
THE POINT

CROSSPOINT CHURCH

800 BILTMORE PO BOX 186 SOUTH ROXANA, IL 62087

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September 2008



***See You at the Pole
Sept 24th, 7a.m.***

(SYATP) is an annual gathering of Christian students of all ages at a flagpole in front of their local school for prayer, scripture-reading and hymn-singing, during an early morning hour preceding the start of the school day. The American SYATP events occur on every fourth Wednesday of September. This annual gathering began in Burleson, Texas, in 1990, as a response to a Disciple Now weekend with a handful of Christian students. It has grown by word of mouth, announcements at youth rallies and churches, and the Internet; SYATP meetings now occur internationally.

In 2005, over 2 million students in the US participated, as well as students in Democratic Republic of Congo, Ecuador, Germany, Ghana, Guam, Hong Kong, Japan, Kenya, South Korea, Malaysia, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Portugal, Scotland, and South Africa.

Life Chain--- www.lifechain.net

Life Chain is a peaceful and prayerful public witness of Pro-Life Americans standing for one hour praying for our nation and for an end to abortion. It is a visual statement of solidarity by the Christian community that abortion kills children and that the Church supports the sanctity of human life from the moment of conception. The life Chain is held the first Sunday of October each year. This year the Life Chain will be Sunday, October 5th -Alton (2:30-3:30pm) at Broadway from Piasa street to Henry Street. -Edwardsville (2-3pm) -Buchanan and Vandalia streets



If you cannot attend, please be in prayer for this event!

CROSSPOINT

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Schedule of Services

Sunday

Sunday School – 9:45 am

Morning Worship – 10:45 am

Noon Meal – 12 pm

Afternoon Bible Study & Youth NOW, CDC – 1pm

Wednesday

Praise Team Practice, Puppets, Music Tyme-6pm

Bible Study & Prayer Meeting –7pm

GA's, RA's, MF's, & MOB – 7pm

We welcome you to join us and plug in to a ministry to serve in unity to further the Kingdom of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.



A Note from the Pastor:

Mention the word revival and many images, ideas, or concepts enter into the minds of God's people. From meetings to special music, from high-spirited preachers to cottage prayer meetings, the gamut of revival ideas are almost endless. But revival isn't about a meeting or a message. It's not about special preaching or special events that a church may host in the fall. Revival is about a heart that is changed to God, by God and for God.

What we need today is revival. Crosspoint is on the verge of moving from ho-hum to Hallelujah based upon some things that have been happening in the not too distant past and the way we are becoming excited about the future. But in order for the future dreams to become present realities we have to undergo a miraculous transition from comfortable complacency to awe-inspired activity. Revival must occur and be revived we must!

So, let's be reminded of some basic criteria for revival. First, revival is always a work of God, never of man's doing. Revival is a process by which God changes the heart of a believer in order to conform him or her into the God-desired shape. Second, revival is the result of a believer making three choices; they acknowledge they are not where they need to be, they correct the self-evident habits that have been slowing their spiritual growth, and then they release their will to that of the Spirit who is constantly trying to do a work in their life. Lastly, revival will always lead to God being glorified, disciples being made, and communities being changed for Christ. Is that what is happening to us here at Crosspoint? Not yet but it is going to because I believe God desires it and we are ready to allow Him to do His work. Are you ready to start? OK, these are the simple steps you can take to begin the process of transformation. If you are a believer then it is clear that a spiritual deficiency exists so we all must do this:

Habitually attend every worship and Bible study opportunity. Most important would be prayer meetings and every worship service we schedule.

Honor your Savior by paying the price for revival. Effort, pride, bad habits, change, and even some actual serving are going to be required of you.

Holiness is to be pursued. Deal with sin, laziness, attitudes, or whatever else God has convicted you of these past few moments and ready yourself for an outpouring of a Spiritual connectedness with God. Stop making excuses. They may make you feel better but everyone knows what is really going on.

So what choice will you make? Remember if you profess to be a believer there is absolutely no reason why you shouldn't want revival to come to your own life, now is there? So let's experience revival together!

Brother Rich



September --Happy Birthday!

Mason Atkinson (1)
 Dakota Stumpf (1)
 Jason Taylor (3)
 Chase Taylor (4)
 Gene Welton (6)
 Helen Kincade (6)
 Yvonne Whetzel (8)
 Miranda Cunningham (15)
 Christina Fletcher (19)
 Kasey Clouse (21)
 Cree Stumpf (21)
 Nelson Dwiggin (25)
 Teresa Clouse (26)

Happy Anniversary!

Josh & Dawn Ilch (5)
 Bud & La Vern Smith (23)
 Ben & Cassie Fisher (23)



Does your pastor deserve to be Pastor of the Year?

Tell Us Why!

Pastor Appreciation Month Essay Contest

Here is your chance to tell everyone why your pastor deserves to be "Pastor of the Year." The 4th annual GBA Pastor Appreciation Month Essay Contest runs from August 25th to September 26th. Your essay must be 300 words or less, typed and submitted to the GBA office no later than September 26th. Winner of the contest will be announced at the Annual Meeting on October 12th at Grace Baptist Church in Granite City, and will be published in the November newsletter. The essay that wins will give your pastor and his wife a weekend getaway for two. This is a great way to show your pastor how much you appreciate them.

Essays can be turned in to the church office, and I will forward them to the GBA office.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

September 2008

Preschool AM

3rd:
 7th: Allyson, Amanda, Lori
 10th:
 14th: Samantha, Ben, Chris F
 17th:
 21st: Deb, Brad, Christen
 24th:
 28th: Angela, Rhonda, Laura

PM

Dawn, Maureen
 Brenda, Josh C
 Teresa, Jeana
 Kasey, Yvonne
 Tara, Brenda
 Mary F, Allyson
 Deb, Mary F.
 Anna, Amanda

Children's Story

7th: Kasey Clouse
 14th: Jeremy Fletcher
 21st: Carolyn Baron
 28th: Anna Broadfoot

Children's Church

7th: Teresa & Christen Clouse
 14th: Pat Dwiggin, Gage, Nathan
 21st: Will & Miranda Cunningham
 28th: Brad Whetzel, Amanda Clouse

Greeters

7th: Bud & LaVern Smith
 14th: Opal Jones & Debbie Blackard
 21st: Hershel & Brenda Taylor
 28th: Russell & Carolyn Baron

Security

7th: Russell Baron
 14th: John Norris
 21st: Len Fisher
 28th: James Smith

Ushers

7th: Jim B, Tony, Bud
 14th: Russell, Nathan, Jacob
 21st: Ben, Hershel, Chris F.
 28th: Mike, Josh C., Gage

Meals

7th: Maureen, Angela, Yvonne
 14th: Len Fisher, Deacons
 21st: POTLUCK
 28th: Kasey, Cassie, Small Group



Preschool Ministry

I hope you will take a minute to read my letter to you and spend some time in prayer. Please pray for all of our workers and our ministry team. We will be meeting on the 4th Thursday evening of each month at 6:30 p.m. to pray and plan as God leads us. Anyone is welcome at our meeting.

Most of you know that we have quite a few babies coming. We have 2 cribs, one of which won't last very much longer, and a donation of 1 pack n play. I have located some smaller cribs that are shorter and not as wide as the current ones we have so that they will fit through the doors in case of an emergency. These beds are about \$110.00 each. We will need 4-6 of these, especially when we move to our new building. (If you want to view them, go to EMCDstore.com and navigate to infants and toddlers cribs. It is called the Holiday Crib). If anyone would like to purchase one of these beds, please see me.

We are also in need of these items: baby wipes (hypoallergenic, non-alcoholic), paper towels, soap, cups (both sippy and regular), baby snacks, juice (apple, white grape, grape), booster seats, and germX. If you can donate these items, please leave them in the Preschool 3 area or on the tables outside the kitchen. And thank you very much!

Now, for a few house cleaning rules, so to speak:
We have a lot of children and our rooms are small, so if you are not assigned to work in the preschool area, please do not enter the rooms or stand outside the doors. This is in our handbook because it cuts down on germs and congestion. Children may also become scared or upset when they see a lot of people. Nursing mothers or those paged by our workers are an exception, of course. If your child is in the room, please knock on the door and wait for a worker to answer or bring you your child. Remember to sign the sheet and turn in your pagers at the end of each session. We will have a different system for alerting parents of a need when we move to our new building. We are asking all workers to work their assigned time. If you can't for some reason, please let Mary know, especially on Sunday morning and Wednesday evening. Trading with someone else without letting the preschool director know may cause a shortage in another ministry or us being unprepared to adequately staff the rooms. If you let me know then I will find a replacement for you. I appreciate you working with us on this to make our ministry run smoothly.

Thank you for your prayers!
Mary

Missions

Fall is on our doorstep. We have much to be thankful for. I will not list everything but some recent happenings that we can thank HIM for today. We are adding new Christians to our church. We are blessed to have a building in progress. Many children not connected with a church came to our VBS. Our outreach with backpacks has spurred interest in some people who need Him in their lives. We have had sermons and music that blesses us as we worship. Four young adults were in Brazil as short term missionaries! Thank you, Lord! Some are feeling called into a new service and we know YOU will give them direction.

One of the Carpenters' for Christ, Jay Swamidass, has asked us to partner with him in prayer. He has been called to serve an unreached people group in Asia. He is finishing language school in September. He wants to come and speak to us in more detail in Oct. Be praying for this young man now. We can only be blessed by holding him up in prayer. Put his name up where you will see it every day.

You know, the little squirrels are gathering their food, preparing to feed themselves and others. They are on a mission to survive---so are we. In Sept. we will gather offering for our IL State Missions. Every cent will go to helping churches, pastors, college ministries and other causes. Please remember this offering and give as you can by Oct. 1. We will be seeing a video showing how much of the money will be spent--reaching out in our state.

We are collecting the following:

Campbell Soup labels for a Christian school in KY. Do not cut the code from these.

Aluminum cans for our youth fund.

New----diaper and baby food coupons. Put them in the clear plastic container near the nursery. We have 5 new babies so there will be many purchases. One way we can help our parents is to clip those coupons

New----old cell phones not in use and printer ink cartridges that are usually discarded. They will go to a NAMB missionary in a resort ministry. This is a WMU project. However we are asking you guys to help too. Maybe the office you work for discards them. Actually they are bought by some organizations and the money is sent to the missionary.

Leaders, we may have to dig to get literature for the mission groups until more money is available. Use the internet, go back and use some ideas that were presented but not used. Jeremy and Ashley are going to involve our mission kids in a community project once each month. If you are asked to help, say "Yes", this needs to come from all of us not just those who are leading.

Keep Looking UP! **Yvonne, WMU Dir**

Back to School Bash



I would be lying if I said that at the beginning of the afternoon I wasn't feeling down because our numbers were low compared to last year. But as the afternoon went on and we were all discussing it I realized that we had done all that we could have done and that this was a God thing. So, I just began praying that God would bring the people in that needed to be there. As the day went on and not very many more people showed up, someone suggested that we take the backpacks to them. So, we decided to end the event very early and after all of the guests left, we loaded up the backpacks and the puppet stage and went to several apartment complexes. This turned out to be an excellent decision.

Last year we planned for 60 kids and we gave away 59, isn't God awesome! This year we decided to plan for 100 kids. After it was all said and done, we gave away 78 backpacks, GREAT JOB! Even though we had some left over we still gave away more than last year. We also got the names of 20 kids that are interested in coming to the Refuge. That is a great start! But the great thing is we not only gave away school supplies, we made a personal contact with the people of our community. And that is what this event is all about, being a face in the community and showing them that we care. Our goal is not just to meet their physical needs, anyone can do that, it is to meet their spiritual needs.

So, it might not have been exactly what we had hoped or planned for but it turned out to be a great day. We met some new faces and were able to make an impact on a lot of families. Thanks to everyone who helped in any way. Thanks to all of you who donated school supplies or money. Thanks to all of you who donated cupcakes and thanks to all of you who prayed for the event. Especially, thanks to all of you who came to the church and helped during the event. Outreach events would not be possible without the help of every one of you. Thanks for being flexible and willing and eager to take it to the streets. Most of all, thanks for being Jesus to our community. We may never know whose life was changed by this simple act of love. Start praying about the next outreach opportunity God wants you to be involved in.

In Christ Service and Love,
Brandy

Community Center: The Refuge—Opens August 26th

We praise God for the opportunity we have to be used by God to show Christ's love to the young people in our community through the ministry of The Refuge. We officially began the after school program on Tuesday, August 26th. We presently have 23 kids enrolled, people signed up to volunteer and we appreciate the support of the church family. We have a common goal—we are of one faith and we truly believe we are united in faith, love and purpose as we reach out to our community.

*If you have any questions about the refuge, feel free to contact either one of us.
In Christ's Love,
Teresa and Brandy*

Call For Workers

Dear Church Family:

We have a wonderful problem in our preschool area. We have a LOT of children, but not many workers. Just this past week, we had 9 children in the toddler area and 1 baby! In Luke's Gospel, Jesus tells us that the harvest is great, but the workers are few and that we should pray for workers: He told them: "*The harvest is abundant, but the workers are few. Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest. Luke 10:2*). Won't you please pray and ask God if He is leading you to stand with us as we harvest? You won't be sorry, and the reward is huge—allowing God to mold a little life in service to Him! Now, what could be more rewarding than that?!

As I think of those who faithfully serve in our ministry (and are overworked), I also see Sunday School teachers, Mission leaders, and those that play a vital role in other ministries. They also need to be fed God's Word during Sunday School, worship service and Bible study. With new babies born (2 thus far), expectant parents (4 at the last count), and new people either visiting or joining, our ministry is growing by leaps and bounds. With that comes growing pains and the need for others to kneel down in prayer seeking God's direction in service and then step up to serve.

You have probably heard that it takes a village to raise a child. I think it takes a committed, united church to raise a child to love and serve God. We have been so excited to see our young people grow and commit their lives in service to Christ! But, how did they get from a new tiny baby to where they are now? They were taught and nurtured by loving parents and family, Sunday School teachers, Bible teachers, faithful friends, and a committed pastor (or two, or three, . . .). In 15 years, it might be sweet little Mary or Ally; maybe Ethan or Garrett; or Joseph; or Jennifer; or Abigail (who hasn't made her debut as of yet); or Dylan—you see the list goes on and on. Don't you want to be a part in their ministry that God has laid before them? I do! If you feel God leading you, please see me for a handbook, so you can learn more about the rewards and responsibilities waiting for you.

In Loving, Christian Service,
Mary



Upcoming Events For Your Calendar

September 2008

Wednesday, Sept 3rd—Finance Team Meeting – 8pm

Saturday, Sept 6th—Work Day—New Building--6am-3pm—everyone is invited

Sunday, Sept 7th – Church Council – 2pm

Tuesday, Sept 9th—Baptist Women—9:30am—at Yvonne's

*Saturday, Sept 13th—Dependent Soul Annual Golf Tourney—**POSTPONED***

Sunday, Sept 14th—VIP—2:30pm

Sunday, September 21st – Baby Dedication

Thursday, Sept 25th—Preschool Ministry Team Meeting—6:30pm—at Mary's

Saturday, Sept 27th—Work Day—New Building--6am-3pm—everyone is invited

Sunday, Sept 28th—Apple Picking Fellowship—2:30pm at Mills Apple Farm in Marine, IL.

We will carpool and leave right after the afternoon bible study.

October 3rd & 4th-- Men & Boys Fishing Trip

