we are *intentional* about bridging the gap between church life and home life. From the moment of its conception, and every subsequent step, FCL's heartbeat is to see families equipped to continue on faith conversations in the home long after FCL ends. In FCL, we as leaders know that we cannot make FCL successful. That is up to the work of God and the parent(s)' willingness to integrate faith conversations into a normal part of everyday life. It's what the parents do at home between each Wednesday, and throughout the rest of the summer that will make the difference. FCL facilitates and coaches families through this process.

A) **Involve the parent(s).**

This summer we want to grow closer as families. Children and parent(s) will together examine what it means to pursue God together. Children and parent(s) will equally be challenged to grow in their relationship with God.

B) **Once a week.**

Families Connecting with the Lord will meet once a week for 5 consecutive Wednesday nights. (6/10, 6/17, 6/24, 7/1, 7/8)

C) **Length each night.**

Families Connecting with the Lord will meet for 1.5 hours, 6:00-7:30pm.

D) **Three elements.**

There will be three elements: meal time, Bible time, and activity time. Each will last approximately thirty minutes.

Volunteer Need: (sign up in the back of church, or talk to Pastor Nick.)

Volunteers:

Meal: Barb, Mae, Art, Ellen, Becky (need 4 more)

Bible: Christi, Pastor Nick (need 2 more)

Activity: Julie, Kristen, Diane (need 2 more)

Advertising/Registration: Kristen, Christi, Pastor Nick (need 2 more)