

Thank you
for Making the



A big success!

Together we served over 900 guests
and 467 children in need of backpacks!

We couldn't have done it without you.

**You were the hands and feet of Jesus
on July 19th, 2009!**

Thank you,
The Back to School Bash Committee

Thank you...

Thank you for putting together the Back to School Bash! It was a great community outreach! Thank you for letting our youth help out. They had lots of fun!!!

God Bless!

Carol Shields, Christ UMC

August Calendar

- 1 Girlfriend's Extreme Team (8a)
Girlfriend's Leaders Meeting (10a)
- 2-5 Elementary Camps
- 2 Book of Acts LIFE Group Leader Orientation (10a & 12p)
Youth Theological Issue/Moral Discussion (6-8:30p)
- 4 Food Pantry (9:30-11a)
Worship Team (6:30-8p)
- 5 No SHINE Practice
Exercise Class (6:30-7:30p)
- 6 AA Meeting (8p)
- 9 Upgrade Sunday (9 & 10:45a)
VBS Studio Go! Day 7 (9 & 10:45a)
3rd Grade Bible Presentation (9 & 10:45a)
JR High Pool Party @ the Ellcessor's (2:30-6p)
The Compass Church LIFE Group Call Out Meeting (6:30p)
- 12 SHINE Practice (5:30-6:30p)
Exercise Class (6:30-7:30p)
Worship Team (6:30-8p)
- 13 AA Meeting (8p)
- 15 New Campus Meeting (9-10:30a)
Never 2 Cool 4 School Girlfriend's Night Out (6-8p)
- 16 Youth Fast Food Progressive Dinner Kick Off Party (12:30-4p)
- 18 Food Pantry (5:30-7p)
- 19 SHINE Dance Party (5:30-6:30p)
Exercise Class (6:30-7:30p)
Worship Team (6:30-8p)
- 20 AA Meeting (8p)
- 22 JAM Mega Practice (9:30a-2:30p)
Lit 'n' Lattes @ Starbucks (10a)
- 23 VBS Studio Go! @ The Compass Church (4-6:30p)
JAM (5:45-6:30p)
Youth Party for Our Parents (6:30-8p) *IMPORTANT!
- 26 Exercise Class (6:30-7:30p)
Worship Team (6:30-8p)
- 27 AA Meeting (8p)
- 30 JAM (5:45-6:30p)
Youth Group (6:30-8p)
- 31 Little Learners Meet the Teacher Night (5:30-7:30p)

Selma United Methodist Church is to be a seeker-friendly, disciple-making, servant-equipping, mission-sending, and God-honoring fellowship of believers. Our primary ministry focus will be on youth and children, and serving our community and world in Christ's behalf.

volume 7 • issue 14 • august 2009

INSIGHT
sharing God's vision with his family

The Holy Huddle

By Pastor Mark Ellcessor

Don't look now, but football season is almost here! That glorious season of daring drives, thrilling catches, bone-crunching tackles, elusive moves in the backfield. The end of each game means the proverbial thrill of victory and the agony of defeat for avid sports fans. But what would the game be like if one of the teams refused to break out of their huddle? The eleven men might get together in their familiar circle and say something like this:

"What do you think, should we go run a play, or just stay in our huddle?"

"Coach says the only way to win the game is to get out there and do battle, but I gotta tell you the truth, I like our huddle better."

"It's a lot safer if we just talk about our next play. Actually doing it might get us hurt."

"For me it's not so much about getting hurt. But what if we fail?"

"Yeah. I'm not even sure what to do. Let's just watch Coach run all the plays."

"And we can all text Coach to tell him how great a job he is doing."

"And of course, we'll spend more time studying the Playbook."

"Have I ever told you guys how much I love you?"

"Everybody join hands. Sing with me. Kum ba yah, my Lord..."

After Jesus' resurrection, he left the mission of winning the game to eleven men (his twelfth man, Judas, had already quit the team). At first the eleven men formed a holy huddle far away from the dangerous front line.

"...the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews..." (John 20:21)

But Jesus wouldn't leave them in their holy huddle. I can almost hear Jesus breaking into their circle:

"Okay boys, the game is now in your hands. It's up to you to get the victory. Yes, some of you will get hurt...really badly. And not every play will be a success, at least not from the fan's point of view. But it doesn't matter. This is for all the marbles. Heaven and Hell hang in the balance. Now, go win one for the Savior."

Many of us are like those eleven guys. We're all about following Jesus, listening to his words, impressed by his miracles. And we love to get together in our huddles (Life groups) and all-team meetings (worship services) to celebrate the fact that we are "found" and share our concern for those that are "lost." But breaking out of our holy huddle to actually do spiritual battle... to love our neighbor and win the world to Christ... maybe we'd just as soon pray for God to bring in somebody else to do it.

For the next two months we will be studying the book of Acts, so named because it is a record of the "acts" of the apostles. Those first Christians understood that Jesus had only lit the match, but they were responsible to fan the flame. When they gathered in their last huddle, Jesus leaned in and said, *"you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem (your home town), Judea (your home country), Samaria (those you consider outcasts), and to the ends of the earth (yep, the whole world)."* —Acts 1:8

Two thousand years later, you and I are still part of that game. Peter, James, John, and Paul have long since retired. Now, the ball is in our hands. Here's the challenge: as you read the book of Acts, don't just read it as *history* (what those guys did back then), but read it also as *His-story* (what Jesus is calling you and me to do right now). And don't be mistaken—staying in the holy huddle may be safe, but it will never win any games.

Sunday Morning Worship:
9:00 & 10:45 a.m.

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For Kids...

UPGRADE SUNDAY
NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 9

It's time to move up! Join us on August 9, as the elementary children will be promoted to the next grade.

3rd Grade Bible Presentation
SUNDAY, AUGUST 9

Selma United Methodist Church is honoring 3rd grade children by presenting them with their very own Bible.

PURPOSE:

- Bless 3rd graders with a gift (God's Word) from the church.
- Incorporate the importance of the Bible in Children's Church.
- Believe God's guidance through scripture.
- Learn together and grow in love for God's Word.
- Encourage scripture verse memorization.

If you have not been contacted about your 3rd grader receiving a Bible, please call Susan Koebecke, Children's Director.

GOD'S KIDS GROW!

In this year's curriculum we'll help children discover how the fruit of God's Spirit grows in our lives. Also, explore the ways our character displays God's good fruit as we learn about Christians throughout history whose lives demonstrated those character qualities.



Beginning on Wednesday, September 16

Super Book K.I.D.S.
September 16 - October 21
Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
for kids in grades K-5

Join the Fun!

Bring Friends!

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Broom Races | Ping Pong Balls |
| Fun Coaches | Wacky References |
| Gold Medals | Points |
| Bible Fun | Active Games |
| Balloons | Friendships |
| Win Prizes! | Bring Your Bible! |

The "SuperBook," of course, is the Bible, and each week activities will include a combination of Bible knowledge competition, active games, and points awarded for being present, bringing a friend, bringing Bibles, and completing a "take-home" worksheet each week.

We want parents to assist children with this take-home worksheet. Remember the purpose is to encourage children to learn to look up information in their Bibles...so don't just tell them the answers, help them look it up and understand the question and the answer. You can also help by "drilling" your child on the answers and by making sure the worksheet is brought back to church the following week.



Thank you to the entire congregation of SUMC for making the Back To School Bash a great success! It was truly amazing to see God's work through you! We went from 67 backpacks to 423 **in one week!** Thanks also to the many business owners in our church and community that made contributions which allowed us to buy the needed supplies to fill those backpacks.

To our amazing pool of volunteers, (there were more than 80 of you!), a GIANT THANK YOU for all of the help the day of the event and the weeks before! You really made the day fun and meaningful for our visitors. I wish I had room to name you all! A special thanks to all of our performers, hair stylists, and backpack stuffing committee. Thanks to our youth who helped put away the inflatables in the downpour—you are all awesome!

Last but not least, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the Back To School Bash Committee. I am so proud of you all. You made my job easy: Ryan and Anita Glaze, Bob and Nancy Brake, Heather Bright, Kendra Sipes, Kendra Longfellow, Staci Buck, Brooke Hughes, Phil Hughes, and Steve Herbst.

The glory truly belongs to God—he came through for us in so many ways, often saving us at the last minute. None of this could have been done without His involvement and guidance.

I pray that we will continue to make a difference in the lives of those who visited our church for the Back To School Bash. Way to go church!

Kristen Herbst
And the Back to School Bash Committee

BACK TO SCHOOL BASH REPORT

The Third Annual Back to School Bash was a great success! We gave out all **423 backpacks** the day of the event, plus vouchers for **44 more!** Other awesome stats:

- More than 900 visitors**
- More than 80 volunteers.**
- 30 haircuts (plus 25 vouchers)**
- 6 Inflatables**
- More than 20 business donors**
- 28 units of blood donated**



Changing Hearts Changing Lives One Girlfriend at a Time

Never 2 Cool 4 School
Girlfriends Night Out

Saturday, August 15, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Thought you were too ~~cool~~, oops!, I mean't cool, for school? You're never too cool for a night out with your girlfriends! Enjoy a fun, carefree evening that will remind you of the fun you had when you were a kid. You and your girlfriends will step back in time to a day of elementary school, complete with classes, recess, lunch ladies and even tests! Don't stress! It won't be hard and the food won't be yucky! Just come prepared to have fun and act like a kid. Mark your calendar (in crayon) for **Saturday, August 15 @ 6PM. Admission ticket is an elementary school photo of yourself.** Child care provided. For more information or to sign up contact Gail Yates @ the Connection Point.

The School of Prayer with James W. Tharp @ Northside Church of the Nazarene, August 6, 7, & 8 Thursday & Friday, 7-9pm; Saturday, 8:30am-12noon

Come join us for a course in spiritual warfare that can transform your life and bring revival to your church! Rediscover God's **power-filled** principles for revitalization of prayer in you and your church. Prepare to become the **prayer warrior** God intends you to be. 8 hours of solid Biblical teaching on **Spirit-anointed** prayer. Cost: \$10. For more information call Les Turner 282-4138 or 702-9337.

The Book of ACTS; Growing a Church Rooted in Character

8 week series starts Sunday, August 2nd. Read the entire Book of ACTS during this series by following the reading guide on the Book of ACTS bookmark (passed out during the worship service or pick one up from the church office).

This is an in-depth look at the main characters in Acts and a study of their character traits. This study is **great for new believers** as well as those who have been in the faith for many years.



Get Connected: Join a LIFE Group for The Book of ACTS series NOW! This series will stimulate spiritual growth in you, your LIFE Group and your church. Pick up your books between worship services **August 9th** or pick up one from the church office. We're asking for a \$3.00 donation to help cover printing costs. Contact Kristen Herbst for more information.

C.L.A.S.S. Beginning Soon (Christian Learning And Service Seminars)

CLASS is right around the corner! If you are interested in going deeper and growing with God, becoming a member of Selma United Methodist, or connecting with new people, then this is just for you. The dates are **Sept. 13th through Nov. 15th, during second service (10:45 a.m.-noon)**, and child care is available in the nursery. The cost is \$10. Hope to see you there!



New Site Update for The Compass Church

Alright folks, it's crunch time. The Compass Church (yes that's our new name) is scheduled to launch on **October 4th, 2009** at Northside Middle School. Are we ready? Well, to be honest, it's up to you. And if The Compass Church LIFE Group Leader meeting we had on Wednesday evening is any indication, then I believe we are well on our way. We have eight families that have stepped up and said yes to leading these groups for our new site.

What a blessing it is to have several like minded folks committed to serving God and His calling for us to reach people for His Kingdom. And we do this how? Paul tells us in Philippians 2:3-4 to "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than ourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others." This is exactly how we are to act. Not only for our new site, The Compass Church, but also at Selma UMC. We are to think about our family, friends, co-workers, neighbors and how we can better serve them. Paul also asks us to make his joy complete by sharing the love of Christ to those who don't know Him.

Yes it is time to act! This next week is the kick-off to our LIFE Groups. I am strongly encouraging you to join one. Then it is time to act again! You need to invite a friend (or two or three) to join with you in your Life Group. So come October 4th, let's be ready to celebrate, as a church, what God has already done for us. Especially for those we will have already reached. Church, if we are truly committed to looking out for the interest of others, if we are truly committed to making this new site successful, then folks, it really is time to act.

Jeff Ellis, Campus Pastor

The Compass LIFE Groups Call-Out Meeting @ Riverside UMC Fellowship Hall (lower level) Sunday, August 9th from 6:30-7:30pm

Everyone who has said yes to make The Compass Church your church is asked to attend. The life of The Compass Church has begun. The breathing is still a little shallow though. This will be a time to determine if we can breathe a little bit deeper. By meetings end, you will see just how critical you are to the continued life of The Compass Church, and how critical you are to making the breathing easier. Child care provided.

VBS Studio Go! @ The Compass Church, Sunday, August 23, 4:00-7:30pm

Wade Winalot is back! This time he will be at Northside Middle School as The Compass Church is reaching out to the kids and families on the west, north/west side of Muncie. Volunteers are needed-about 30. Kids are needed-couple hundred. Let's gear up for this one day event **Sunday, August 23, 4:00-6:30pm**. Help us reach out to our new neighbors. Food, fun, music and games are in order with a final celebration to be in the auditorium, where parents are invited to watch their children perform on stage. Contact Jeff Ellis @ 212-5780, Courtney Clifford @ 749-6212 or Leigh Edwards at 215-9210 for more information or to volunteer.