

GRACE and Truth



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For the law was given through Moses, but GRACE AND TRUTH came through Jesus Christ. (John 1:17)

August, 2016



Cristi DeHoff

Vacation Bible School

by Cristi DeHoff

"There is no way we could do this without our church body coming alongside us and helping with such an event. We are truly blessed and thankful for our church family."

This year VBS was June 27th through July 1st. Our theme was Noah's Ark, which was fun for everyone! There were decorations of rainbows, storm clouds, rain, animals, and of course, our very own ark!

We had approximately 60 children in attendance, which is a bit higher than in previous years. This included our own families, some from Noah's Ark (our daycare), and some from the community. We also had about 40 volunteers, who were key in making it happen each evening.

We cannot express enough thanks to those who donated time, energy, materials, prayers, and support. There is no way we could do this without our church body coming alongside us and helping with such an event. We are truly blessed and thankful for our church family.

Along with a change in structure, we also tried a time change this year, choosing to run in the evenings from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. We were sad to take a step away from all of the daycare children, but thought this was an avenue to explore. We were encouraged by those who worked all day, each day, then came in to play with, love on, and teach our children. We were also very encouraged and excited by the men and fathers who came to help, also working all day, then coming in and being strong role models ... and maybe having fun too!

Many children memorized the VBS verse of Proverbs 3:5-6: *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths."*

There are so many great lessons from the Noah's Ark story, and this verse is a wonderful one for ANYBODY to know! Trust in God, have patience in Him, and then see His beautiful promise.

On Friday evening we had a closing program, inviting

the families of all of the children. Almost all of the families came, and it was a lot of fun. The kids sang on stage, quoted the memory verse, and named the many things they liked about the week – crafts, games, lessons, friends, and song time.

An offering was taken each day and the money will be used to support Sang, an overseas child that our Children's Department has adopted. The kids donated a total of \$150, almost half of which came in on the final night.

There was also a small adult Bible study that met during the VBS time, going over the Noah's Ark story as well. This study was a bit more in depth, but planned with the intention to "feed" those in attendance and encourage parents to engage with their children about what they learned each evening. It was a small study, but had great conversation and was enjoyed by those attending. We are very thankful to Rich Witmer and Lamar Young for leading this study.

With less than a year until the next VBS, we will begin planning soon for next summer. Please pray for us as we plan and prepare, for our volunteers, and ultimately that children and families will be touched by the Word of God and the love of our personal Savior.



During Vacation Bible School the kids listened and watched intently to a puppet show depicting the Noah's Ark story.

Visit our website at www.indygrace.org

Leadership Spotlight



DAVID DALE, DEACON

by Jennifer Wilkerson

David Dale's friendly face and broad smile may be the first sight you see when attending a service at Grace! Let's get to know the deacon featured this month.

Married 43 years now, David and fellow Ball State student, Paula, met at a boat race in Wisconsin.

She had never even been in a sailboat and was therefore surprised when this outgoing stranger asked her to be his rowing partner after two of his crew had to cancel at the last minute. Each one quickly discovered that the other was very competitive!

The Lord has blessed Dave and Paula with three daughters. Melissa is married to Kurtis, Amanda and husband Bob have seven year old Zach and eleven month old Aurora, and Megan and Caleb have a new baby, Gabrielle. Melissa and Amanda teach at the second grade and pre-school level, and Megan is the distribution manager for a local Auto Zone.

"We are a very close family; we enjoy nature, and until the girls married we camped in every state park in Indiana.

We hope now that we are retired we can get back to our camping activity."

Dave and Paula are involved in a small group Bible study and, of course, study on their own as well. They also enjoy gardening and spending time with grandchildren.

Dave is the current chairman of the deacons. This involves leading the monthly meetings, encouraging the others to focus on the matter at hand, and staying organized. Dave explains, "I also have to approve all expenditures for the building's maintenance. This includes the computers, HVAC, electrical, plumbing, roof, and outside maintenance. As chairman, I am responsible to follow up with each of the deacons to make sure the building and grounds are kept up." This involves snow removal, mowing, keeping the lights and heating/air conditioning in good repair, painting, and other matters requiring attention to keep Grace running smoothly. The deacons are also responsible for security of the building.

Dave was the accounts receivable supervisor (accountant) with Firestone Building Products until retiring in August of 2015. He now delights in his new role as "the assistant sitter of Gabrielle" on weekdays and attempts to "keep up with his loving bride."

News From the Children's Department

by Cristi DeHoff

With school starting, we hope you have had a good summer!

Recently Holly Phoenix was able to hand out certificates to Maura DeHoff, Evan Doerksen, Lilly Dugger, Jubilee Georgen, and Ava Rizzi for memorizing ten Bible verses. Please encourage all of the children in this challenge and maybe even join in yourself!

Holly and her family left with the Prague team on Friday, July 29th. We are praying for all of the kids who are traveling, and for the families to enjoy this special time together. Of course we are praying for them to spread God's love and word to new people. For a more detailed list of prayer requests for this trip, please watch for church emails, or contact the church office.

With the beginning of school, we are planning our second Family Worship Workshop. While the workshop is for

the new and incoming elementary children and their families, we are excited to offer a separate one for our pre-k, kindergarten, and Noah's Ark families. If your family falls into any of these categories, watch for more information, or see Cristi DeHoff with any questions.

If your family does NOT fit into any of these categories, please pray for the events – good attendance, well-planned presentations and information, volunteers to help, and that we are able to embrace and encourage all who attend.

Thank you for your prayers, support, time, and service to our department and the youngest of our church body!

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Third Quarter Sunday Class

This summer there is a single DiscipleLIFE class which started July 3rd and continues through September. It's a 12 week study of Francis Chan's **We Are Church** and explores who God is and what the church ought to be like. Each week there will be a 15 minute video, a time of instruction and reflection questions for smaller groups or individual households. **This class will meet on Sundays in the sanctuary at 9:00 a.m.**

Goerings Prayer Passport Update

Great Commission Europe: "Making disciples, planting churches, reaching Europe"

by Cindy Bannon

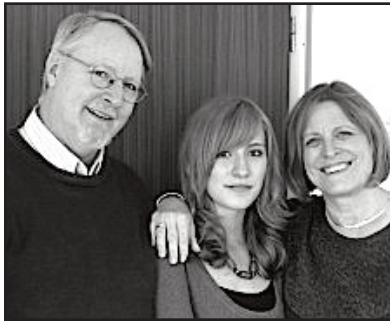
Daniel and Lori Goering are our missionaries in Berlin, Germany. They serve with Reliant Mission, formerly called Great Commission Ministries.

The Goerings moved from Cologne, Germany in 2015 and have actually only lived in Berlin for seven to eight months. The church in Berlin is at a stage where it needs a complete replant. It has been called Rock Berlin, but this may change with the reboot. They have plans to be reaching people with the gospel in at least three arenas:

1. their neighborhood (new housing development, so everyone is new),
2. among a good number of refugees who live within a mile of their house, and
3. evangelism on university campuses near them.

Below, Daniel shares a recent prayer letter detailing what they have been doing in June and July.

"Even though people have been taking our contact information from the tear-offs on area posters, it has been painfully slow to see people actually show up. Finally, this last week we had four people come and one of them lives right here in our new neighborhood. Thanks for your faithful prayer support. It is finally paying off. Pray specifically



Daniel, Jana, and Lori Goering

for Ralph, Kasia, Annett and Philipp. Our desire is to make friends for the sake of the kingdom and to eventually see them become Christ-followers.

"The weekend of July 23-24, Lori and I are planning to visit the church in Cologne. It has been a while, so we are looking forward to being with them, teaching on Sunday, and catching up. From all we hear, the church is growing and doing very well. That includes the two gals who made decisions for Christ at the Pentecost Retreat in

May. Keep praying for more leaders to be raised up, and more people to respond to the gospel.

"During the first part of August we will be taking a much needed real vacation. Yeah! The rest of August we will be continuing our outreach here in Berlin (especially through English Conversation and German classes which we offer), as well as joining in on a short-term outreach team from our previous church-plant (Cologne) to evangelize in Brasov, Romania (August 29 through September 5)."

The budget of the Missions Committee operates solely from designated giving, and not from the general offering. In order to support the Grace Evangelical Missions outreach, you need to mark your offering envelope with the specific amount you wish to go to MISSIONS.

Food Pantry Provides For Needy

by Bill Boone

Servant's Heart collected 2,889 pounds of food through the month of June and touched 855 lives. Our volunteers have been diligently sorting through the final tubs from the *Stamp Out Hunger* food drive. It was amazing that about 20% of the food was beyond the "best by" dates. We set up a special shelf for that food and have been offering it to clients. Many of them are very thankful to get the extra cans of veggies and soup.

I have taken several tubs of food to another ministry called *Humble Impressions*. This ministry is run by Rebecca Perdue and has four locations. Most of her thrift stores are located in struggling neighborhoods. I took my six year old grandson Joel with me to help, and the families were grateful to get the food. We love partnering with other ministries to share God's light!

In the last newsletter we talked about Darlene and her brother who took in a mother and five kids. We have had the opportunity to supply some of their needs with a variety of things. We provided them with cabinets for the kitchen, beds for the kiddos, a washer and a couch. Then we had about thirty boxes of miscellaneous items including dishes, towels and linens. The kids sat down in the middle of the backyard to discover the treasures within

the boxes. "Oak," the youngest one, found a pair of small truck trailers. He was having the best time in the dirt with those trucks! All the kids found a special treasure, but the best treasure of all was the news that Darlene had an opportunity to lead the mom to Christ.

A week or so later there was a bad thunderstorm and the middle girl asked Darlene where she would go if she were to die in the storm. Darlene explained the plan of salvation to her using the Roman Road. The little one made a decision to follow Jesus. Darlene has had the privilege to lead the mom and the three oldest kids to Jesus since giving them shelter from a horrible situation.

We are humbled to help with the food, clothing and furnishings, and to be the hands and feet of Jesus. We never know how God will use our involvement with a family.

Upcoming dates:

- August 20: Southern Lakes Food Drive and Yard Sale (donations and volunteers needed)
- September 13-17: Beech Grove Fall Festival (volunteers needed for our booth and to walk in the parade)
- September 17: Servant's Heart annual golf outing (details on our website)



Challenge 2016 – Live Sent

by Luann Young

For five days, thirteen teenagers and four adults were immersed in a youth conference in Louisville, Kentucky hosted by EFCA (Evangelical Free Church of America). Twice each day, over 5,000 youth and adults from around the country gathered to sing praise, worship, laugh, share, and learn from a variety of speakers. Anna Sudler shared, "The music was the best part. Everyone was so connected during that time." Joylene Gayflor said, "One thing I took from Challenge is that we are youth who came together to learn about Jesus and praise Him."



We were blessed to hear many gifted speakers while there. Go to www.challenge-conference.org and click on "check out more videos" to hear them. You will also find a video featuring our own Sam Handy called "Challenge 2016 – Brandon Early – E-Y-E-S," as well as an appearance of Isaac Abbey in "Challenge 2016 – Knockerball." Videos are also posted on YouTube; just search EFCA Challenge 2016. After each gathering, we met together in our own group for a time of reflection and sharing. Max Young says, "Challenge helped me embrace that there is no 'mini-holy spirit,' and the Holy Spirit that is with me is the same that was with God in the creation of the world." Isaac Abbey added, "One thing that stood out to me is that God is also always with us."

Each day there were opportunities to attend smaller classes on a wide variety of topics relevant to the world in which we live. We also spent time learning about the needs in Rio, Brazil as it prepares to host the Summer Olympics. We saw the Rio that will not be televised, and learned about missions that are reaching out to the poor and powerless there. On our final day in Louisville, we spent a few hours serving by picking up trash. Kara Johnson spoke about how people in the area "thanked us with a gallon drink and a liter of ice. We also were thanked by a bus driver with slushies."

In addition to all the opportunities to learn, pray, and be stretched and challenged, we were able to find time to enjoy being together – swimming, working out, knocker ball, human foosball, octaball, watching a fireworks show on the Ohio River, and more. As noted by Sam Handy, "One of the many things I saw at Challenge was seeing how kids across the country could come together and in a generally orderly fashion worship the Lord, but still have fun playing games like octaball."

We are grateful to all who provided support that allowed us to be a part of this event. As Abe Phillips said, "God reminded me who a Christian's true family is and if the students got from it even half of what I did, Challenge 2016 was a huge eternal investment." Carolyn Abbey said, "Challenge for me opened my eyes and allowed me to experience the manifestation of the glory of God. My prayer is for me to experience intimacy with Christ."

We were reminded that "the church is not 'like' a family, the church IS our family." Seek out some of those who were there and ask them what it means to them to "Live Sent."



AUGUST

- 8/03 Gabriel Moxley
- 8/03 Brock Johnson
- 8/04 Brent Smith
- 8/05 Steve Conlin
- 8/06 George Manley
- 8/09 Gary McCabe
- 8/09 Devin Patterson
- 8/11 Matthew Smith
- 8/12 Paula Dale
- 8/12 Venessa Hendricks
- 8/15 Sandra Dodson
- 8/19 Liliana Georgen
- 8/20 Angela Johnson
- 8/21 Rick Bishop
- 8/23 Wanda Cooney
- 8/24 Aiden Phoenix
- 8/26 Rich Witmer
- 8/29 Donna Huff
- 8/30 Vic Roeske

ANNIVERSARIES

- 8/03 Adam & Holly Phoenix
- 8/09 Bill & Janet Simpson
- 8/19 Larry & Cheryl Dilk
- 8/22 Ed & Charolett Urban
- 8/22 Steve & Pam Farrar
- 8/23 Gary & Cheryl McCabe
- 8/24 Brent & Venessa Hendricks
- 8/25 Donald & Barb Andry
- 8/29 Kyle & Liz Black

Get the App: Men's Breakfasts

by Bill Simpson

Application continues to be the overriding theme of the Men's Breakfast. The Saturday morning informal gathering features good food and good times with spiritual application.

The July 9th breakfast kept to the course. Michael Smith made the presentation, talking about confronting spiritual darkness in life's everyday events. Picking up from Ephesians 6:12: "We do not wrestle against flesh and blood but against the rulers of darkness." Michael led the group through some of his own experiences and advocated looking for opportunity in confrontation, wherever that may be. Moreover, personal struggles combined with faith significantly certify us to reach out in many situations to give light in the darkness.

The final point of Michael's offering on that morning was that all of life's situations, no matter how we find them, must be sorted out with the perspective of eternity. Our efforts in this life for eternal purposes will sustain while all else passes away.

In addition to these points for reflection and application, there's time for Men's Ministry announcements and an open floor for general discussion. Men's Breakfasts start at 7:30 a.m. and wind up by 9 a.m. The first one for the fall season is planned for Saturday, September 24.