



WL Family News

APRIL 2019

Church News

● **Two months ago** we commissioned Pastor Dave Rank to the new role of Pastor of Community Impact. Here's an excerpt from the ministry description outlining the focus of his ministry to and with us:

The Pastor of Community Impact will guide and oversee current and future efforts to serve and impact our community. The efforts will include individual, Life Group, ABF, and all-church volunteer service opportunities. From all-church community events like We Care Warsaw and Neighborhood BBQ to Life Group volunteer service, to individuals volunteering with our local ministry partnerships, the goal is to serve, love, and share the gospel in order to impact our community and our world.

He will assist the church family in focusing outward, with an emphasis on the third part of our mission, "to serve and to reach our community and our world." He will be the primary liaison between our church family and our local ministries partnerships. He will be the primary developer of volunteer "champions" (defined as volunteers who will be the point person, taking the lead in advocating for an organization and communicating service project opportunities) for our local ministries partnerships.

Q: Will all of Dave's ministry be outward focused, helping us impact our community?

A: No, he will also be responsible for big events in the church (like logistics for the Palm Sunday Seder Communion), though some of these are still aimed at impacting the community. His role will include using his organizational and logistics gifting to help us with short-term ministry team logistics and big all-church events (like We Care Warsaw, Communion, Block Party or BBQ).

Q: The third part of the vision includes reaching our world. Will Dave be involved in our global reaching?

A: A minor piece of his role will be helping with the logistics of short-term teams. But the Global Team, chaired by Dick Dahlquist, will continue to initiate and oversee our global ministries.

Q: What teams will Dave assist and support?

A: Pastoral Team, Office Team, Care Team, 1st Impressions Team, Safety Team

Q: What community-impacting ministries will Dave touch in this role?

A: His role includes encouraging, coming alongside, and serving as a support to ministry team leaders of local outreach ministry teams, ENL, Room at the Table, Kosciusko Co. Jail Ministry, Fellowship Missions, World Compassion Network, All Things New, Combined Community Services, Right to Life and Heartline,

Beaman Home, Habitat for Humanity, Community Soup Kitchen.

Dave is eager to help individuals, Life Group leaders, and ABF leaders identify ways to serve our community ministry partners. Thanks for praying for God's leading and blessing on our efforts "to serve and to reach our community and our world."

● **Blessing Our Community Grants** were awarded this past fall to WL individuals who presented an initiative to demonstrate love to people in our community as a means of "reaching our world locally." Periodic updates, like below, will be shared with the church family:

Women in the Workplace (*Gladys Deloe*): This monthly lunch-time roundtable was initiated in February as a way to encourage and equip women to be a witness for Christ in the marketplace. Initial funds went toward renting the Side Door Café at Martin's Supermarket. Last month, the group exceeded the seating capacity, with 60 attending, and will now be meeting in The Hub.

Room at the Table (*Jennifer Hotchkin, Joye Andrew, Janice Workman*): Grant funds assisted to provide dinner, snack, and craft items for their first "Parents Night Out" this past February for parents of newly adopted or foster children. Eleven families from the community brought 40 children who were cared for by a volunteer staff of 30 adults from WL and Grace College students.

Autism Sensory Bags (*Jon and Kristen Ekhoff*): Grant funds have gone toward creating sensory-friendly bags which are being printed and will soon be assembled with sensory items ordered. The bags will be placed around the community in doctors' offices, schools, and other locations. A second phase of the initiative is to consider support groups for families of autistic children and to educate others on positive ways to interact with autistic children.

● **Graduation Open House:** The church family is invited to a come-and-go open house for home-school senior, Zach Utley (son of Jonathan and Amanda), on Saturday, May 4, from 1:00-5:00 p.m. at The Hub auditorium and Gathering Space.

Sympathy is extended to:

● Jean Cahill and Debbie (Bill) Katip whose husband and father, Jack Cahill, went to be with the Lord on March 30 at the age of 93. He is also survived by his daughter Susie (Randy) Franklin and sons Jeff (Laurie) Cahill and Tim (Terri) Cahill.

●Gracia McDairmant whose grandson, James Lin, passed away on April 4 following a heart attack. He is the son of Gracia's daughter, Margaret, and husband, Nelson Lin. Services were held in Texas.

Thanks

●“Dear church family, Thank you so much for the cards and prayers during my mom's passing. We appreciate the gift certificate and plan to get something to honor her memory. Thanks again.” – *Love, Marsha & Denny Powell*

●Thanks to Warren Zellner for putting up handrailings on the steps in the courtyard. We appreciate your work in helping to make the courtyard safer!

Women's Ministries

●**Community Bible Study for women** is a caring, in-depth Bible study available to any woman. Attend a Visitor's Day for more information: **Warsaw/Winona Lake** on Wednesday, April 24 and May 1 at WLGBC from 9:15-11:15 a.m. (*children's/youth ministry for infants-8th grade*); **Warsaw/Winona Lake** on Thursday, April 25, from 7:00-8:00 p.m. at Christ's Covenant Church. The 2019/2020 study is Genesis, and. pre-registration is available on these dates. **Child care not provided on visitor days.** Questions? Contact meadowsm@comcast.net.

Missions and Evangelism

●**Short-term Cross-cultural "On Mission"**

Experiences: At WL, every person, middle school and older, is encouraged to experience a cross-cultural ministry. Learning about people from different cultures will show us God's heart for the nations—around the world and in our community—and how we can help share God's love with them. Go to www.wlgbc.com/stm for costs, application to express interest, and purpose of each trip. Brochures are available at the Info Center.

May 17-19: Encounter Columbus (high school students and young adults): registration deadline April 17

June 1-8: City Life—Philadelphia (students who completed 8th-12th grade): registration deadline extended to April 30

June 11-18: City Life—Los Angeles (students who completed 8th-12th grade): registration deadline extended to April 30.

August 2-4: Encounter Columbus (adults): registration deadline July 1

October 11-14: Toronto, Canada (adults and families): registration deadline September 10

October 23-27: Toronto, Canada (adults and families)

Children's Ministries

●**Right Here!** Even though it's still April and the signs of spring are here, we want to let you know about a big event being planned for our "going to be" 4th, 5th, and 6th graders to help them begin to think about how they can Reach Our World right now. Mark your calendars for June 11-13 from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. each day for "Right Here," designed to help our students begin getting a taste of mission trips by working and serving in our local

community. The days will be filled with learning about what the Bible says about serving others, visiting and serving in local organizations right here in Winona Lake and Warsaw, and building friendships with each other as we serve together. More information coming soon!



●**WL Family Camping Weekend:** Come one! Come all! We're excited to have an opportunity for anyone from WL to take a weekend to connect with others from our church family at Chain O' Lakes State Park on June 21-23. This is a great way for families to spend time getting to know others beyond Sundays and Wednesdays. Fliers with more information are at the Info Center or the WL Kids registration table. We have 32 campsites reserved and spots are filling up fast so call the church office to book your site.

Pray for the health needs of:

Carol Maurer
Leila Humberd
Wayne Snider
Mark Sharp
Charles & Alice Koontz
Ann Lakes
Michelle Phelps
Art & Nancy McGinness
Roseann Heisler
Annette Coenen
Michael Marsh
Phyllis Roberts
Carolyn Brady

Larry Unruh
Jonathan Walter
Millie Pacheco
Joyce Loeb
Nancy Zellner
Jim & Tina Bauer
Jim Morrison
Paul Wright
Bethany Fluke
Claudia McCray
Jean Wallace
Miriam Bryant
Nancy McMunn

Community News

●**Good Friday Service:** Heartline Pregnancy Center and the Greater Warsaw Ministerial Association invite you to a free Good Friday service at 7:00 p.m. on April 19 at Lakeview Middle School auditorium. The Belfast Community Gospel Choir will be performing, along with a message by Pastor Samuel Pena with Warsaw Community Church. A freewill offering will be taken to benefit Heartline Pregnancy Center. More information at www.heartlinepregnancycenter.org/good-friday-service.

●**Heartline Pregnancy Center's** annual Gathering of Hope Banquet will be Thursday, April 25, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Winona Heritage Room in Winona Lake. Keynote speaker will be birth mother of "I Lived on Parker Avenue," Melissa Coles. Emcee for the evening will be Alan Alderfer. Tickets are \$20 per person. For more information and to order tickets, go to www.heartlinepregnancycenter.org/gathering-of-hope or e-mail abates@heartlinepregnancycenter.org.

●**Blackburn Run for Others** 10th annual 5K run/walk and 10K run is coming up on June 15 at 9:00 a.m. in Winona lake. Every \$5 raised provides a year of clean water for one person in Central Africa. Register online at www.waterforgood.org/blackburn. For more information, call Doug Koontz at 574-551-1011 or e-mail to winonarunforothers@gmail.com.