

VBS Reaches Out to Kids to Share the Light

ECBA churches are putting the spotlight on Jesus as children learn that He is the Light of the World through the Vacation Bible School theme, "Illumination Station." This issue of The Communicator shares about the VBS at Redeemer Baptist Church in Anderson and New Day Baptist Church in Alexandria. In our next issue we will cover the ones at New Day Baptist Church in Muncie and Old Town Hill Baptist Church in Muncie.

Redeemer

Redeemer Baptist Church held their VBS from Monday, June 8 through Friday, June 12, from 6 PM to 8:30 PM each evening. As in previous years, the children participated in the Worship Rally, age-level Bible studies, plus crafts, recreation, and mission rotation classes. This year the mission rotation class included hearing from guests, Savannah Addison and her son, Elijah, about the mission trip they took with their church in Indianapolis to Costa Rica. Savannah

is the daughter and Elijah is the grandson of Pastor Paul Storm. On Friday, the recreation rotation had a special waterball fight outside



Getting ready for Worship Rally at Redeemer

where the kids relished being able to throw wet sponges at their teachers and other kids.

Families and friends were invited to VBS Family Night on Sunday, June 14 at 6 PM. At Family Night, all families were fed before everyone adjourned to the sanctuary to enjoy the children singing their VBS songs and seeing them recognized for their participation. Two girls were awarded bicycles for bringing 5 visitors each. Every child received a goodies bag which included flashlights and a bouncy ball that lit up to remind them that Jesus is the Light of the World.

VBS Director Brenda Brooks reported that there were 39 children enrolled. They had 19 teachers plus another 16 workers in the kitchen where they served a meal each night at 6 PM.

New Day – Alexandria

New Day Baptist Church in Alexandria held their Vacation Bible School from Monday, June 22 through Wednesday, June 24 from 6 PM to 8:30 PM each evening.



Pastor Chris Hubler and Kids.

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Tornadoes, Wind, and Flooding Keeps DR Team Busy

It has been a busy season for our Disaster Relief teams. With all of the tornadoes, wind and flooding in Northern Indiana as well as the Bloomington area, there is always more to do than there is time or people. The needs are great and if God is stirring your heart to help those in need, please contact our ECBA Disaster Relief Coordinator, Joe Fox at 765-729-1366. You don't have to be able to do hard physical work. People are needed to do paperwork, assessment, and just listen to those who have been devastated by the disaster and share the love of Jesus with them.

There were 3 tornadoes that ravaged Northern Indiana plus severe winds, some strong enough to derail a train. Joe and his crew have been working in the towns of Elkhart, Hobart, Lake Village, Maryville and the Hammond area. This past week, the team went to Pennville where multiple trees had fallen on a home. One of them was about 36 inches in diameter. They have also traveled to the Bloomington and Greenwood area to help.

Joe and the DR team are especially appreciative of the equipment that ECBA provides for them to be able to do this work even more effectively, so they can help even more people and tell them about Jesus as they help.

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Dr. Ron Ross

The Katecheo

Second Peter 1.19-21 forms paragraph five of the letter and reads from the NASB'95 as, *"So we have the prophetic word made more sure to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts. But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God."* This paragraph describes how the Word of God is to be interpreted.

Hermeneutics is the theory and methodology of **interpretation**, especially the interpretation of biblical texts, wisdom literature, and philosophical texts. As necessary, hermeneutics may include the art of understanding and communication. The art of Biblical Hermeneutics includes the historical setting of Scripture including the context of materials to be studied. It includes the writer's intention for his writing in light of the recipient's

situation. It considers the original language of the writing as well as the genre of the writing. As Peter writes his readers, he even directs as to how the writing is to be interpreted with this -- *"no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation,"* signifying that the Word of God interprets all Scripture.

All pastors and teachers have a great responsibility as they speak the Word of God weekly. As James 3.1 teaches, those teaching the Word of God will be held to a very high standard, and to assist with this task the pastor/teacher must allow the Word of God to interpret other Scripture passages using hermeneutical principles.

As believers gather weekly to hear the Word of God explained, may they be fed God's Word in an exegetical manner with God's anointing on each word ... His Word is imperative for daily growth!

SCBI Executive Director Scheduled to Speak at ECBA Annual Meeting

The New Executive Director of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana, Nicholas Clark, will be speaking at the ECBA Annual Meeting scheduled for Thursday, September 24, at New Day Baptist Church in Alexandria. Dr. Clark has pastored churches in Indiana and Kentucky for eighteen years. He currently serves as an adjunct professor at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary where he earned the Ph.D., ThM., and MDiv. He graduated from the University of Southern Indiana in 2003 with his bachelor's degree and earned his MBA in 2007. Dr. Clark lives in Danville, IN, along with his wife, Callie, and their four children.



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

Birthdays

- August 5 — Terra Haisley** (Integris, Albany)
August 12 — Jim Marlow (North Delaware, Muncie)
August 23 — Dale Trego (New Day, Muncie)

Anniversaries

- August 12 — Paul & Renae Storm** (Redeemer, Anderson)
August 15 — Jeremiah & Cassie Kinney (Remedy City, Muncie)

Pastor-Church Anniversaries

- August 6 — Dale Trego**, New Day—Muncie, 10 years
August 18 — Dana Jones, Faith Christian—Anderson, 13 years
August 20 — Paul Storm, Redeemer—Anderson, 3 years

SBC Emphasis for August

- August 2—Send Relief Sunday**
August 9—SBC Serve Sunday
August 23—Global Hunger Sunday

Made for the Mission

Tami Hubler serves as President of Indiana WMU and attended the 2026 WMU Missions Celebration and Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida.

I had the privilege of representing Indiana WMU at the 2026 WMU Missions Celebration and Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida. The theme of this year's gathering is "**Made for the Mission**," and from the opening session, that message was woven through every story, testimony, and conversation.

The afternoon began with registration and Idea Splash, an interactive area filled with displays, resources, and creative ideas designed to help churches engage people of all ages in missions. Women gathered around booths exchanging ideas, sharing ministry experiences, and discovering new ways to encourage others to pray, give, go, and tell. One of the things I appreciate most about WMU events is that they don't simply inspire us—they equip us. Attendees left with practical ideas that can be taken back to churches and communities across the country.

During the opening session, WMU President Connie Dixon and WMU Executive Director Sandy Wisdom-Martin challenged us to remember that every believer has a place in God's mission. Their words carried special significance as both women prepare to conclude their leadership roles at the end of 2026. Rather than focusing on their accomplishments, they pointed us to the faithfulness of God and the importance of investing in those who will carry the mission forward.

Throughout the session, we heard stories



from women whose lives have been shaped by WMU and whose ministries now impact others around the world.

One former National WMU President shared how her family's roots trace back to Swedish Baptists who immigrated to America seeking religious freedom. Her story reminded us that generations before us sacrificed greatly so that we could freely worship, serve, and share the gospel today.

Another speaker shared her journey of arriving in the United States unable to speak English. A small Southern Baptist church welcomed her, loved her, and introduced her to Girls in Action. Those early experiences helped shape her faith and passion for missions. Today she serves as a Korean WMU Coordinator, helping others discover the same love for missions that was invested in her years ago.

We also heard from a state WMU president who served as a missionary to the Masaai people in Kenya with her husband and two young children. She recounted surviving a violent robbery while on the mission field and how God faithfully sustained her family through that frightening experience. Her testimony reminded us that following God's call is not always easy, but His presence is constant and His purposes are worth every sacrifice.

One of the most memorable moments of the day was a dramatic presentation portraying missionary Lilius Trotter. Through a first-person monologue, her story came alive before us. Trotter surrendered the opportunity for a promising artistic career in England in order to follow God's call to Algeria, where she spent decades sharing the gospel and discipling believers. Her life beautifully illustrated what it means to place God's calling above personal ambition.

After the presentation, I had the opportunity to meet the actress who portrayed Lilius. Standing beside her in period dress, I was reminded that while God calls each of us to different places and different ministries, the common thread is obedience. The same God who called Lilius Trotter continues to call ordinary believers today.



Another meaningful reminder of WMU's legacy could be found throughout the conference venue. Displays featuring Annie Armstrong, Lottie Moon, Sandy Wisdom-Martin, and Connie Dixon highlighted the generations of women who have faithfully invested their lives in advancing the gospel. I was grateful to share a photo opportunity with Hawaii WMU President Gay Williams among these displays, celebrating both the heritage we have received and the responsibility we have to pass that heritage on to future generations.

As I listened to the stories shared throughout the day, I was struck by a common theme. God uses people from every background, every generation, and every circumstance. He used Swedish immigrants seeking religious freedom. He used a young girl welcomed into a local church. He used a missionary family serving in Kenya. He used an artist who surrendered her dreams for His calling. And He continues to use women across Indiana who faithfully serve in their churches and communities every day.

The opening day of the WMU Missions Celebration and Annual Meeting was not simply a reminder of what God has done in the past. It was a reminder that His mission continues today. Every one of us has been created with a purpose. Every one of us has a role to play in God's kingdom work.

We truly are **Made for the Mission**.

More Vacation Bible School Pictures

(Continued from page 1)

By Ceres Beane

Another fantastic year of VBS at New Day Alexandria is in the books!

Three nights were filled with fun, food, crafts, games, and learning about Jesus. Throughout the week, more than 40 different children attended, and the greatest celebration of all was seeing 4 children ask Jesus into their hearts.

This year, we had the opportunity to partner with Operation Christmas Child during our missions rotation. Each child was encouraged to bring donations for shoeboxes, earning tickets for every item they brought. There were several other ways to earn tickets throughout the week as well. Those tickets were entered into a drawing for our grand prize package, "Glow Up Your Room."

The third and final night ended with an epic water battle, where I may or may not have been the main target for quite a few kiddos!

One of the most amazing things about VBS is watching God work in the lives of children. Seeing them grow, learn, ask questions, and make decisions for Christ is truly a blessing. It is an honor to be a small part of what God is doing!

More New Day VBS Pictures



More Redeemer VBS Pictures



ECBA Profit and Loss Statement for May 2026

	May 2026	Apr 2026 (PP)	May 2025 (PY)	Jan - May, 2026 (YTD)
REVENUE				
4000 Church Receipts	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4060 New Day	550.00	550.00	550.00	2,750.00
4140 Kingston - Anderson	67.56	90.08	0.00	588.22
4160 North Delaware - Muncie	0.00	80.86	435.52	299.18
4170 Old Town Hill - Muncie	1,178.39	0.00	0.00	2,429.16
4180 Redeemer - Anderson	516.66	232.43	0.00	1,271.39
4210 Faith Christian Fellowship	0.00	0.00	150.00	0.00
4230 Integris	89.00	90.00	104.00	534.00
4240 Remedy City	135.46	115.47	0.00	673.56
4250 Muncie Chinese Christian Fellow	0.00	0.00	0.00	921.00
Total 4000 Church Receipts	2,537.07	1,158.84	1,239.52	9,466.51
Total Revenue	2,537.07	1,158.84	1,239.52	9,466.51
EXPENDITURES				
7000 Administrative Ministry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7010 Office & Other Misc. Expenses	80.50	158.50	229.38	1,744.72
7021 Insurance	195.59	685.50	196.60	1,566.59
7090 Payroll	1,078.61	1,078.61	1,024.79	5,393.06
7091 Bookkeeping	49.02	30.00	5.50	222.52
Total 7000 Administrative Ministry	1,403.72	1,952.61	1,456.27	8,926.89
7100 Church Health	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7110 VBS	0.00	1,255.79	0.00	1,719.74
Total 7100 Church Health	0.00	1,255.79	0.00	1,719.74
7300 Associational Ministry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7310 Disaster Relief	2,173.66	0.00	0.00	2,173.66
Total 7300 Associational Ministry	2,173.66	0.00	0.00	2,173.66
Total Expenditures	3,577.38	3,208.40	1,456.27	12,820.29
NET OPERATING REVENUE	-1,040.31	-2,049.56	-216.75	-3,353.78
OTHER REVENUE				
Endowment ROI	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dividends Earned	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.05
Realized Gains/Losses	0.00	0.00	0.00	-45.96
Unrealized Gains/Losses	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.50
Total Endowment ROI	0.00	0.00	0.00	-20.41
Interest Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,034.99
Total Other Revenue	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,014.58
NET OTHER REVENUE	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,014.58
NET REVENUE	\$ -1,040.31	\$ -2,049.56	\$ -216.75	\$ -2,339.20

ECBA Balance Report May 2026

	As of May 31, 2026	As of Apr 30, 2026 (PP)	Change
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Bank Accounts			
1000 ONB	103,718.54	104,758.85	-1,040.31
1010 General Budget (deleted)	0.00	0.00	0.00
1011 Discretionary Admin Team (deleted)	0.00	0.00	0.00
1020 Disaster Relief (deleted)	0.00	0.00	0.00
1025 Mission Building Capital Fund (deleted)	0.00	0.00	0.00
1035 Church P&H Fund (deleted)	0.00	0.00	0.00
1040 OMC (deleted)	0.00	0.00	0.00
1055 Funds Temporarily Restricted (deleted)	0.00	0.00	0.00
1111 Church P&H ROI (deleted)	0.00	0.00	0.00
1125 BCMH Temp Restricted (deleted)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total 1000 ONB	103,718.54	104,758.85	-1,040.31
1010 WatersEdge Endowment 87745	13,988.06	13,988.06	0.00
1020 WatersEdge Invest 90043901	101,822.91	101,822.91	0.00
Total Bank Accounts	219,529.51	220,569.82	-1,040.31
Total Current Assets	219,529.51	220,569.82	-1,040.31
TOTAL ASSETS	\$219,529.51	\$220,569.82	\$ -1,040.31
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY			
Liabilities			
Total Liabilities			0.00
Equity			
2000 Opening Balance Equity	45,107.04	45,107.04	0.00
2200 Unrestricted Net Assets	176,761.67	176,761.67	0.00
Net Revenue	-2,339.20	-1,298.89	-1,040.31
Total Equity	219,529.51	220,569.82	-1,040.31
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$219,529.51	\$220,569.82	\$ -1,040.31

EAST CENTRAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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Follow us



Join Redeemer Baptist Church 3230 Lindberg Road, Anderson IN 46012 as they celebrate their mortgage pay-off with a cook-out/pitch-in followed by a concert by Adams Voice on Sunday, July 5.

Dinner is at 5 PM and the concert at 6:15 PM Everyone is welcome!

