



The Grapevine



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

JUNE 2009

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Intercessory Prayer Group Update
- Prayer Requests
- 20-Somethings News
- Kid Power Highlights
- Food Drive in Review
- Calendar of Events

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Summer-Chat BBQs: Good food; Good friends; Good conversations

By Pastor Rob Stiles

Come join us this summer for some grilled hot dogs, brats and good conversation at the church office. Bring friends who are interested in checking out Christianity, or invite people who would like to have stimulating and relevant conversations about faith—even if they don't believe in God. Invite folks, especially, if they struggle with the idea of God.



Pastor Rob Stiles

Topics may include, but are not limited to: "Who is this guy Jesus?"; "God yes, but the church?"; "Evidences for Christianity and the Bible," "Engaging the Holy Spirit in everyday life;" "Sex and the Bible (Rated PG);" "American culture roller coaster;" "Can God love somebody like me?" and a whole host of other topics believers & non-believers sometimes wrestle with.

Right now, the plan is the church will provide the meat and invite people to pitch-in with chips, drinks and any other goodies they want to bring. We would start eating together at 6 pm every Thursday at the office and begin a topical discussion at 7 pm. We would conclude the discussion at 8 pm, and folks could be free to go. We would offer optional prayer ministry after 8 pm. I would like to have our first Summer-Chat on Thursday, June 18. We will post the topics on the website calendar so that people can come to ones that are of special interest to them.

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Intercessory Prayer Group Update

What is intercessory prayer all about? And why is it important for the church? It comes from the Latin word *inter-cedere*: to step in between, to stand in the gap.

In God's original plan, humanity has been entrusted with governing the earth. Before the fall, man and woman used to walk and talk with the Lord in the Garden. God has not taken that governance away from us. Through the fall, the direct relationship has been severed, but the Old Testament is full of examples of the Lord interacting with prophets on behalf of his people. For us, the connection is re-established through Christ

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**“First of all,
we worship
the Lord.”**

Mark Your Calen-

Tithes & Offerings

April

Offering: \$8,763.25

Expenses: \$11,183.04

Total: -\$2,374.79

Prayer Requests

- Prayer for Sandy and Dave Noel on the passing of her mother.
- Prayer for the Troyers serving in North Africa.
- Prayer for wisdom & guidance for Nykki Bunch .
- **Prayer for Suzanne Parada’s brother and his heart condition.**
- **Prayer for Lesley Ellis’ niece & nephew, Kaylee & Keegan as they deal with continuing medical issues.**
- **Prayer for Valerie Reed’s family:** Donna Jean Humbarger (paternal grandmother) continued cardiac concerns; Beverly Jean Tudor (maternal grandmother) endometrial (uterine) cancer; Jim Humbarger (paternal uncle) bladder cancer spread to lungs 6 months prognosis
- Prayer for Lesley Ellis and Valerie Reed as they begin a new ministry for Christian singles.

Intercessory Prayer Group Update

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and the Holy Spirit. God expects the followers of his Son to cooperate with Him in making His divine will come to pass. That is what Jesus did in John 17 when he prays to the Father that he would protect the disciples and not only the Twelve, but all who believe in their message. Jesus intercedes for us, he stands in the gap.

It is important that those who are called to intercession pray on behalf of the church, the pastor, the members and not only that, but also for the city and state and country.

So what does the intercessory prayer group do when they meet?

First of all, we worship the Lord. If the Holy Spirit brings anything to mind that needs to be repented of, we do that in the beginning, quietly or out loud. We thank the Lord for having brought us together as such a diverse group of people. We might have different burdens on our hearts, what to pray for and there is always a list of prayer requests we get via e-mail. But in love and respect for each other we aim for unity, not uniformity.

Please join us in one of the prayers we will always hold up: That our church would always be humble before the Lord, open to hear the promptings of the Holy Spirit and be able to deal with conflict in an open, mature way.

June Birthdays

21—Jason Cedarholm

25—Nick Weddle



Thank you from Kristi Mervar

Dear Midtown Vineyard:

I want to thank you for your financial partnership in **reaching the lost of Thailand with the message of God's love!** Thank you for your support to go where God has **called me to.** I pray **God's blessing upon Midtown Vineyard** and that God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus!

Blessings,
Kristi Mervar



Jennifer Hanley & Kristi Mervar

They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to the Lord.



Emma Guinn, Netetia Walker and Rob Stiles celebrate a successful food drive.

MVCC Worship Band



“We thank God for blessing the Martin Luther King Comm. Center...”

MVCC, Noodles & Co., Martin Luther King

Community Center Celebrate Outreach and Plan New One

Bags full of food just kept pouring in, and everyone wanted to help. The sun was shining bright on the terrace of *Noodles & Company* restaurant in Broad Ripple Sunday afternoon, April 26, as a live band from *Midtown Vineyard Community Church* played a repertoire of Christian worship music, Nora Jones love songs and some new original tunes. The smiling crowd on the terrace was celebrating a fruitful partnership between *Noodles & Company*, *Midtown Vineyard Community Church*, and the *Martin Luther King Community Center*.

The previous week, volunteers from *Noodles & Company*, *Midtown Vineyard Community Church*, and the *Martin Luther King Community Center* placed over 550 bags on porches of homes in Butler-Tarkington and Broad Ripple, inviting neighbors to fill the bags with non-perishable food items to help stock the

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Congratulations Graduates

Rusty Devine - Broad Ripple H.S.

Adriane Henderson - Butler University

Philip Stiles - Center Grove H.S.

Dave Riley - Ivy Tech



Godly principals in Sports learned as children of MVCC have fun!

Inside Scoop from *Kid Power*

Kid Power has started a new lesson plan to learn Godly principles while playing sports. We began on April 26 with four weeks of soccer, and Paul Hanley was **our wonderful coach. We talked about God's perspective on some of the** benefits of sports; winning; self-discipline; perseverance; following the rules; referees; and coaches. For the next four weeks, May 31-June 21, we will be learning basketball with Ryan Fancher and Matt Williams trading off coaching. **We'll be talking about competition, aggression, evangelism, "jock syndrome", and balance.** The children really seem to be enjoying learning more about sports and getting helpful tips from our coaches. I am very thankful for all the time and effort our coaches are giving!

(submitted by Lesley Ellis)



20-Somethings Summer Update

"20-Somethings has had an awesome time of worship over the last few weeks..."

20-Something's has had some really awesome times of worship over the last few weeks, and also just fun times relaxing and "hanging out." God is good, though many of us are entering into new seasons and stages of life.

For example, Jason Cedarholm is in Minnesota all summer working with *Youthworks*. He is a leader to the mission groups that come to help. He and Morgan Woods will be getting married on August 15, just four days after his return.

For now, Adrienne Henderson is at home in Auburn, IN but was hired at Horizon Christian School and will be coming back to Indianapolis in the fall.

Dave Riley graduated from his five-year electrical training program and is now a **certified journeyman. He also just enrolled in master's level classes that begin in June** and will further his training.

Lauren Miller is beginning her pharmaceutical clinical work and will be traveling throughout the country as part of the training.

We are currently working on nailing down a date for the painting project that we hope to undertake the last two weeks of July. Anyone in the church is welcome to participate in this opportunity. More details are to come.

God has been faithful! It's been a fun adventure growing and learning together.

(submitted by Sarah Stoner)



MVCC, Noodles & Co., Martin Luther King Community Center Celebrate Outreach and

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Martin Luther King Community Center food pantry. That day Noodles & Company also donated 15 percent of food sales to the Martin Luther King Community Center.

“I am overjoyed by the kindness shown by our neighbors,” said Martin Luther King Community Center Executive Director Netetia Walker.

Pastor Rob Stiles of Midtown Vineyard Community Church added, **“When people work together, good things can happen. Our church is honored to be in partnership with Noodles & Company and the Martin Luther King Community Center.”** Noodles & Company assistant manager Emma Guinn loves to host benefits for good causes. **“We have been blessed, so it’s just natural to share those blessings with others,”** said Guinn.

If you would like to support the Martin Luther King Community Center food pantry, take a bag full of food to the Martin Luther King Community Center at 40 W. 40th Street, Indianapolis, 46208 or make a tax-deductible monetary contribution. In late July or early August, Noodles & Company plans to host another food drive and bring in nine other affiliate restaurants. Midtown Vineyard Community Church also plans to invite other churches to join the partnership.

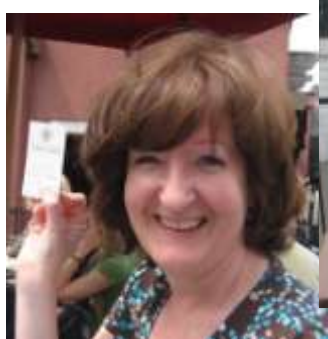
“I am overjoyed by the kindness shown by our neighbors”

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Summer-Chat BBQs: Good food; Good friends; Good conversations

We will ask questions and share opinions. No holds barred, except we all must agree to be civil and respect folks’ right to disagree agreeably. I will facilitate the conversations and attempt to maintain a winsome, positive and respectful tone; that is when true learning and growth can really happen. My hope is these low key gatherings could be a way to reach out to non-believers and share the love of Jesus with them; and enrich current Midtown Vineyard folks with new understanding of the Bible.

Please let me know what you think about this chatty idea, and by all means, email me a topic you would like to have discussed. There are many thinkers and talkers at Midtown Vineyard; Summer-Chats may provide a way for us all to grow closer to Jesus together—and have a whole lot of fun doing it.





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Celebrating the Presence of God in Us

Mission

Midtown Vineyard Community Church celebrates the presence of God in us in following Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Vision

Midtown Vineyard Community Church is a welcoming community of faith, hope, love, healing, and power in the Kingdom of God.



Our sympathies are extended to Sandy and Dave Noel on the death of her mother.

Mark your calendars: Summer church pitch-ins are at the home of Barb Mallett, 5505 W. 29th St., Speedway on July 12

Calendar of Events

June	Time	Event	
2	6:30 PM	Men's Group	Church Office
3	6:00 PM	Women's Group	Church Office
3	6:00 PM	Twenty-Somethings	Starbucks
10	6:00 PM	Women's Group	Church Office
10	6:00 PM	Twenty-Somethings	Starbucks
16	6:30 PM	Men's Group	Church Office
17	6:00 PM	Twenty-Somethings	Church Office
21	4:00 PM	Intercessory Prayer Group	Church Office
24	6:00 PM	Women's Group	Church Office
24	6:00 PM	Twenty-Somethings	Starbucks