



MAIN INFO

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WHERE WE MEET

1883 Old US 24
Huntington, IN 46750

Worship Services
9 and 11 AM
Sunday Mornings

Thoughts from our Senior Pastor

Reflecting on 2013

As we move quickly into 2014, it's great to look back at what God has accomplished through The Well in 2013. As a result of God's Spirit working through The Well, 19 people have indicated that they became Christians in the year 2013. That is amazing. As a result, there were 7 people baptized in 2013. Several more of those who made a new profession of faith and were unable to participate in the most recent baptism have indicated that as soon as we organize another baptism celebration in 2014 they will gladly participate and make a public profession of their inward heart change.

One of the other amazing things that happened in the last year is what I am calling "Church Multiplication Through Procreation." In the month of December alone there were 4 infants dedicated. There were others dedicated previously in the year as well. We are also aware that there will be several more in 2014. It is our joy that we will have a hand in seeing these children grow up and one day profess Jesus Christ as Lord.

I suppose we can't forget that we **MOVED INTO A NEW BUILDING!** For nearly 4 years we constructed and deconstructed a worship space and children's ministry area for church every Sunday morning. Not having a space of our own significantly hindered our ability to grow and yet we grew. Eventually we just couldn't put more seats in the gym at the Huntington YMCA so something had to be done.

Even as we moved into the existing property, from day one we didn't have enough seating for the current attendance. This was a good



problem to have. It is why I shared in last month's newsletter our reasons for adding an additional service at 9am on Sundays. So far this service has been great and has opened up much needed space for growth. Put simply, instead of having 30-50 available seats on Sunday morning, we now have 200.

It is my prayer that over the coming weeks, months and years that those 200 seats would be filled with people who at this very moment do not know Jesus Christ as their Lord.

In 2013, particularly in the previous 3 months, we have seen many people increase in service to the church. People got sore and tired and dirty as we got the building ready to occupy. Worship team, greeters, ushers, and children's ministry workers have given more of their time to care for the people of The Well. We have had multiple volunteers step up and meet the needs of our quickly growing youth group.

Paul reminds the church about a simple discipline in his own life. *But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.* Philippians 3:13-14

This verse has often been applied to individuals to help remind them that they are no longer defined by their past failures.

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But Paul is actually reminding us that we cannot allow us to even be defined by our previous successes. He is describing in this chapter that whatever gains he has made in his life and ministry, he now considers loss as he moves on to what Christ is now calling him to be.

We are also in this position. Our past is behind us. And while it does give us leverage for the future, what lies ahead is more important than what is in our wake. I hope you will take your commitments to Christ and to this church very seriously in the years to come as we press toward the goal that Christ has placed before us.

I pray that we will never be marked by our glory days getting stuck in reminiscing about what once was. I pray that we will be increasingly marked as a church who tirelessly gives of ourselves to one another for Christ as we seek to bring glory to the name of Jesus Christ in everything we do.

Senior Pastor, Josh Kesler



Congratulations to those who were baptized in December!
(from left to right) Jeff and Molly Edgel, Ethan and Grace Vaught

The Well Youth



December was a busy month for the youth at The Well! We were able to donate toys to Love, Inc. with the help of the Children's Ministry and share our cookie baking skills with the church. It wasn't all work, though, we fit in time for some fun at our Christmas party. Here's a breakdown of the schedule for January:

Festivus- Jan. 3-4, overnighter with College Park and Life Church, cost is \$30. Activities include laser tag and bowling as well as some other fun surprises! Contact Abby for more info

No meeting January 5.

Regular meetings on Jan. 12, 19, and 26.

THE WELL CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

NEWS FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD!

WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD! Over the past few weeks, our "Neighborhood Kids" have been learning a few very important lessons. Here are just a few...

1. Jesus is the true Shepherd King.
2. Understanding GRACE.
3. Isaiah's prophecies and what they mean.
4. Daniel obeyed God whatever the cost.

A big THANK YOU goes out to all of the volunteers (and parents) who have been flexible through the changes that having 2 services has brought over the past month. Everyone has been wonderful & willing to adjust as needed! THANK YOU!

Have you ever thought of helping in The Neighborhood? Does The Neighborhood seem like a fun place to be? Well, that's because it is! New volunteers are always welcome to help out in any of our 3 classes during either of the 2 services. If you feel like this is a way that you would like to serve and would like more information, please contact tyanne@thewellathuntington.org or pick up a volunteer packet on Sunday!

The Well's First Christmas Eve Service!



From the Pastor of Community Care

I don't know about you, but it feels like yesterday we had just celebrated the beginning of 2013. The Well has undergone a lot of changes over the past year with the opening of our new building. I want to say thank you to all the people that gave up personal time to help finish the building to the point of being able to move in and worship God, but there is still work to be done to complete the building process. The kitchen is an ongoing project, with the countertops needing finished, the walls need painted, and the need to start stocking the kitchen cabinets with items that can be used to host parties and dinners. You may be asking yourself "what can I do to help support the church?" The purchase of cooking utensils, serving spoons, small kitchen appliances such as blenders, hand mixers, and mixing bowls would greatly be appreciated.

We have also said good bye to the Lairds and we continue to wish them well. The kids areas are growing thanks to the addition of several families, with some having their first child and some having their second or third child. We have witnessed people accepting Christ as their savior and enjoyed celebrating the baptisms of young adults and young children. We watched one of our very own regular attending college students make his appearance on ESPN with a ¾ court shot seen around the world. Shane, you the man! All of these things show that God is truly working within the walls of the Well.

The term New Year's resolution is typically associated with someone wanting to start the New Year off by giving up some kind of addiction and start the year fresh and new. The New Year rolls around, we see department stores having huge sales on exercise equipment and work-out videos, spas want us to stop in for a full body make-over, to start out the New Year. I know that if I went to a spa for a full body make over, they would look at me and say "Mr. Hippensteel, we are going to need to schedule several more visits."

When God created the earth he established a seven day week, 52 weeks a year schedule. And that my friends, equates to 365 days per year. Our days are busy, our weeks are full and then suddenly we wake up on a Monday morning and we discover it's December already. We think to ourselves "where did this year go?!"

I find it interesting how so many people including myself will wait until the end of a year to evaluate their lives and then make a last ditch effort to change the negatives in their lives. Our faith and spiritual lives are no exceptions. We don't need to wait till January 1ST to suddenly see where our faith is and compare it to where it was. Since it is close to the New Year however, there are things you could do to start your New Year fresh and on the upbeat. Have you been baptized? What an awesome way to start a New Year by taking that step in faith and being baptized. Have you ever read the Bible from cover to cover? One way to achieve this goal is to find a good Bible reading plan, such as "The Life Journal." Maybe the reason you haven't read the Bible is because the Bible you currently have is hard for you to understand, or you don't have one at all. If that is the case, by all means see one of the pastors and we will get you a Bible.

While writing this newsletter I am reminded of the following scripture:

Philippians 3:13-14

No, dear brothers and sisters, I am still not all I should be, but I am focusing all my energies on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I strain to reach the end of the race and receive the prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us up to heaven. (NLT)

In conclusion, the past is the past and there is no changing it. We all have our own race to complete, and just like a long distant runner who is always looking ahead at the finish line, so should we in our race for our prize from God.

Pastor Jim Hippensteel



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Be Informed

Be sure to like our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/thewellathuntington

Check out our website:

www.thewellhuntington.org

Follow us on Twitter:

@the_wellchurch

We Want You to Have a Bible

If you are in need of a Bible, The Well has one for you. See Pastor Josh on Sunday morning.

Parking and Seating on Sunday Mornings

If you are able, please park in the lower, south lot to allow closer parking for those who need it. Also, please take advantage of the open seating in the front of the sanctuary so others can easily find seating as they arrive.

Men's Prayer Group

Meets on Mondays at the church, 7 PM.

Serving Opportunities

Some of you may be wondering how you can serve at The Well. We currently have opportunities in our Children's Ministry, Worship Ministry, First Impressions Team, with more opportunities coming! If you want to get plugged into The Well, contact any of the pastors and they will help you get connected.

Getting the Newsletter?

If you know someone who isn't getting the newsletter, for whatever reason, let us know.

Send us an email at

office@thewellathuntington.org.

Worship, in Relation to Discipleship (series continued)

Over the next couple of newsletters I am revisiting the message on worship that I shared during this past summer. There are four important aspects of our worship as it is related to discipleship. This month, I am sharing part 3:

3. Worship is – Expected Both Publicly and PRIVATELY

Believers are expected to participate regularly in public worship. In Hebrews chapter ten we find:

“Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near.” Hebrews 10:23-25 (NASV)

Make note of the words “assembling together.” This means that Christians are to gather together with other believers for the express purpose of worship. Christianity is not an isolationist religion. There are to be no “Lone Ranger” Christians. (Besides, even the Lone Ranger had Tonto.)

The New Testament describes the Church as a “body,” a “building,” and a “family.” Each one of these terms speaks of the relationship between the individual units and that of the whole. We are individually Christian – but collectively – we are Christian too.

The author of Hebrews even gives us the reason that we are to assemble together. We assemble together “to stimulate one another to love and good deeds.” Our assembling together is an act of encouragement to other

believers. We should always seek ways to encourage one another, and worshiping together should be, habitually, one of those ways.

On the other hand, public worship alone will not satisfy our need to meet God in those quiet places. Luke, speaking of Jesus, tells us:

“He continued his habit of retiring to deserted places and praying.” Luke 5:16 (ISV)

We find in the scriptures that Jesus faithfully participated in public worship but He also faithfully participated in private worship as well. Matthew Henry, the familiar Puritan commentator, has said, “Public worship will not excuse us from secret worship.” We must worship God with other believers and in private as well. That was the habit of Jesus and it should be our habit as well.

To be concluded next month...

Humbly yours,

Pastor Marvin McNew

If you would like to hear the message in it's entirety, including songs and prayer, go to: <http://goo.gl/f0617q>



wellbeing



renew inspire transform

Make the **Choice** to Change.

What Is WellBeing?

WellBeing is a six-week class for women ages 18 and older.

What if there were a class you could take that acted like a weight loss program, a detox, and a health coaching experience all wrapped into one? What if that class only lasted six weeks? And what if that class laid the groundwork for you to live healthfully for the rest of your life?

What if you didn't have to follow a fad diet that's expensive, subjective, and unproven? What if you didn't have to figure things out on your own? What if you didn't have to do it alone?

Studies show that real, lasting weight loss happens when we change our lifestyles. WellBeing is a six-week weight loss class that will give you support to start a new habit, but will also educate you so that you can maintain the process of weight loss and healthy living *for the rest of your life*.

What is WellBeing? A nutrition-centered approach to weight loss that covers many factors that typical fad diet programs don't address: how to have a *healthy* detox, why toxins make it impossible to lose weight, mind/body health, and the unknown behaviors that almost all of us do that hinder our bodies from shedding pounds and keeping the weight off for good. WellBeing is a wellness program designed by expertly trained nutrition therapist, Aimee McNew, from her extensive education and personal experience with weight loss, detoxification, nutrition therapy, and whole foods healing.

Class Locations

Huntington (The Well) Mondays, 7pm, 1/13 thru 2/17

or

Roanoke (Good Grains Bakery) Tues, 7pm, 1/14 thru 2/18

Pre-Registration

Pre-Registration for WellBeing runs from 12/27 thru 1/10.

Prepay for the full class (\$90) and receive free bonuses including a bottle of supplements, a class t-shirt, and a special one-on-one coaching session with Aimee.

To register, contact Aimee by [email](#) or give her a call at (219) 863-2882. aimee.mcnew@gmail.com

Cost

\$90 -- At just \$15 a week, WellBeing is the only affordable weight loss class that goes beyond the number on the scale. WellBeing will educate you, equip you, and empower you to be a healthier, happier person for the rest of your life.

Also for Women...

Well Moms Group

Any mom is invited to join other Well Moms on Mondays, 10:30 - 12:30.

Children are welcome.

We will meet in the children's area.

Questions? Contact Amber Degitz at amberdegitz@gmail.com.

Women's Grow Group

If you are interested in joining a women's grow group contact Kris Chafin at kchafin@huntington.edu.