

## What's The Magic Word?

For the past week I have been living in the world of "What's the magic word?"

Elizabeth and I have had the joy, (and exhaustion) of 50% of our grandchildren with us for a week. Three kids that we love to death: Mady, 11; Conner, 8; and Sawyer, 2 (and EVERY BIT a two year old!).

And so, as I mentioned, the dialogue around our house has changed from what has grown to be so familiar; "What sounds good for dinner tonight for the two of us" and "I wonder what the kids are doing tonight?" to "What's the magic word?"

Phraseology around the Dakin household has morphed into;

"What do you say?"

"No...you need to use your words not your hands!"

"One more bite of veggies before you get dessert!"

And, of course, no life with two year olds would be complete without, "Are you

SURE you don't need to at least TRY and go?"

And while each night we found ourselves dropping into bed around midnight, I did find time for reflection, and this was one major take away:

***What prevents gratitude in a two year old?***

I think the answer is easy: the inability to think abstractly (ala Piaget and his theory). In other words, at two it's simply learning that with the reception of something, like Teddy Grahams, comes the reinforced response of "thank you." That's concrete thinking. But when they say that, there's no connection with what it means to be grateful just yet. It's a learned response first, which then, hopefully, gives way to intention and initiation some-time later.

But does it always? Because what's OUR excuse?

Isn't it the case that we abstract thinking and reasoning adults ALSO have to be reminded to have an attitude of gratitude? What

was the last thing you thanked God for? When was the last time you, out of nowhere, without being prompted, thanked someone for something more abstract; like a thoughtful attitude or a gracious spirit? Doesn't scripture teach us to give thanks in all circumstances?

We don't have the excuse of the inability to manufacture abstract thoughts; when it comes to giving thanks, we're simply lazy at best, or entitled at worse. Somewhere in between those two polemics I think we're also distracted and preoccupied with so much that our thankful quotient is quite diminished.

How about we change that trend? How about we DON'T have to wait to be prompted with "What's the magic word?" but instead overflow with grateful hearts to one another and most importantly, toward God!

Yours and His,  
Pastor George





## CALENDAR Recurring Meetings

### Wednesdays —

- 9:30pm-Women's Study  
(beginning 9/26)
- 5:45pm Men's Choir  
(beginning 9/19)

### Thursdays—

- 9:45am-MOPS  
(beginning 9/13)
- 7:00pm-Worship Team

### Fridays —

- 9:30am-Women's Study  
(beginning 9/7)

### Sundays—

- 9:15am-Prayer Gathering
- 9:30am-Worship
- 11:00am--Sunday School
- 6:00pm-United-Youth group

September 2

Communion

September 3

OFFICE CLOSED

Labor Day

September 4

4:00pm-Personnel

September 8

7:00am-Men's Breakfast

September 9

12:00pm-Women's  
Ministry Meeting

September 11

6:30pm-Elder/Deacon Mtg

September 14-15

Women's Retreat

September 21-23

Men's Campout

September 23

12pm-Prayer for the Nations

September 25

6:30pm-Mission Meeting



**Saturday, September 8th @ 7am**

Expect fun!

Expect Friendship!

And, as usual, expect a great breakfast prepared by Arie and Joe!

The format is changing a bit from last year. Along with the breakfast and the talks, We have some fun things that we a planning

We will be talking about the *12 Rules for Life* Jordan Peterson. The focus for this meeting will be the first four rules;

- Stand up straight with your shoulders back
- Treat yourself like someone you are responsible for helping
- Make friends with people who want the best for you

Compare yourself to who you were yesterday, not to who someone else is today  
Don't miss it! Bring a friend!

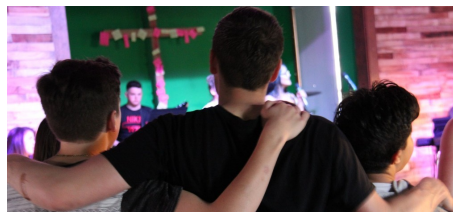
## Staff Shifts

Your elders, at their August meeting, acted upon a recommendation from the Personnel Committee to alter Ben Auger's job description a bit to reflect a greater dedication of time to various small groups and their development within Wabash. Ben's title now is **Pastor of Youth and Small Group Ministries**.

What does all of this mean? Will Ben remain with our youth? YES, by all means! We greatly value Ben's ability to relate to our youth and his great leadership of his volunteer team. However, Ben has shown great interest and ability in helping to develop some of our small group ministries including our greeter ministry, our security ministry, as well as our Life Group ministry. Ben has a heart to see these areas move beyond just involvement to real discipleship opportunities. We however realize that what he is presently doing in youth is a full time job in and of itself. Coupled with a young family, we wanted to be fair to him. Therefore, the Personnel Committee redrafted Ben's job description, in consultation with Ben and Pastor George, and ultimately with Session's approval, allowing for a 75-25 relationship; 75% youth involvement and 25% small group involvement.

Who picks up the slack? Fortunately Ben has recruited and trained over his three years with us a talented and gifted group of volunteers, some of whom have run youth ministries at other churches previous to their involvement at Wabash. In addition, the Session approved a job description drafted by the Personnel Committee, again with the input of Ben and Pastor George, for a part time Assistant Director of Youth Ministries. This person would come along side Ben and be directed by him in filling in some of the gaps, along with the volunteers.

We are grateful that God has so gifted us with someone with the heart and gifts of Ben and we look forward to a long and fruitful ministry! Join us as we commission Ben in worship September 2nd!



## The Latest...

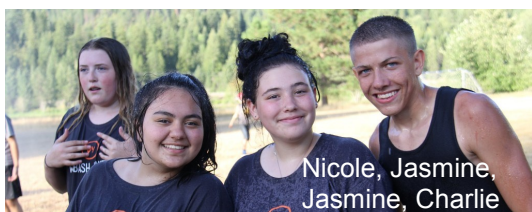
**New United Day and Time:** Youth group will be on Sunday nights, 6:00pm-8:00pm, starting on September 9.

**New United Location:** High school students will meet in the Youth Room and middle school students will meeting in Dahl Center.

**New Leaders:** We have some new and many returning leaders this fall. These are the high school United leaders: Ansel Broberg (new), David Eckblad, Tina Marshall, Michael Pahlow, Sean Peters, Pamela Poelvoorde, and Brendan Stewart (new). There are the middle school United leaders: Jake Breece, Joe Wright (new-ish), Kristina Wright (new-ish), Raquel Cormier (new). Phil and Gwen Stewart will again teach our high school Sunday school class and Juliette Hiller stepped up to lead the middle school Sunday school class.

**Outgoing Leaders:** Ann Lenting is stepping away after 12 years of ministry. Holy cow that's a long time! Heidi Ennis served 3 years with us. Gwen Stewart served several years with our United program, but is shifting her energy to Sunday school this year. I praise God for their faithful ministry and will miss them a lot.

**Youth Worship Band:** This will be our 4th year of having student-led worship at United. If your kid wants to develop their talents and lead in worship, please contact me ASAP before the team fills up.



**MISSION 2018  
NOXON, MONTANA**

## How You Can Help...

**Feed the Band:** Our youth worship band practices at 4:30pm Sunday nights, getting only a half hour break between the end of practices and the start of United at 6:00pm. We could use some volunteers to provide a hot meal for them in Garrett Hall at 5:30pm Sunday evenings. I can reimburse for food costs if needed.

### Drive Your Kids' Friends:

Most new students that come to United do so because a friend's parent drove them. We end up saving the souls of a lot of these kids. Think about that: your name will be part of a kid's testimony of how they were saved. So who are your kids' friends that need to come? Please don't wait for your kids to ask them; you can do it too.



# Adult Education Fall Classes



## Just Reasoning: Discussing Your Worldview In The Midst of Honest Questions

This class provides a safe and fun environment to look at worldviews and belief systems. Whether your views tend towards atheism/agnostic/secular, orthodox Christianity, some world religion, or just the latest in interpretation of spirituality, this class will allow you to verbalize your beliefs and reasoning in a relaxed and fun environment. This is not directly an apologetics or intellectual class but rather utilizes the fact that every human has a worldview about where we came from, why are we here, and where are we going. Even churchgoers have a wide variation of worldviews. Some examples of topics we will tackle include: 1) Existence and nature of God, 2) existence and nature of heaven and hell, 3) existence and nature of an unseen spiritual realm, 4) existence and nature of the ever popular aliens, and other topics. To make this course useful and safe for all, there will be ground rules, training, and modeling in how to listen to other world viewpoints and deal with and verbalize a reasoned explanation of your own viewpoints. We think you will learn a lot in this class and encourage you to bring non-churchgoers to contribute as well. *Facilitators: Zack Eckblad, Dennis West, Tina West.* Meeting in the Choir Room

## Everything You Wanted To Know About Jesus But Was Afraid to Ask

Was Jesus ever married? What did he look like? Did he have brothers and sisters? Was He raised by a single mom? When did He realize he was God? Did He fake His death and head off to Arabia and start a family? In this class we will be discussing some of the bizarre claims about the life of Jesus that creep into our pop culture from time to time. In doing so we will be covering who Jesus was according to the Bible, so not all of our topics will be about the weird stuff. This class will enable you to discern between myth and accurate history about Jesus and engage your friends with informed, thoughtful discussions. *Led by Jerry Chevassus.* Meeting in Dahl Center

**Church History** This is a popular continuing class. Dr. W. Robert Godfrey takes believers through a video series covering theology, apologetics, notable church fathers, and much more. This class will begin at 11:20, and will release about 11:50 to allow for those who chat in the lobby a little long, or need to get their children to and from class. This course is a "drop-in" course, as the series is more week-to-week topical than chronological. If you miss a week, join us next week! *Facilitated by JP Wilcox.* Meeting in the Library



## Sunday Band Dinners

**Sunday Band Dinners:** Wabash United youth band rehearses from 4:30pm to 5:30pm every Sunday night. They have a short time to eat dinner after practice before youth group begins at 6:00pm. We're asking for gracious volunteers to feed our band and early-arriving leaders on Sunday nights. A hot meal lifts the morale of our worship team and it doesn't have to be fancy. There are usually about 8 people to be fed. You may bring the meal already prepared or use Garrett Hall kitchen. Sign up at [bit.ly/2NtSuunM](https://bit.ly/2NtSuunM) (case sensitive).



## Harvest Festival - October 21

This is an important date to mark on your calendar. The Deacons will be hosting the annual Harvest Festival. It's not too early to start planning how you can be a part of our fund raiser to financially help families within our church. We will need donation items for the silent and live auction. Suggestions are theme baskets (home movie night; Christmas baking; spring planting). Or a service (car repair; photo shoot; babysitting; vacation home). Pray about what you have to give for the Lord's work. Working together we can make this event successful.

## Women's Bible Studies

**Beginning Friday, September 14: *Change a generation with something as simple as an invitation.***

**"Just Open The Door"** For many of us, inviting people into our lives and homes feels more like inviting judgment on our entertaining skills and extra stress. Jen Schmidt has set out to re-

frame how we think about hospitality and to equip us to walk a road of welcome in our daily lives. Join us in the Library at 9:30am. Childcare provided by reservation.

**Beginning Wednesday, September 26: *Children of the Day* by Beth Moore.**

This is a study of I and II

Thessalonians. Meet in the Library at 9:30am.

Plan to join a Bible study group. There you will be filled with knowledge of God and make connections with other Wabash women.

## Do You Know Bonita?

Wabash Church has been blessed with a donation from Bonita Lantz. She died in Salt Lake City on March 31, 2018, at the age of 72. Unfortunately, we have no information as to the dates she was at Wabash or if Bonita possibly had another name. If you have any information that would help us,

please contact Pastor George.



## Men's Choir

Love to sing, enjoy being with a group of caring men, or want to be in a group with life? Then come to the choir room on Wednesday evenings at 5:45pm and you'll find this and more. Rehearsals begin Wednesday, September 19.

# CHILDREN'S And family MINISTRY

*I love summer! The sun, the heat, the beach, the fun, the get togethers, the vacations. Plus, my husband is a teacher and has summers off, so he's home, we get to all be together as a family, I look forward to that! Sometimes I feel like I live for the summer months. Before summer starts, I can look forward to it so much that I can even start to feel depressed, that I enjoy it too much. I start thinking, "is this loving 'the world'?"*

*"Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him."*  
1 John 2:15-16

*I was feeling this way in particular this summer, because it was jam packed with fun and trips away from home. I think in a 4 week span, we were home for a total of 6 days. By the end, even though I was sad it was over, I was actually glad to be going home. I can honestly say I would not love summer and vacations so much, if I didn't have my "home" to go back to, which can include some of the material, but mostly the people, the relationships, and even the routines. You know the saying, "there is no place like home?" It's so true. It got me thinking about some other verses about being in the world, but not of the world and living with joy.*

- *"For this world is not our permanent home; we are looking forward to a home yet to come." Hebrews 13:14*
- *"If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world..." John 15:18*
- *"This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." Psalm 118:24*

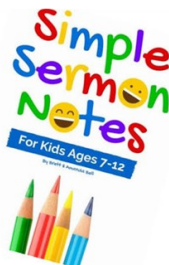
*You know, I would not have fun and enjoy parts of this life, if I didn't have "home" to look forward to. We know there is plenty of sorrow here. And I probably will always have to fight against the desires of this world, while I'm here, because of my flesh. But my home is in heaven, with Jesus and "there's no place like home!" and because of that, I can have JOY in this life.*

*Blessings,  
From your Children and Family Ministries of Wabash*



Sunday School Begins  
September 9

**"Teaching our kids to worship is one of the most important things parents have to do."**



If you have a child 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and above, please get a copy of "Simple Sermon Notes" from the Welcome Center. Sermon notes help children engage in the service and they can earn rewards as well.

# Pumpkin Patch is coming Sunday, October 21



Move up day is September 9

Children's church is for ages 3 (as of August 31) through 1<sup>st</sup> grade. Children in the nursery who are 3 will move up to the preschool class. Children who are now in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade get to be part of the full service. We encourage you to make this a special experience for your 2<sup>nd</sup> grader. Give them notice and prepare them days or weeks before. Take them for a special treat for "graduation." Praise them when they do well in service and when you see them participating. We are excited for your child to be with you, as we worship as a church family!



Do you see these cute kiddos?! They need you! Please consider volunteering in nursery or children's church! We are always in need of more volunteers to help shepherd the children of Wabash! Please take some time to pray and ask God if it would be a good way for you to serve! Sign up at the children's center!

## A Prayer For Our Students

Lord, thank you for the **unique gifts** of every child as they transition into a new school year. Fill each student with **fresh enthusiasm** and a heart that is excited to learn and grow. Cover them with your **enduring love**, give them **confidence and grace**, and equip them with the ability to **persevere** through trials. Bless their teachers with **wisdom, understanding, and a heart to serve**, as they embark on the journey together! **Amen!**





## ***Wabash Church***

George Dakin, Pastor/Head of Staff  
Ben Auger, Minister of Youth  
and Small Group Ministries  
Anthony Stair, Director of Worship  
Fred Pahlow, Lay Assistant of Pastoral Care  
Abby Hanson, Co-Director of Children  
& Family Ministries  
Lindsey Patterson, Co-Director of Children  
& Family Ministries  
Elizabeth Wilcox, Nursery Coordinator  
Debbie Frederickson, Finance Administrator  
Mary Stevenson, Office Manager  
WIRE Editor  
Michael Pahlow, Assistant Custodian

**18325 SE 384th Street . Auburn, WA 98092 . 253.939.1330 . Fax 253.939.5654**

**website: [www.wabashpres.com](http://www.wabashpres.com)**

**Sunday Schedule: Worship @ 9 :30am; Sunday School for all ages @ 11:00am**

A Congregation of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church

