

2021 Vacation Bible Schools at Redeemer and Old Town Hill Dig for Truths about Jesus

Our churches were not sure what to expect coming out of the Covid pandemic when they scheduled and planned Vacation Bible School. But, lots of children were eager to come to the "Destination Dig" VBS and uncover truths about Jesus.

Redeemer Baptist Church in Anderson held their Vacation Bible School Monday, June 7th through Friday, June 11th from 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. Forty-two volunteers prepared to teach and serve the children even though they weren't sure how many to expect. The church drew nearly 50 kids,



Redeemer provided dinner each evening of VBS.

preschool through high school, for the 5 evenings. They began each evening with a meal, then headed to classes. The classes then rotated for music, crafts, recreation, and missions.

Family night was held on Friday. Twenty seven of the children had indicated on their enrollment forms that they did not regularly attend any church. Redeemer plans to follow-up with each family. Also, one of the children accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior during the week plans to be baptized.



Old Town Hill provides Photo Op for kids.

At the conclusion of Redeemer's VBS, decorations and supplies were packed up to share with Old Town Hill Baptist Church in Muncie. Here's what Sabra Douglas shared about their VBS:

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Old Town Hill Donates Trailer to ECBA

Old Town Hill Baptist Church in Muncie has donated a 30 foot goose-neck trailer to our East Central Baptist Association. This trailer will safely transport the ECBA's tractor, grapple, scoop, and grater box, enabling our Disaster Relief Team to minister more effectively to those in need. Our Disaster Relief Team continue to minister in our area and around the country as needs arise. This month, Disaster Relief Coordinator, Joe Fox, is meeting with the mayor of Madison, Indiana, to discuss how they can help with the flooding in that area. If you would like to help with this vital



ministry or want to know more about it, please contact Joe Fox at 765-729-1366.



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Dr. Ron Ross

The Katecheo

The annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention is always a highlight on the denominational calendar and this year was no exception. As a former pastor for almost fifty years, it was a privilege to participate in many of these meetings. Now, having stepped down from the pastorate, attendance at the annual meeting has taken on a new approach. Thanks to the internet, this writer and anyone so desiring, can see all the convention sessions in the comfort of their own house.

As your ECBA Educational Coordinator, this writer is obviously drawn to that portion of the annual meeting related to our six seminaries. This year's reports from our six seminary presidents were so very exciting as they shared what was happening on their campuses. Following the report of each president, convention messengers were given an opportunity to ask each president questions regarding their particular seminary. This writer was deeply interested in a question raised by a young pastor sharing how ill-equipped he felt as a pastor in a northeastern city. He asked how education could be advanced to include practical advice for actual pastoral experiences. Dr. Daniel Akin, President of the Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, North Carolina, responded "what a great question," and then went on to explain that all six seminary presidents realize the eighty-hours plus in theological training (leading to a M.Div. degree) are only a

part of the overall training the potential pastor needs before actually pastoring a church. He quickly added — "what these young men need is an aged and proven pastor to mentor them." At that moment, this writer felt a hardy "amen." As an almost seventy-nine year old former pastor, this writer would love to be back in the pastorate, but realizes his health limitations does not warrant such a return. Instead, he could be that mentor to the young men coming out of the seminaries or even to those men who have never attended a seminary.

With that background of recent days, your ECBA Educational Coordinator wants every pastor to know that he is available to discuss questions regarding some of those hard issues of the pastorate, as well as informal coffee breaks at a nearby eatery. He also reminds pastors, during these vacationing summer months, he is also available for pulpit supply. He can be reached by phone at (765) 748-6633 or by email at roro062@att.net

SBC Convention Sparks Controversy

By Pat Storm

The 2021 SBC Convention hosted the largest gathering of messengers from SBC churches since 1995. Much of the increase in attendance was due to controversial decisions and topics that were addressed at the convention. When I asked the messengers who attended to share their thoughts on the decisions, they all said that they were still trying to process everything. It is difficult. There is much misinformation and opinions in the news media. Our best course of action is to be informed about the decisions being made and to pray for God to work in a mighty way within our convention. Check the actual facts. Listen to others' opinions but seek what God's Word says. Satan wants to prevent us from working together to reach the world for Christ. Pray! Pray! Pray and see what God will do.

Upcoming Events

SBC Emphasis for July

July 4 —Citizenship and Religious Liberty Sunday

July 18 —Send Relief Sunday and Children's Ministry Day

July 25 — Southern Baptist Media Day

July

Please pray for our pastors and their wives on these special occasions.

Birthdays

July 22 — Daniel Carpenter
(True North Church Plant, Daleville)

Wedding Anniversaries

July 3 — Dana & Sharon Jones
(Faith Christian, Anderson)

July 6 — Nathan & Pam Watson
(Halteman Village, Muncie)

July 19 — Bruce & Melissa Reynolds (Old Town Hill, Muncie)

Pastor-Church Anniversaries

July 20 — Chris Hubler, New Day Baptist Church— Alexandria Campus, 12 years

GROW Event Fosters Fellowship and Missions

By Tami Hubler

New Day Baptist Church's Women on Mission hosted a WMU event at Wasson Nursery in Muncie, Indiana on Thursday, May 20th at 6 p.m. The event was a huge success (sold out!). It focused on sharing information about ways to support our International Missions Board (IMB) missionary family in Kazakhstan. It

restricts the ability to worship freely. Kazakhstan's government has steadily increased its control over religious expression in the country, which means increased surveillance, raids on church meetings, and arrests. It uses the threat of militant Islam to restrict more freedoms. You can go to www.opendoorsusa.org to learn more.



WMU Leader @ Tami.hubler@newdaybaptistchurch.com. We are also looking for ideas for an ECBA Women's Event this fall and would love your input!!



also provided much needed post-Covid fellowship. Each lady who attended was able to choose 7 flowers to plant in a large hanging basket or pot. They were to serve as a reminder of this summer of striving for personal growth in Christ and to pray for the growth of the Kazakhstan missionaries' ministry.

Please lift up in prayer the Kazakhstan missionaries. Pray that God will open doors to share the gospel, that the student in their home receives Christ, and that they are covered in protection as legislation, dating back to September 2011,



If you would be interested in attending a similar event through the East Central Baptist Association (ECBA), please contact Tami Hubler, ECBA

All-Campus Picnic Held at New Day

New Day Baptist Church held an all-campus picnic on Friday, June 4th at their Alexandria campus. This event was to encourage fellowship post Covid and give the campuses an opportunity to reconnect and celebrate. Of course, there was lots of delicious food, featuring some smoked barbecue. Music filled the air and a Corn Hole tournament contributed to a fun-filled evening.



More Glimpses of VBS at Redeemer and Old Town Hill

Old Town Hill Baptist Church in Muncie had an adventurous week unearthing the truth about God's Love during Destination Dig - VBS 2021! From June 20 - 24th, participants ages 3 and up dug in to Seek Truth and Find Jesus! After 2020 with no Vacation Bible School, we were thrilled to have 161 enrolled! Thirty-nine volunteers worked tirelessly to register, decorate, feed, teach, craft, and share God's love with 122 learners!

While smiles and laughs could be seen and heard throughout each

from "The Fossils", our adult VBS class shared that they had fabulous discussions every night and, sometimes, we forget that even the older folks can learn new things, too!

God blessed the volunteers and the participants throughout the week and all who came through the doors experienced His love!



Craft time at Redeemer.



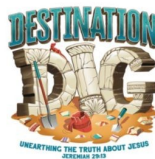
Outdoor recreation time despite rain at Redeemer.

evening, kids through 5th grade also brought in hundreds of boxes of macaroni and cheese to create a Macaroni Mountain at our dig site! All those boxes will be sent to our food pantry to be given out during food distribution. Participants, from the smallest through the adults, brought in a love offering totaling over \$500 that is also being given to the pantry.

Everyone who attended had a fun and exhausting week! A participant



Learning song motions at Old Town Hill



Old Town Hill Worship Rally



Preschool VBS class at Redeemer.



Unearthing Truths during Bible Study time.



VBS Indoor recreation when it really rained!

ECBA Profit and Loss Statement for May 2021

	<u>May 21</u>
Income	
4000 · Church Receipts	
4060 · New Day	500.00
4120 · Halteman - Muncie	468.54
4140 · Kingston - Anderson	118.44
4160 · North Delaware - Muncie	184.68
4170 · Old Town Hill - Muncie	0.00
4180 · Redeemer - Anderson	345.26
4190 · First - Montpelier	80.00
4210 · Faith Christian Fellowship	130.00
4230 · Integris	0.00
4240 · Remedy City	56.77
Total 4000 · Church Receipts	<u>1,883.69</u>
Total Income	1,883.69
Expense	
7000 · Administrative Ministry	
7010 · Other Expense	142.55
7021 · Insurance	196.60
7090 · Payroll	770.57
Total 7000 · Administrative Ministry	<u>1,109.72</u>
Total Expense	<u>1,109.72</u>
Net Income	<u>773.97</u>

ECBA Balance Report May 2021

	<u>May 21</u>	<u>Apr 21</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>
1000 · ONB			
1010 · General Budget	41,039.52	40,380.55	658.97
1011 · Discretionary Admin Team	7,493.99	7,493.99	0.00
1015 · BCM Rent Deposit	0.00	0.00	0.00
1016 · BCM Capital Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00
1020 · Disaster Relief	474.28	474.28	0.00
1025 · Mission Building Capital Fund	7,742.19	7,627.19	115.00
1035 · Church P&H Fund	6,297.89	6,297.89	0.00
1040 · OMC	1,307.84	1,307.84	0.00
1051 · ECBA Endowment	0.00	0.00	0.00
1055 · Funds Temporarily Restricted	19,892.33	19,892.33	0.00
1000 · ONB - Other	185.26	185.26	0.00
Total 1000 · ONB	<u>84,433.30</u>	<u>83,659.33</u>	<u>773.97</u>
1100 · Indiana Baptist Foundation			
1110 · ECBA Endowment	12,431.18	12,431.18	0.00
1111 · Church P&H ROI	3,496.31	3,496.31	0.00
1120 · Church P&H Fund	19,223.09	19,223.09	0.00
1125 · BCMH Temp Restricted	149,357.73	149,357.73	0.00
Total 1100 · Indiana Baptist Foundation	<u>184,508.31</u>	<u>184,508.31</u>	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL	<u>268,941.61</u>	<u>268,167.64</u>	<u>773.97</u>

EAST CENTRAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

c/o Pat Storm

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Join our Disaster Relief Team. Contact Joe Fox 765-729-1366.