

# INDIANA SOUTH WESLEYAN



August 2005



District Superintendent  
Dr. Mark Eckart

## God's Math

By Rev. Chet Todd/ Mecca New Life

In September 2003, the Lord called me to pastor New Life Wesleyan church in the town of Mecca. I was very excited about the potential of the church and the things that I felt God wanted to do there. However, at the end of the 2003-2004 church year, we found ourselves over 300 dollars short of meeting our annual USF budget. To solve the problem, we took half of our first payment for the 2004-2005 church year and used it to catch up.

This however caused us to begin the new church year more than 300 dollars behind. I began to hear a few rumblings about having to pay the USF obligation with money that could go back into the local church. This disturbed me. I believe that God has called me to be a pastor in the Wesleyan Church. I believe that He has called me to serve in this district and in so doing has called me to respect and submit to the spiritual authority of this district and that includes paying the USF assessment.

As I prayed about what to do the Lord reminded me of a decision that was made when I was an associate pastor of a larger church in the district. The LBA of that church was faced with the same issue: "What do we do about paying the USF assessment?" They decided to tithe to the district to pay their USF.

I began to ponder this concept and realized several things. First, we pastors firmly believe and preach about the importance of tithing and how it is integral in receiving and living under the blessing of God. It stands to reason then, that if we believe God will bless individuals for their obedience in tithing, He will also bless a church who obeys God and honors spiritual authority through tithing.

Second, it also stands to reason that if the Malachi 3 "storehouse" for the individual is the local church, the

"storehouse" for the local church is the district.

Third, tithing to the district makes meeting the USF assessment an act of faith and obedience and puts the finances of the church into the hands of God.

As I continued to analyze this possible course of action I realized that tithe is 10% and the USF assessment is 11.5%. This posed a dilemma. Would God meet 11.5% with a tithe of 10%?

Again, He reminded me that tithing is not about the money; it is about faith and obedience. So, we decided to trust God, submit to spiritual authority and tithe from the weekly offerings. At the first of each week, after the offerings were counted, the treasurer would deposit 10% into a fund to be sent to the district at the end of the month.

We immediately found that the USF assessment ceased to be an issue of stress or tension in the church. It became an act of worship on the part of the church. It was about obedience, faith, and respect for spiritual authority, not obligation.

Did it work? Well, about the middle of April of this year, I received a letter from the district treasurer informing us that the end of the year was quickly approaching and we were around 600 dollars short of meeting our USF assessment.

Immediately, I contacted our local church treasurer and asked her if she had sent the monthly tithe check to the district. She said she was getting ready to mail it. I asked her how much it was. She reported that she had just made it out for a little over 800 dollars. Keep in mind; we started the year more than 300 dollars behind.

I don't understand God's math. All I know is that God is faithful to His word!

### Superintendent's Schedule

#### August

- 1-7 Family Camp
- 13 Softball Torment
- 14 Church Visit
- 21 AM Birdseye
- PM Somerville
- 28 AM Sullivan
- PM Boonville

#### September

- 4 AM Mooresville
- PM Trafalgar
- 8 IWU Meeting
- 11 AM Paoli
- PM Church Visit
- 18 AM Greensburg
- PM Franklin
- 25 AM New Albany
- PM Madison
- 29-30 IWU Board Meeting

### Heaven Week Celebration

October 2-9

Information will be mailed  
to each church.



## Minister of the Year Award

Left is Dr. Eckart, Rev. Mark Reed, and Dr. Tom Armiger. Pastor Mark Reed was selected to receive the Minister of the Year Award from our district. He received a plaque and a thousand dollars in cash and gifts. Congratulations to Pastor Mark from our Bicknell Church.

## Freels Retirement

Pictured right is Rev. & Mrs. Everett Freels. After pastoring 36 years on this district the Freels retired this spring. They were honored at conference this year with a \$500.00 get away trip to the Smoky Mountains. Congratulations to them and thank you Rev. & Mrs. Freels for all of your years of service to Jesus and this district.



## Mortgage Burning Ceremony

Pictured left is Pastor Mark Reed, some of the members from the Bicknell Church, and Dr. Mark. Congratulations on the church now being debt free!

## 2006 Declared Wesleyan Year of the Bible

The Wesleyan Church has declared 2006 as the "Year of the Bible." This is an initiative of the Church's Spiritual Formation Department. Wesleyans will be encouraged to spend 15 minutes a day to read through the entire Bible next year, using a One Year Bible in the easy to read New Living Translation. Orders for the One Year Bible may be placed through Wesleyan Publishing House at [wph@wesleyan.org](mailto:wph@wesleyan.org) or 1-800-493-7539.

## The G.L.A.D. Program—Phase One Continued

We need **300 units** total in the G.L.A.D. program. We have currently **110 units** taken. We still need **108 units** to finish the program. Won't you give this prayerful consideration—and perhaps join the G.L.A.D leaders?

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Rev. & Mrs. Troy Whitham of Concord Wesleyan, and to Rev. & Mrs. Josh Brown, Youth Pastor of Valeene Wesleyan on their June Weddings.

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Rev. & Mrs. Craig Bell of Spearsville on the birth of their son Conner Anthony Bell.

## Dear Pastor,

Our Westport Church helped in a very productive program this past spring through Child Evangelism Fellowship. They and several other churches from the community actually held a VBS format service for children in the public schools in Decatur County. Decatur county had the 2nd largest attendance in these services in the U.S.A. They averaged 235 students for the eight weeks they held the meetings. They went to the public school to have the VBS services.

Why don't you see if this may work where you live and pastor? It sounds like a golden opportunity to spread the Gospel! Maybe you can be the one to lead and get the other churches to help as well.

For more information contact:  
Rev. K.C. Speer at: 1-812-350-5862  
or go to: [www.cefsoindiana.com](http://www.cefsoindiana.com)

You may also contact Pastor Emmett Wakefield at Westport for more information:

Call him at 1-812-591-0848

## Family Camp Church Zone Nights

Monday, August 1 • Zone 2, 3, & 11  
Tuesday, August 2 • Zone 7 & 8  
Wednesday, August 3 • Zone 5 & 6  
Thursday, August 4 • Zone 9 & 10  
Friday, August 5 • Zone 1 & 4

## New L.D.J. Coordinator

Rev. Lamar Brown  
413 Main Street • Milan, IN 47031  
812-654-2829

E-mail: [LBBB413@wmconnect.com](mailto:LBBB413@wmconnect.com)

### INDIANA SOUTH WESLEYAN (USPS 334-970)

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## A Note From Dr. Mark Eckart

Congratulations to the churches and pastors that received the Excellent in Ministry Award. Also, I want to say a big "thank you" to the churches that paid 100% U.S.F. the last fiscal year ending in April.

The D.B.A. has requested that we also list all the churches this year and the percentage they paid the last fiscal year. Every couple of months this list will be published so churches and pastors can keep track of how they

are doing with their U.S.F. obligations. About three years ago the U.S.F. was lowered one point to 11½% with the idea that it would encourage more churches to pay their full budgets.

We really do need every church to pay, so we as a district can keep our responsibilities current.

— Thanks,

Dr. Mark

### U.S.F. Stewardship Indiana South District of The Wesleyan Church As of April 30, 2005

#### Churches That Paid 100% Stewardship For 2004-2005

Austin	100%	North Vernon	100%
Bicknell	100%	Orleans	100%
Bloomfield Mt. Calvary	100%	Petersburg	100%
Bloomfield Mt. Zion	100%	Princeton	100%
Bloomfield Southside	100%	Rising Sun	100%
Bloomington Central	100%	Rushville	100%
Blue River	100%	Salem	100%
Columbus Bethel	100%	Scottsburg	100%
Columbus Central	100%	Seymour	100%
Columbus Flintwood	100%	Shelburn	100%
Columbus Ohio Street	100%	Shelbyville Grace	100%
Concord	100%	Shelbyville Westside	100%
Corydon	100%	Simpson Chapel	100%
East Enterprise	100%	Sullivan	100%
English	100%	Sylvania	100%
Evansville Forest Hills	100%	Terre Haute Faith	100%
Evansville North Park	100%	Terre Haute Northside	100%
Evansville Trinity	100%	Trafalgar	100%
Fort Branch	100%	Versailles	100%
French Lick	100%	Walker Chapel	100%
Gnaw Bone	100%	Washington Main Street	100%
Greensburg	100%	Washington Vincennes Ave.	100%
Holton	100%	Wesley Chapel	100%
Hope	100%	Westport	100%
Lewis Creek	100%	West Terre Haute 6th Street	100%
Lewisville Trinity	100%	West Terre Haute 8th Street	100%
Marengo	100%	Whitehall	100%
Martinsville Bethel	100%	Wilmington Hills	100%
Mooresville	100%		
Mecca	100%		
Medora	100%		
Milan	100%		
Mitchell	100%		

#### Churches That Paid Under 100% Stewardship For 2004-2005

Clear Fork	93%
Otwell	91%
Terre Haute Hulman St.	84%
Franklin	64%
Birdseye	61%
Morgantown	60%
Martinsville	51%
Prairie Creek	50%
Poplar Grove	49%
Carthage	36%
Lawrenceburg	36%
Valeene	33%
Greenwood	28%
Paoli	28%
Bedford	22%
Brazil	16%
Boonville	8%
Madison Calvary	2%
Bloomington Shep. Hills	0%
Clarksburg	0%
Connersville	0%
Edinburgh	0%
Greenfield	0%
Helmsburg	0%
Loogootee	0%
New Albany Springs	0%
Rodney	0%
Sandford	0%
Scott City	0%
Seelyville	0%
Somerville	0%
Spearsville	0%
Spencer	0%
Wheatland	0%



# CHURCH GROWTH REPORT

Church	Pastor	June 05	June 04	Variation	% Gain	AM	PM	Wk	Day
Austin	K. Wingham	13	18	5	0%	16	12	12	
Bedford	G. Tilley	18	29	11	0%	23	18	14	
Bicknell First	M. Reed	48	45	3	7%	61	11	70	
Birdseye	D. Murphy	17	16	1	6%	20			
Bloomfield Mt. Calvary	F. Collings	NR							
Bloomfield Mt. Zion	J. Nelson	23	33	10	0%	23	0	0	
Bloomfield Southside	D. Dustin	15	14	1	7%	15	20	0	
Bloomington Central	E. Hayes	44	41	3	7%	49	29	22	
Bloomington Shepherd	A. Hendershot	17	0	0	0%	18	11	11	
Blue River	A. Marshall	27	22	5	23%	44	8	0	
Boonville	E. Ames	20	23	3	0%	56	46	26	
Brazil Jackson Street	E. Stewart	26	40	14	0%	29	15	11	
Carthage New Life	H. Smith	7	8	1	0%	20	6	46	
Clear Fork	C. Uebel	13	14	1	0%	18	11	9	
Columbus Bethel	B. Carpenter	NR							
Columbus Central	B. Miller	20	12	8	67%	20	13	0	
Columbus Flintwood	W. Jones	54	54	0	0%	74	68	32	
Columbus Ohio Street	J. Vandervort	32	32	0	0%	56	47	20	
Concord	T. Whitham	24	27	3	0%	28	20	16	
Connersville Grandview	R. Wallace	NR							
Corydon New Hope	T. Bye	35	20	15	75%	60	18	0	
E. Enterprise	R. Albring	16	15	1	7%	22	12	12	
Edinburgh	L. Biddle	36	39	3	0%	36	24	19	
English	P. Jones	NR							
Evansville Forest Hills	M. Stoelting	143	137	6	4%	228	98	90	
Evansville North Park	S. Boardman	45	52	7	0%	60	13	10	
Evansville Trinity	M. Belt	42	50	8	0%	63	21	39	
Fort Branch	M. Hughes	20	15	5	33%	21	11	9	
Franklin	D. Neal	NR							
French Lick S.V.	J. Moffatt	54	69	15	0%	106	50	29	
Gnaw Bone	G. Armstrong	20	24	4	0%	23	10	11	
Greenfield	J. Anderson	20	18	2	11%	28	17	12	
Greensburg	W. Thompson III	28	37	9	0%	32	12	14	
Greenwood	J. Hughes	NR							
Helmsburg		0	0	0	0%	2	0	0	
Holton	W. Vandervort	22	23	1	0%	25	6	6	
Hope First	E. Boston	27	24	3	13%	28	16	49	
Lawrenceburg	M. Kessen	NR							
Lewisville Trinity	C. Stroud	32	0	0	0%	32	0	6	
Lewis Creek	D. Gates	10	13	3	0%	10	0	10	
Loogootee Mt. Zion	J. Simmons	21	15	6	40%	43	11	9	
Madison Calvary	M. Mahoney	29	28	1	4%	50	35	24	
Marengo Valley	S. Lock	58	62	4	0%	98	44	39	
Martinsville	K. Kearby	NR							
Martinsville Bethel	J. Irvin	9	9	0	0%	11	0	8	
Mecca New Life	C. Todd	49	56	7	0%	82	69	66	
Medora	C. Morgan	38	50	12	0%	36	22	13	
Milan	L. Brown	26	26	0	0%	36	28	0	

Church	Pastor	June 05	June 04	Variation	% Gain	AM	PM	Wk	Day
Mitchell	S. Jones	108	103	5	5%	226	107	117	
Mooresville New Life	M. Linville	22	23	1	0%	40	19	14	
Morgantown Emmaus	S. Yager	NR							
New Albany Spring Ave.	N. Watters	18	0	0	0%	21	0	0	
North Vernon	J. Terry	53	42	11	26%	66	36	32	
Orleans	H. Carr	45	39	6	15%	54	45	22	
Otwell	R. Stilwell	21	28	7	0%	21	11	0	
Paoli	L. Manship	104	182	78	0%	222	121	107	
Petersburg	L. Lamar	10	11	1	0%	10	0	0	
Poplar Grove	J. Downs	12	13	1	0%	27	17	8	
Prairie Creek	T. Fennell	NR							
Princeton	D. Reed	NR							
Rising Sun	J. Kelly	10	12	2	0%	9	0	7	
Rodney	M. Miller	NR							
Rushville	H. Baker	4	0	0	0%	4	7	0	
Salem	C. Johnson	12	11	1	9%	15	12	14	
Sandford	C. Hedden	11	8	3	38%	12	8	5	
Scott City	D. Ault	NR							
Scottsburg	P. Mills	10	11	1	0%	11	7	9	
Seelyville	F. Burk, Jr.	23	13	10	77%	14	0	0	
Seymour	I. Holt	29	26	3	12%	35	26	29	
Shelburn	B. Noel	13	0	0	0%	17	0	0	
Shelbyville Grace	J. Travis	NR							
Shelbyville Westside	W. Seymour	23	28	5	0%	28	15	11	
Simpson Chapel	R. Brown	NR							
Somerville	D. Brandon	49	52	3	0%	51	37	13	
Spearsville	C. Bell	NR							
Spencer - Emanuel	J. Knight	8	0	0	0%	0	0	10	
Sullivan	G. Larimer	33	0	0	0%	36	32	35	
Sylvania	B. England	56	72	16	0%	112	52	30	
Terre Haute Faith	D. Gormong	131	135	4	0%	230	117	107	
Terre Haute Hulman	D. Willis	72	72	2	3%	94	36	46	
Terre Haute North	V. Reed	7	0	0	0%	10	10	9	
Trafalgar	C. Hilton	4	5	1	0%	4	4	4	
Valeene	D. Manship	NR							
Versailles	D. Jewell	28	46	18	0%	28	10	10	
Walker Chapel	R. Hendershot	17	15	2	13%	41	0	11	
Washington Main St.	P. Kessen	41	39	2	5%	61	32	18	
Washington Vincennes	J. Gilley	34	26	8	31%	33	32	24	
Wesley Chapel	W. Wickard	NR							
Westport	E. Wakefield	77	77	0	0%	81	46	24	
West Terre Haute 6th	R. Weeks	25	24	1	4%	27	10	55	
West Terre Haute 8th	P. Shelton	72	67	5	7%	76	46	41	
Wheatland	K. Mitchell	NR							
Whitehall	D. Campbell	21	29	8	0%	19	15	12	
Wilmington Hills	D. Meriwether	25	23	2	9%	26	20	12	
TOTALS		2426	2440	-14	0%	3463	1782	1600	

\*NR-No Report

## Top Ten Churches for Numerical Gain for June 2005

Church	Pastor	Gain	Church	Pastor	Gain
Corydon New Hope	Rev. Tony Bye	15	Loogootee Mt Zion	Rev. John Simmons	6
North Vernon	Rev. Jim Terry	11	Orleans	Rev. Harold Carr	6
Seelyville	Rev. Fred Burk	10	Evansville Forest Hills	Rev. Mike Stoelting	6
Columbus Central	Rev. Bence Miller	8	Fort Branch	Rev. Marvin Hughes	5
Wash. Vincennes Ave	Rev. Jewel Gilley	8	Blue River	Rev. Aaron Marshall	5

## Top Ten Percentage Gain for June 2005

Church	Pastor	Percentage Gain
Seelyville	Rev. Fred Burk	77%
Corydon New Hope	Rev. Tony Bye	75%
Columbus Central	Rev. Bence Miller	67%
Loogootee Mt Zion	Rev. John Simmons	40%
Sandford3	Rev. Carl Hedden	8%
Fort Branch	Rev. Marvin Hughes	33%
Washington Vincennes Ave	Rev. Jewel Gilley	31%
North Vernon	Rev. Jim Terry	26%
Blue River	Rev. Aaron Marshall	23%
Orleans	Rev. Harold Carr	15%

## Pastor Appreciation Sunday

Pastor Appreciation Sunday is **October 9, 2006**. Please remember your Pastors!