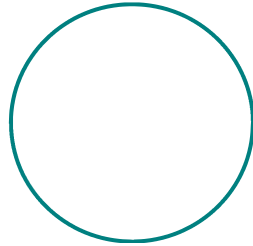


EFree News

“Doin’ Life Together!”

September 2011



Executive Pastor



Pastor’s Pen

New Beginnings

Philippians 3:13-14(NIV):

“But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heaven-ward in Christ Jesus.”

We as a church body have the unique opportunity to *begin again*. Those two words don’t really make sense together, in that it’s impossible to *begin* something *again*. But the grace of God has afforded us that miracle: a clean slate. a new dawn, a fresh start. We should all be excited about what God’s going to do in us and with us in the future. The

past is behind us now, may we always leave it in the past.

As we move forward, there are things we need to remember :

This is God’s Church. We have the tendency to say “our church” or “my church.” It’s certainly not a bad thing to feel connected to a family of believers, but we don’t *want* the church to belong to us, subject to our agendas and our opinions and our plain old human fickle tendencies. We need God to be in charge, to do with us as He pleases.

Proverbs 21:1(NASB): “The King’s heart is like channels of water in the hand

of the Lord; He turns it wherever He wishes.”

Let’s pray that this church, God’s church, would operate in the same way.

Psalms 131:2 (NASB): “Surely I have composed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child rests against his mother, my soul is like a weaned child within me.”

The weaned child rests against his mother no longer seeking what he can get from her, but because he knows he’s where he belongs and he loves her. Here in our new beginning, let’s not seek God for what He can give us, but because *we love Him and want to be near him*.

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Coming this Fall: Life Groups

Every week we get to worship corporately as the great big body of Christ. It’s inspiring to hear the hearts of our brothers and sisters coming through as we sing praises, and it’s uplifting to listen to the truth spoken

from the pulpit together. We love doing things together! But where do you turn if you want to get to know the people around you on a deeper level? What do you do if you need more up-close-and-personal

Biblical teaching and support? The answer? **Life Groups.** Starting this Fall, get connected with a small group of your fellow believers. Interested? Contact the Church office for more info.



Fall Retreat: *September 10-11*



On Saturday afternoon, enjoy paintball at 2:30pm, dinner at 5:30pm, and then come together for worship and the Word at 7:00pm followed by family - style game time. Stay over in a tent, bring your camper or crash in one of the Loft's bunk rooms. Sunday will begin with a pancake breakfast and will continue with our 9:30 am service, a fellowship dinner afterwards and an afternoon of fun activities like a fishing contest and the waterslide.

On Saturday night and Sunday morning we will have the opportunity to hear from a gifted speaker.

Don't miss out on these great opportunities to get to know your Church family!

Ladies' Progressive Dinner

Saturday, October 15

There was such a great response to the Progressive Dinner last year that we've decided to do it again! Meet at the Lake Ave Dining hall at 5:00pm where you will be split into groups! Enjoy an appetizer course, a soup & salad course and a "main event" course in the comfort of a home of

someone in your church family. This is a great opportunity to get to know other ladies in the church and to make lasting friendships with people you may never have the opportunity to talk to on a regular basis!

After dinner, everyone will reconvene at the Dining hall for dessert! If you're interested in

hosting, driving a van, decorating, or providing dessert, please contact the church office.

There will be a sign-up sheet on the back counter at the beginning of the month!

It is very important that you sign-up as soon as possible so we can find out how many hosts we will need!



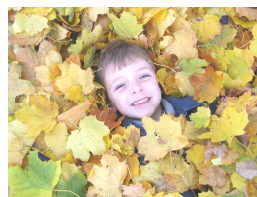
Fall Festival

Friday, October 21st

in the MBC Gymnasium from 6pm - 9pm

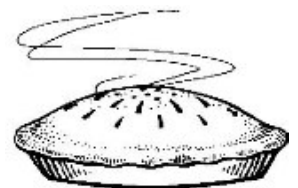
Bring your friends and family out to EFree's third annual Fall Festival in the Brown Gymnasium, located behind the Dining Hall. There will be all sorts of games, a costume competition for kids (no scary costumes please!), and fun foods like

cotton candy and hot dogs!



Ladies, start honing your skills for the pie-baking competition. Same goes for the men! Start

thinking up some wild recipes for our "Roadkill Cook-off" Compete for prizes and the coveted title of best pie, or best roadkill!

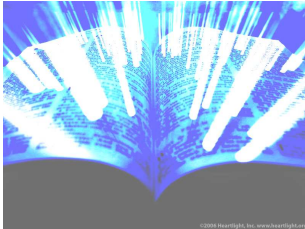


Men and Ladies' Fall Bible Studies

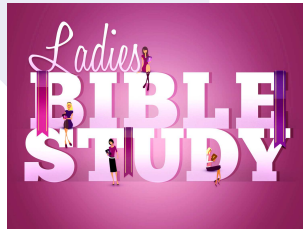
September 2011

Want to grow in your knowledge of the Bible and your relationship with God? Want to learn to share the good news with your neighbors? We've got studies this fall to help you.

Ladies' Inductive Bible Study



will continue on alternate Monday nights beginning September 19th. The group will meet at 6:30pm in Dreyer Hall. Join us for an in-depth look at 1 Timothy. This study will challenge you to go deeper in God's word and requires you to do a good deal of study.



Tuesday evenings at 6:30 we will be offering **Living Proof's Lifestyle Evangelism**. We will examine how to reach out to your neighbors by cultivating a lifestyle of sharing your faith. The weekly video and group discussion questions help us examine the issues we face in reaching the culture around us. There is a minimum amount of homework to do between sessions. The 12-week course will run from September 6- November 22



Men's Inductive Bible Study

Strengthen your faith through a deeper understanding of God's word. Join a group of men committed to doing the same every other Monday night starting September 12 at 6:30pm in the Dreyer Hall lobby.

The study will cover 1 Timothy and will run alternate weeks from the ladies' study.

"Want to grow in your knowledge of the Bible and your relationship with God? Want to learn to share the good news with your neighbors? We've got studies to help you!"

Sign up today for these studies!

Youth Events this Fall!

Starting on Wednesday night, September 14th, our youth clubs will kick off again!
6:15pm- 8:00pm

Registration Kick-off:
Sept 14, 6:15 at the Rec. Hall

Pioneer Clubs:

Boys: 3 yrs old - 2nd grade
Girls: 3 years old - grade 6

Alpha Chi:

Girls 7th grade - 12th

Christian Service Brigade

Stockade for boys in grades 3-6
Battalion for boys grades 7-12



Senior High Teens

A kick-off for youth group will be on Sunday, September 18th at the Harman's house.

Junior High Students

will meet once a month - stay tuned for details about this brand new once-a month youth group just for our Junior High students.



If you have any questions about youth events, contact the Church Office at 570-278-4500

Welcome to Noah's Park! Age 3 through 3rd grade

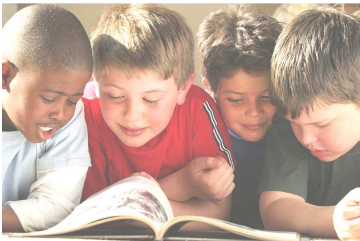


The children had a great time this past year in Noah's Park. They enjoyed the jungle-like atmosphere and were engaged in the Bible lessons, craft activities, and games that gave them the opportunity to get to know our God better. The kids will continue their journey through Noah's Park this year. While in the park, the children

will learn about their importance to Jesus, how He shows them what God is like, how God made the world and them, how Jesus' friends treat one another, and so much more. The children will worship God through music, prayer, and a Bible study on their level. Of course we will continue to have plenty of exciting games

and crafts for them too, all meant to reinforce the day's lesson. The kids will have a chance to memorize a new scripture at the beginning of each unit as well. And this is just a little taste of what is in store for us this year in Noah's Park. I'm so excited and hope your children are too!!!

Into "The Zone!" 4th through 6th grade



This summer in THE ZONE, our kids learned all about "Power Plays". We had an awesome time talking about decision-making power, God-pleasing power and world-changing power, and it has been exciting to see the energy and

the excitement each week of this study. What's next? We're going to be entering the BATTLEGROUND, where we'll be studying peace talks, flak attacks and the ultimate conflict. It's sure to be every bit as thrilling

for students and teachers – so stay tuned.



What's Happening at the Montrose Bible Conference



There are a lot of fall activities coming at the Montrose Bible Conference that you won't want to miss out on! Call or email them for more information on any of their events!

The Art of Marriage:
Friday - Sunday, Sept. 16-18
Conference designed to "help couples fully experience God's design for marriage."

Like a Rock Men's Retreat (& Sons ages 6th grade+):
Friday - Sunday, Sept 16-18
Friday dinner - Sunday lunch.
"we seek to grow as 'Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, And in favor with God and men.' Luke 2:52"

Fall Clean up Days:
Thurs - Sat, September 22-24
"Volunteers will be helping the Montrose Bible Conference with a variety of projects to prepare MBC for the fall

and winter retreat season. Meals and lodging are available." Contact them for more information.

Fall Dinner Drama with Kapp and Linda Brown:
Friday, October 7
A fun evening with friends and an inspirational program, not to mention delicious dinner. Doors open at 6pm. Dinner begins at 6:30pm with the drama to follow.

Fall Bed and Breakfast:
Friday - Saturday, October 7-8
Stay overnight after the fall Dinner drama program for breakfast in the morning.

Contact the Montrose

Bible Conference at

mbc@montrosebible.org

or call at 570-278-1001

Missionary Update: Get to know The Drapers

September 2011

Leslie and Andrew Draper met at Taylor University in Upland Indiana, where they both attended college. They were married on December 2, 2000 and lived in Elkhart Indiana. They have since moved to Muncie, Indiana, where they are currently involved in inner city ministry. They have two sons, Aidan (6) and Alister (4). Andrew received his Master of Divinity from Winebrenner Seminary in Ohio. Leslie is the daughter of Russ and Mary Wood, and attended EFree when she was in high school.



After college, Leslie worked in a home for unwed mothers. In Elkhart Indiana after she and Andrew were married, she taught remedial English at Ivy Tech Community College. Andrew was a full time music minister for three years before they moved to Muncie.

Currently, both Andrew and Leslie are involved in ministry

with the "Urban Light Community Church" where Andrew serves as lead pastor and President of the Urban Light Christian Development Corporation (CDC). Urban Light Community Church is a multi-cultural church that exists to "reconcile people to God and to each other." Andrew also teaches an inner-city ministry course at Taylor University on "Urban Ministry and the Kingdom of God." Leslie serves as the Director of Academic Coaching, which helps provide an alternative education option

for children who have fallen through the cracks and need focused attention to begin learning once again.

Leslie is currently working on starting a charter school for the Muncie community in 2012. The "Muncie School of Inquiry" has received a positive reaction from the community and will foster creative thinking and development for students through an "inquiry-based program."

Andrew is currently pursuing his PHD at the University of Aberdeen in Scotland and will begin courses in January. He received the Lilly Endowment Sabbatical Grant and the whole family will

travel to Scotland with him for the Spring Semester, January 2012 – May 2012.



Both Andrew and Leslie's lives have been characterized by an active desire to serve the Lord, specifically in ministry to the unloved and unlovely, and those who may seem hard to reach.

If you would like to learn more about their ministry at Urban Light Community Church, please visit their webpage at: www.urbanlightmuncie.com



*Urban Light
Community Church:
Reconciling people
to God and to each
other.*

Sharing Board

To Give Away:

An Epson Dot Matrix Printer, with paper and ribbons.
If interested, please contact the church office..

A new Braun hand blender and small food chopper.
A never been used 3 Tier Revolving Cupcake Display
If interested in either, please contact the church office
at 570-278-4500.



XL Student Life Missions Report

During the last week in July, we had the privilege of taking six students to Wheaton College for Student Life Mission Camp. It was exciting to see God move in and through our young people during the week, as He continued to teach them and use their giftedness to teach others.

we were blessed to travel to the Boys and Girls Club of West Cook County to spend time with the children there. Our teens jumped right in and, within a few moments, were connecting with kids from age 6 to 16. We all had the chance to play games, do art projects, act as tutors and share lunch with them. We also got to know some of the counselors and supervisory staff and assist them throughout the week.

way to impact the teens. It was truly a blessing to be able to spend the week with the team, consisting of Sarah Fahringer, Stephen Fahringer, Cody Franssen, Carolyn Myer, Zach Myer and Destiny Sterling.

We would like to thank all those that supported us financially and in prayer, and I trust that we, as a church family, will continue to invest in these young lives as they deepen their commitment to Christ.



Upon returning to campus each evening, we had time as a small group unpacking a bible teaching, worshipping together (led by Unhindered) and hearing from Jeremy Kingsley, a gifted speaker whom God used in a mighty

Each day was packed with opportunities to hear from God's word, to be together as a group and to worship. Not only that, each afternoon we



"We, as a church family, will continue to invest in these young lives as they deepen their commitment to Christ."

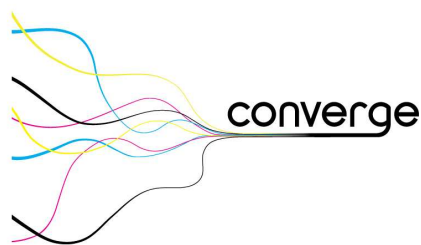
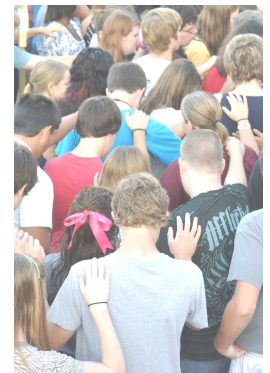
See You at the Pole 2011

September 28th, 7:00am

Every year, early in the morning, students all around the country will be meeting around the flag poles in front of their schools. Students from all different types of schools will participate: Christian schools, public schools, even home schools. There will be some students who will stand boldly and fearlessly. Some will be asked by their classmates what

they were doing that morning. They'll get to explain the purpose of the event to those who don't know Christ. For some students, standing in front of the school that morning will be a challenge, knowing that when they get inside they will be mocked, looked down upon by their fellow classmates and sometimes even their teachers. Please encourage and pray for your students as they take this bold step of faith and pray for

their country, their leaders, their teachers and their fellow classmates.



September 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5  Labor day Office Closed MBC: BBQ: 1-2pm Concert: 2pm	6 6pm Missions Meeting 6:30pm Living Proof	7	8	9	10 Church Retreat Service at 7:00pm
11 Church Retreat Service at 9:30am	12 6:30pm Men's Bible Study	13 6:30pm Living Proof	14 6:15 pm clubs kickoff at Rec. Hall	15	16	17
18 Youth group kickoff	19 6:30pm Ladies' Bible Study	20 6:30pm Living Proof	21 6:15 pm clubs	22	23	24
25 Youth Group	26 6:30pm Ladies' Bible Study	27 6:30pm Living Proof	28 See You At the Pole 7:00am 6:15 pm clubs	29	30	

“Doin’ Life Together!”



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September 11, 2011

September 11th, this year marks the ten-year anniversary of a day that struck horror into the hearts of the nation, tearing down our feeling of safety and security. It's hard to believe that it's really been ten years since that day. It's so vivid in our minds, as if it were only yesterday.

Every man and woman who is old enough to remember that day knows exactly where they were, and how they felt as they watched the buildings burn and

fall and the great loss of lives.

Spend some time in prayer this day. Many people are still hurting from a sense of loss from losing loved ones. Pray for those people that this day will always deeply affect.

Pray for men in harm's way across the globe fighting to keep terror away from our shores.

Pray for our country. Though we may always be in danger of attack, the greater danger is

our nation's deliberate choices to move away from the God who created us. Pray for our nation which is becoming more and more spiritually desolate.

Special Memorial Service: Visit the Danny Crisman Memorial Park in South Montrose on Thursday, September 8, at 5:00pm for a special program on the history of the park and its continued purpose as a memorial to lives lost on September 11th. Cost is \$5.00 for the program

