

Trinity Times

609 Putnam St. Fort Wayne, IN 46808

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From The Desk of David Abbott

Jesus showed us how to lay down our rights

rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. -Philippians 2:7 (NIV)

10 dead in Buffalo supermarket attack police call hate crime

21 killed at Uvalde elementary in Texas' deadliest school shooting ever

We have likely all seen and heard about some of the recent attacks in our country. Unfortunately, hundreds of people are killed every week in this country due to attacks and gun violence. Now I know some of you already are saying, "Now pastor, stay in your lane. Don't get all political on us."

The problem is I don't think this issue is political; I think it is spiritual. Before the last body is even recovered at these events, the gun debate has already started to rear its ugly head. People on both sides, believers on both sides, arguing for and against gun control. So often times, I wonder where Jesus would be on this debate. And like I often do, I see him in the radical middle; not on either side but grieving in between.

I must admit I am surprised at how many believers I hear talking about their God-given rights. Why? Because the Lord Jesus, who we claim to follow, laid down all His God-given rights, realizing that more than rights, we have God-given responsibilities. We have responsibilities to our neighbors all around the world, all around our country. I wonder aloud why we fight so hard, why I fight so hard for my "rights" when I am told time and time again to give them up? Lose your life to find it. Turn the other cheek. Give up your shirt and your coat. Walk the extra mile. I am having a harder and harder time finding Jesus-like reasons to fight for my rights.

I am not anti-gun; I am anti the death of 19 young children. Now for those who are interested in my personal opinion, keep reading. If not, feel free to move along... There is no reason that anyone should own or possess any type of assault rifle. You don't kill birds or deer with an AK-47. You want to hunt? Go for it, I support it completely. You want a handgun for self-protection? You have that right (there is that word again). But again I wonder what will it take for us to lay down our rights and pick up our responsibilities?

In an incredible book written by author Shane Claiborne, he speaks on the awful attacks of September 11, 2001. Paraphrasing him, he says "I will not kill for anybody in New York City, but I must be willing to die for every one of them."

Jesus did.

Trinity Kids

Last month we had the amazing opportunity to have some of the Break Free kids join our Sunday School class. We have had a lot of fun getting to know our new friends. Last month we started learning the story of Jacob. On May 29 we had a little party celebrating everyone being out of school for the summer and moving 3 of our kids to middle school. Sunday School will be a lot emptier now that most of our kids are in middle school. For the summer we will only be having Sunday School when there are elementary kids here.
Lynessa

Susan Says.....

Executive Pastor Susan Roehs

Dear Trinity Family,

I would like to take a minute in this last letter to you to say good-bye. I want to thank each one of you who has welcomed me from the very beginning. I've loved getting to know you and to be your pastor. You have been kind to me in many ways. I will cherish those memories when I think of you.

I shared with you that I was leaving Trinity UMC to join the Global Methodist Church, but that I would still serve as director of the daycare. I still plan to join the Global Methodist Church; however, I will not be staying on as the director. After much prayer I believe God is calling me away from the daycare and into other ministries for him. I will give up this position on June 30th. My last Sunday with you will be June 27th.

A team is already in place to ensure the daycare continues. They've made plans already to make our daycare ministry one that will glorify God and I believe I am leaving the daycare in competent hands.

It is with sadness that I leave this church and the daycare. I will miss my conversations with you and the joy and laughs we have had along the way. We've also weathered some bumps in our journey together but as I would expect you have rallied at those times and taken care of the situation.

I wish you all personally good health, joyful spirits, and the peace that only God can offer. I will continue to pray for success in every ministry God calls you into, you will be a blessing to many, I am sure.

Love,

Pastor Susan



Love God.
Love People.
Make Disciples.

Break Free Ministries

Break Free Ministries has had an eventful month! We had our first-ever board meeting where we approved our ministry by-laws with the help of our newly appointed board. Our board members include:

President: Debbie Atchley

Treasurer: Alicia Baumgartner

Secretary: Tammy Dean

Officer: Eric Grimes

-We received confirmation of our 501c3 status, so now all donations to Break Free are tax deductible, and we don't have to pay taxes on the donations. This will also allow us to apply for grants to help keep the ministry going.

-We opened up our own bank account

-Ryan set us up on Quickbooks Online to pay our bills, receive donations easily, and eventually set us up for payroll. He also set us up for Google Voice.

-Brittney has placed/received acceptance letters for 10 women just in the last month. She has done such an amazing job that the Lead Public Defender in Delaware County has mentioned her in court saying that we are an amazing resource to partner with.

We will be meeting with them shortly to discuss funding through a partnership.

-Brittney and Becky just transported two women from Delaware County to Hearten House in Auburn. They are our newest partner house, and we are so excited to partner with them!

-Break Free Kids has started! We are in the process of gathering information for the kids of the women behind bars so that we can encourage the whole family. We have 9 kids at the moment, but we are asking mentors to send us information as we receive it. Becky Abbott will head this up as Care Coordinator.

Upcoming Events

Meet Your Neighbor June 16th

Father's Day June 19th

Block Party July 30th

Guatemala Mission's Trip October 15th - 22nd

TIDBITS

(or what to write about when you don't know what to write about.)

1949 - With the beginning of the sanctuary remodel "the original pulpit, chairs, railings and panel lumber from the church worship center" was sold to Christ Temple Church for \$50.00.

Advertising began in the Saturday evening newspaper.

1950 - Trinity began broadcasting a service on WANE radio.

The stain glass window on the north end of the sanctuary was backlighted.

1951 - The men's basketball team won the city championship.

1952 - Trinity began holding two Sunday services.

1953 - Mrs. Philip Holman becomes the church's first press representative.

1960 - The United Workers Class installed the kitchen off the Fireplace Room.

1964 - The Presence Light in the sanctuary was purchased by the youth as a gift to the church.

The light was originally lit by candle but was later wired for electricity. The light was

installed in the center of the nave but was moved to the left when the large screen was installed.

1967 - A 12-inch wide sidewalk was poured along Short Street to the east of the church.

1971 - The Trustees vote to elect one woman to the Board with the 1974 class.
Pat Hippensteel-Historian



Youth News

After taking a couple weeks off at the end of May, we are back to our regular open gym schedule on Thursdays. We recognize our student leaders each Thursday by giving out "Poofy Puffs" that they can add to a jar to work up to a party. These rewards are a way to encourage and thank students for stepping up in various ways; coming early to set up, volunteering to pray, helping a friend, etc. At the end of last month they successfully filled their jar to the party line! We took a vote, and they decided as a group to spend that party night at Ultra Zone after the MYN dinner on June 16th. Thinking back to when we first started meeting, I am so excited and proud of how much some of these students have grown. Sometimes I forget to appreciate or even realize the small victories that we have each day. However, as I sit planning this party for them, I am in awe as I think back and realize that the accomplishments we are celebrating, and the place we are now as a group, is something I prayed for over 2 years ago when we started this journey. I prayed that God would help us teach these students that they didn't have to be perfect, or trained to pray. Now every Thursday I have students arguing over who gets to start or end the prayer, sometimes with up to 3 others praying in the middle. It's crazy to think what a huge shift occurred when somewhere along the way my question changed from "Does anyone want to volunteer to pray?" to "Who wants to start us off and who wants to end today?" I also prayed that we would have leaders step up, and take ownership of this group, and learn responsibility and respect in natural ways. Now I have a pretty solid group of 4 students who show up 30 minutes early every week. These youth know exactly what needs to be done to set up, and that no balls bounce until we have prayed together to start things off. They're the ones who divide the tasks and explain things to new kids. Praise God for these victories! These students have earned a fun day out, and I'm so excited to celebrate them and their accomplishments.

Ultrazone Night - Thursday, June 16th
7-9pm Meeting in the gym.

Meet Your Neighbor is Back!

Meet Your Neighbor will now be hosted once a month on the third Thursday. Our goal is to have our partner organizations prepare and serve the meal to the community. For the month of June we would like the church to prepare the meal. June 16th from 5pm-7pm is the tentative date. If anyone would like to help organize or cook please see Brittney or call the church office 422-7924. We are so excited to bring this back and we are looking forward to watching it grow!



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