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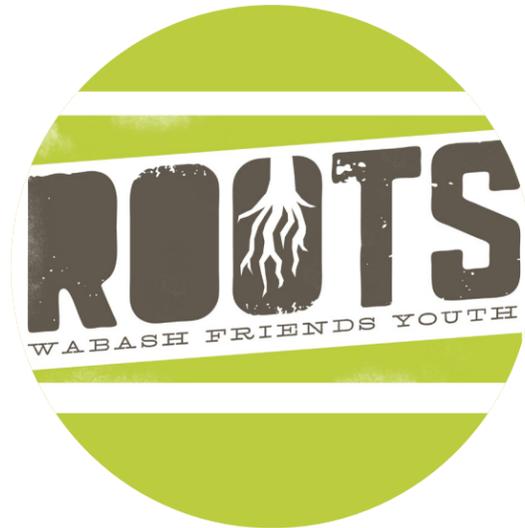
## SPONSORING OUR FUTURE

By Brandon Eaton

I spoke a few weeks back about the importance of our older generations really getting involved in the lives of our younger generation. I reminded the congregation that the size of our harvest will always depend on the amount of harvesters. We have an opportunity coming up that I don't want you to miss. Our students have started a new fundraiser, but raising money so they can go on our summer trips is just part of the idea.

Our kids will be participating in a month long serve-a-thon through May, where the whole month they will be doing all sorts of community service. These tasks will range from little things (like leaving encouraging notes for others) to big things (like an all day service project). Just like you would in a walk-a-thon we are asking them to gather sponsors to support them financially with an amount of their choice.

We are really excited about this project, but supporting the month of service only has to be the beginning of your involvement. Make a decision to support one of our students, whether you know



them or not, and take this opportunity to begin to know them! Don't just give them a few bucks to help them out. Pray for their future! Don't just help them go on a trip that has the potential for life change. Be an active part of their life change!

See this as a window of opportunity to start thinking more about the student you choose to sponsor. Ask them how they're doing when you see them on Sunday. Send them an encouraging note. Go to their basketball game. Could this be a moment where all our generations rally around our kids? Not only will this benefit our students, but through this you might find the deeper connection and sense of purpose within the church that you've been wanting.

Please prayerfully consider sponsoring one of our students. Signing one of their papers only commits you to the amount of money you promise, but no one is stopping you from committing more. Commit some time. Commit your prayers. Commit your love, and ensure the church's future.

6); Dan Dyson will be leading a project development team involving agriculture and livestock to Nepal to assist our mission partner, Dr. Samson (dates pending); and Susan Dawes will be leading a team of youth to Oklahoma to encourage our partners, Brad & Christine Wood working with the Kickapoo Indians. Next year's plans include opportunities for another team to Belize, an education-based team to India, and a medical mission team to Kenya. So there are several opportunities on the horizon to connect.

Don't let the expense be a deterring factor. Scrip helps provide Mission Scholarships to assist in helping people go. As a point of clarification, mission giving is separate from our tithing and giving to the church: money has to be designated to missions to go into missions. Remember that Nehemiah's willingness to be obedient and go allowed him to be a part of something amazing. We don't want anyone to miss out!



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



### HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:

April 13 - Journey to the Cross, 5pm-7pm

April 17 - Christ in the Passover, 6:30 in the Atrium

April 18 - Community Good Friday Service, 7pm at the Honeywell Center (Legacy Hall)

April 20 - Easter services, 8:30am & 10:45am



WABASH FRIENDS

GATHER GROW GO

SPRING 2014

## THE GREAT I AM

a word from Lead Pastor Alex Falder

A few weeks ago we asked the question: Why do we gather as a church? We gather because Christ's love compels us. This word compel has many implications: it guides, it guards, it unifies, it focuses, it motivates and it springs forth from us. Which implication do you connect with most?

Christ has reconciled us to God. He has made things right between us and God the Father. 2 Corinthians 5:19 says, "God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them." This is good news for us who are in Christ and also good news for those who do not know Him yet! We meet together to celebrate God's love and what He has done for us in Christ. We meet together to become a better display of Christ's love and reconciliation to those we come in contact with daily.

As we gather in anticipation of Easter, let us connect and celebrate what God has done for us in Christ. The Great I AM has died for us. The Great I AM has risen from the grave, defeating death

so that those who put their trust in Him will not die but have everlasting life. In Christ we become a new creation. Like spring, we come alive because we have been reconciled to God. This is a compelling story, and it is our story.

The Sunday after Easter there will be a new 8:30 service, 9:40 Sunday School and 10:45 service. As we transition to this new Sunday schedule for the summer, I ask you to pray that Christ's compelling love would be the unifying reason why we gather as a family at Wabash Friends Church. The point is not the time, the place, or the style. The point is that we connect as a whole family around the celebration and the carrying out of His love. For this season, the church is in agreement that this new schedule is a way to better accomplish that point. At the end of August, we will evaluate the schedule to determine if it will remain.

Alex

## MISSION MINUTE

BY SHERRY SCHOENING

When we see the tagline "Gather Grow Go," it is meant to signify a journey at Wabash Friends Church, working us from a body of Christ gathering in pews, growing in relationship to each other and to God, to going. This going is putting those relationships and knowledge into action. Action furthers the Kingdom. The first two help to prepare us for the third. We are not meant to stall there. If we want to grow deeper, to have our heart align with the heart of God, that takes action. Faith without works is dead, and we want to be fully alive! Action can take many forms: blessing a neighbor, helping a co-worker, serving at church, giving to missions, or going on a short-term mission trip to build and deepen relationships with our partners around the world.

We were blessed to have the team from Belize share on Sunday, March 23. Hearing how God stretched and used them blessed all who heard.

We want everyone to be aware of upcoming Mission opportunities. This summer, Dr. Eric Dale will be leading a team to partner with John Muhanji for a Vision Camp to Kaptama, Kenya (June 27 to July



## GATHER

### ABOUT WORSHIP...

BY PAT BYERS

What a privilege it is to play a role in all of us making a “joyful noise” as we come together to worship God at Wabash Friends Church!

As you know, music is an integral part of our services. In fact, we usually spend about as much time singing as we do listening to a sermon. Have you ever stopped to think about why we do that? In what other setting do we stand together and sing songs? In my own study of worship music, I have come to a couple of conclusions. First, we sing because it is something we can do together. When we stand and lift our voices, as one voice, there is something magical that happens. We are more than just together...we are connected...we are on level ground. The second reason that we sing is that, when we allow our voices to flow out of us with words of praise, we take on a certain posture. Our very bodies become like antennae, channeling the love, beauty and wonder of this somewhat mysterious God who approaches us and desires to be in our presence. Going all the way back to the Psalms, there are several mentions of music and the lifting of voices in song. Music has always been one of the ways we take on a position of

### QUAKER HAVEN CAMP

BY KATHY JADERHOLM

Have you heard the ad slogan, “What Happens in Vegas Stays in Vegas?” Well, that’s definitely a good idea as far as I’m concerned. But stay with me now, I’m going to make a giant leap from Vegas to Syracuse, Indiana. Here’s my new ad slogan for Quaker Haven Camp... “What Happens at Camp Doesn’t Stay at Camp”! What do you think? I love it because it’s so true. Kids come home from camp with stinky clothes, muddy shoes, a pile of clean underwear, and lives that have been changed! What happens to them in that one week can alter the course of their entire life. It has eternal significance!

Wabash Friends wants to make it easy and affordable for every family to send their children to camp. However, there have been some changes at IYM this year, and we are only able to offer 25% off every camper’s registration fee instead of the usual 50% that has been paid in previous years. A full week of camp costs \$285, so we recognize that this change may pose a hardship for some families.



worship and reflect the goodness God has shown us back to Him.

Music, however, is not why we meet on Sundays. Sure, it is a tool helps us to be more clear in our message, but the message itself comes from the Scriptures and from all of us who have had our lives changed by God. One of the many wonderful things about the Friends Church is that we emphasize the fact that all of us are ministers and we all have a faith story. That story needs to be heard. I hope you will lead us in worship of God as you tell your story of how He is working in you! And this can happen wherever the people of Wabash Friends are gathered. The style is not what matters, it is the heart behind it all that matters.

So, let’s make this “joyful noise” together. Let’s “worship the Lord with gladness” as we come together to be the Family of God with a heart for one another.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

Worship the Lord with gladness;  
come into his presence with singing.

Psalms 100:1-2

Requests for additional scholarships can be made to Kathy Jaderholm or Brandon Eaton prior to May 19. If you would like to help invest in the scholarship fund to send kids to camp, simply write a check marked “Every Kid A Camper Fund” and drop it in the offering plate. If you are interested in organizing a Camp Fundraiser to help offset costs please contact Kathy to share your ideas.

The 25% offer is based on the early bird rates that are only valid before May 23. It is available to children who are regular attenders at Wabash Friends Church. Completed registration forms and payment should be returned to Tami Lane in the church office by May 19. Do not send registrations directly to camp if you want to take advantage of the discount offer.



## GROW

### JOURNEY TO THE CROSS

BY KATHY JADERHOLM

Journey to the Cross returns to WFC on Sunday evening April 13th. This unique family experience is designed specifically for parents and children to share together. This step-by-step, interactive, all senses engaged journey leads participants through an exciting adventure story. The story centers around a courageous King who left his throne to pursue the ones he loves, fulfilling the greatest rescue mission of all time. The best part of the story is, it’s our story, and it’s true!

“The Jesus Storybook Bible” by Sally Lloyd-Jones will provide the framework of six experiential stations that families can walk through together. The words and activities will be simple enough for

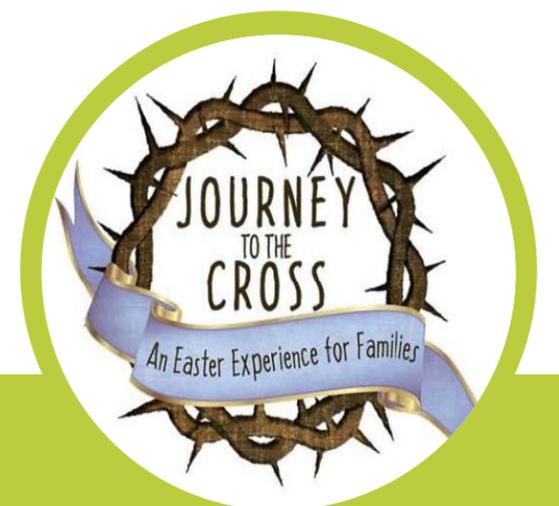
### LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

BY ALEX FALDER

The Leadership Development Program (LDP) and Discipleship (D) groups are composed of men and women who are investing 3 to 6 hours once a month for one year. The idea behind these groups was birthed out of my personal life change when I began three years ago going to a coaching group led by Dr. John Townsend.

The coaching group had ten Christian men from every walk of life... CEO’s, CMO’s, a dairy farmer and a couple of pastors. I was the youngest of the group and very intimidated because everyone looked like they had it all together, and I knew I didn’t. One thing I learned very quickly is that we all had big issues in our lives that kept us from being the men God wanted us to be. We spent each month digging into past hurts, addictions, destructive behaviors, broken relationships, fears, dreams for our vocations, values, desires, hopes for our families, loving God, loving others, and loving ourselves enough to deal with our brokenness.

God’s Spirit began to use the group to heal me in areas of my heart that have been buried for years. I felt I was becoming whole, not perfect, but able to access my heart, mind, soul and strength in new ways. Ephesians 4 was coming alive for me because I experienced the body of Christ building itself up in love as each part worked for the good of the whole. After two years with this band of brothers, I finally came to the place of loving myself where I once hated myself. The Great Commandment came alive to me in a new way that I had not experienced before.



children to understand but profound enough to challenge adults to hear the story of the cross in a fresh way. People of all ages are welcome to join us.

You may begin The Journey to the Cross ANYTIME between 5:00 and 7:00 pm on Sunday evening April 13th in the Family Center Atrium. You’ll receive a ticket when you arrive and groups will depart on the Journey about every 10 minutes. The complete walk will take about 45 minutes. There will be time for conversation and refreshments in the Atrium throughout the evening. The nursery will be available for children through age three.

This was so life changing for me that a small group with nine guys was launched in 2012 and began to meet here at Friends Church for one year. The teaching centered on the need for relationships with God and others, setting boundaries, how to deal with the good and bad stuff in life, and becoming mature, healthy adults who can better love God and love others.

At the end of the year, seven of the guys began D-groups. Each D-group has six to eight men who meet once a month for only three hours. In September 2013, two more LDP groups were formed. So far, we have seen men and women connecting in real life and creating strong personal and spiritual relationships that did not exist eight months ago. These folks are becoming more involved in being the church and doing it with more confidence. I am excited to see people coming alive with purpose and mission for the kingdom.

My aspiration is that these opportunities will awaken even more men and women to their fullest redemptive potential in Christ. Hopefully, we will have more harvesters who are empowered to live out the Great Commandment and make Christ known in life-transforming relationship.

Have you heard something here that resonates with your own soul’s thirst? Then LDP and D groups may be programs you could consider. We plan to have a few new D-groups for men and women ready to go for this fall. So, if you are interested in digging into a D-group or if you would like to be trained as Leader of a D-group, come talk to one of the staff and we will work to connect you into the next available opportunity.