

threads

biweekly weavings of the community at Madison Park Church of God — September 1, 2010



Pastor's Column: One Huge Step for MPC

by Jim Lyon, Senior Pastor

17 Steps. If you imagine taking just 17 steps, it doesn't seem like that big of a deal. If you think of 17 steps as 17 things to do, well, it's a bit more challenging. But, still doable. Still, very achievable. And, yes, 17 steps can actually take us a long way into the future.

17 Steps. Madison Park has been moving forward on 17 different fronts since early in the year, growing and stretching for Heaven's sake, preparing to meet the future. Each step focuses our congregation on the road ahead, on growing (individually and as a family), and on meeting tomorrow's challenges.

I am thankful to announce that one huge step in our list of 17 has now been taken: a deal has been signed for the future of our Scatterfield property. Our last church home (on the north side of town) has been for sale since we moved to Madison Park three years ago. The building has been maintained — and often used — during that time. It is sacred ground still in ministry (hosting many weddings, funerals, small groups, mission teams, and our NorthKids Before-and-After School Care program, among other things). It has been home during the last

year to Bethel United Methodist Church on Sundays, as that congregation waited for the reconstruction of its building to be completed (following a tragic fire). Bethel moved into its new facility as the summer dawned — and we then began negotiating with another church family. This family, though, wants to buy the place. And we have agreed.

The New Life Worship Center in Indianapolis has inked the contract (as has Madison Park), moving the property into New Life's hands beginning November 1. Here's a thumbnail:

(1) New Life will plant a satellite congregation at Scatterfield. With 3,000 attending New Life's worship centers in Indy already, the church is anxious to expand in Anderson. There are many folks from Madison County who already drive to new Life in Indy on Sundays — and they will form a core launch team for the new satellite on Scatterfield. New Life speaks powerfully into the African-American community especially — and its visionary pastor, John Ramsey, has become an outstanding advocate for the Gospel, Christian living, and biblical values in the Indianapolis metro. Pastor Ramsey's theology, spirit, and

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Mountaintop Experiences

Living at 11,000 feet in the Rocky Mountains with groups of students studying altitude physiology. Leading canoe and backpacking trips in the Canadian wilderness. Climbing 14,000 foot peaks in Colorado. Sound exciting and adventurous? Doug Seelbach feels

fortunate to have had the opportunity to take risks and challenges in outdoor adventures. Most recently he climbed to the summit of Mt. Adams with a "band of brothers" from MPC. He shares, "It is through these adventures that I have learned some of my most important lessons about life and about God. The Mt.



Doug Seelbach (back row, right) and Brachen McCurdy (front row, second from right) at the summit of Mt. Adams with a group of men from MPC

Adams climb offered a lasting influence upon my life as special bonds were developed with the MPC men who conquered not only the summit but the many challenges up and down the climb together."

"Men don't necessarily tend to need other men," expresses Brachen McCurdy, "they think they don't

need to share thoughts, feelings and spend time together." He had never attended Men's Fraternity but was drawn to the adventure of climbing Mt. Adams. Brachen says, "We learned many lessons through the rigorous and somewhat dangerous mountain climb and I

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Proceeds benefit ministries in Russia.

Purchase a drink or treat at Holy Grounds and a portion of the proceeds will benefit the Church of God in Chelyabinsk and other ministries in Russia.

Come early or linger after the worship service to enjoy conversation and refreshments at Holy Grounds coffee bar. Visit MadisonParkChurch.org to view the full menu.

Open Sundays, 8:30am-11:30am
MasterCard, Visa and Discover accepted.

Sunday Services

9:00am and 10:45am

Worship in the Main Auditorium

The worship times in the Main Auditorium include the "Voices of Praise" choir, a blended set of traditional and contemporary music, prayer, and teaching from God's Word from Pastor Jim Lyon.

10:45am

Worship in Crossroads Auditorium

Open to people of all ages. Services in Crossroads Auditorium offer a powerful worship experience in a more intimate setting with a worship band and multi-media with a distinctively modern edge and a message from Pastor Jim Lyon.

Classes are offered for all ages at 9:00am and 10:45am. Visit the Information Center for a complete listing of all electives or visit MadisonParkChurch.org, Ministries page.

DO SOMETHING

DO Something!

Current Sermon Series

In his new sermon series, Pastor Jim Lyon draws upon the biblically-grounded book *DO Something!* by Miles McPherson. Pastor Lyon will discuss the 5 Ps of making your life count: Preparation, Purpose, Pain, Power, and Passion.

With powerful stories, illustrations from the life of Christ, and specific activities for readers to engage, *DO Something!* is a hopeful and practical series that shows how to live out faith in a way that improves people's lives.



Speed Bumps, Potholes & Toll Gates On the Road to Love

Friday and Saturday, September 17-18
Madison Park Church

A singles workshop with Dr. R. Benton Ruth and Jay Harvey presenting. Topics include: "The One True Relationship," "The Reality of Finding Love," "Speed Bumps: The Truth About Myself," "Potholes: The Truth About You," "Toll Gates: The Truth About Boundaries," and "Searching the Assumptions and Expectations that Define the Laws of Attraction."

Pre-Registration is \$15.00, includes Saturday lunch. Registration at the door is \$20. Register in The Commons, at the Church Office or visit MadisonParkChurch.org. Contact: Nancy Bitner at (765) 649-0928.



Tenth Avenue North Concert

Special guests Addison Road and MPC's John Tibbs!
Friday, September 17, 7:30pm at Madison Park Church

General admission Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door. \$12 each for groups ten or more. Charge by phone: (800) 965-9324, convenience charge will apply. Ticket Outlets: Area Christian Bookstores and iTickets.com. More at MadisonParkChurch.org.

Christ in the Passover

Sunday, September 19 – All Worship Services

Special guest, David Brickner, Executive Director for Jews for Jesus will re-create the traditional Passover service and share how it foreshadowed Jesus' death and resurrection.

David will explain the connection between the events of the first Passover in Egypt and the redemption that Jesus accomplished, as well as the deep bond between the ancient Passover feast and the Christian communion celebrated today.

Jewish believer in Jesus himself, David has been in ministry for over thirty years and has appeared many times on mainstream television and radio programs to make the case for Jews believing Jesus including the internationally-syndicated program **Larry King Live**. He is the author of numerous published articles as well as four books including his latest, *Christ in the Feast of Pentecost*.



News You Can Use

Adult Ministries:

DO Something! Class

Sundays at 10:45am in Room 178. An in-depth look at the "DO Something" book and sermon series. Contact: Sarah Trick at the Church Office.

The Bible for Today

Wednesdays at 6:30pm in the Main Auditorium. The study equips believers for growth and service by encountering God through His word. The fall session takes a look at the prophets of the Old Testament. Instructor: David Neidert.

Grief Share: Introduction Class will be held on Saturday, September 25 from 9:00-11:00am in Room 181. Classes will be held on Wednesdays at 6:30pm in Room 181. Grief Share is offered for parents who have experienced the loss of a child. Your loss may have been prior to birth or as an adult child. If you find yourself stuck in grief and unable to move into a new normal, come join other parents who can support you with empathetic love and prayers. Instructors: Larry and Joan Maddox, Doug and Diann Seelbach.

Seeing the Story of the Bible Thursdays, 6:30-7:45pm. A 10-week class helping to connect God's story to our personal story. Instructors: Laura Guion, laura.guion@comcast.net and Courtney Dock, cdock@fntb.com.

College/Young Adult Small Group

Thursdays, 6:30pm at the Reeder Home, 5749 Granite Drive, Anderson. A ministry providing a time to grow deeper in relationship with God and peers. Contact: Eric Reeder at the Church Office.

Open Road Motorcycle Ride: All motorcyclists are invited to enjoy the 2010 rides. The final three ride times and destinations are: Saturday, September 11 at 9:00am to Clifty Falls State Park in Madison; Saturday, September 25 at 11:00am to Oubache State Park Picnic in Bluffton (sign-up to bring a dish to share); and Saturday, October 9 at 11:00am to Dutch Mill Restaurant in Milroy. Contact: Keith Stork at (765) 621-8076.

Singles Ministries

Singles Hang Out Night: Saturday, September 18 at 7:00pm in the Hospitality Room. All singles are invited to a night of fun, games and fellowship. Contact: Sarah Trick, Director of Adult Discipleship and Education.

Senior Adult Ministries

J.O.Y (Just Older Youth): Thursday, September 16 at Noon in Crossroads Auditorium. Guest speaker will be Donna

Lighthouse Café

Enjoy a freshly prepared meal and mini-salad bar in The Commons: Wednesdays from 5:00pm until 6:30pm, just before our evening programs. Cost: Adults-\$6, Children and college Students (with ID)-\$4 (maximum of \$22 per family).

- Sept. 1: Burgers, Brats and Homemade Potato Salad/Kids' Option: Hot dogs
- Sept. 8: Parmesan Crusted Chicken/Kid's Option: Chicken Chicken Fingers and Fries

A Look Ahead:

Oct. 7 Dove Harbor Annual Fall Auction/Dessert
Donations of items and services are needed. See *Opportunities to Serve*.

Oct. 31 Trunk-N-Treat
Trunks and candy donations are needed. See *Opportunities to Serve*.

Thomas. In addition to launching Project Partner with Christ and now CHRISTIAN VISION Ministries, she's the mother of three sons, has invested a full career as a pastor's wife, can pilot a single engine plane, is a teacher, world traveler, and has been called a full fledged visionary by world mission leaders. All seniors are invited. Please bring food to share and enjoy the program and fellowship. *Contact: Esther Crnkovich at (765) 649-3323.*

Men's Ministries

Men's Fraternity:

Men come together and strengthen each other through weekly sessions that combine biblical teaching and small group interaction. More than just a rally or a Bible study, Men's Fraternity provides an encouraging process that teaches men how to live lives of authentic manhood as modeled by Jesus Christ and directed by the Word of God.

• **Winning at Work and Home:** Wednesdays at 6:00am and 6:30pm in Room 180. *Instructor: Jeff Matas.*

• **Wild at Heart:** Wednesdays at 6:00am in Room 179. *Instructors: Doug Seelbach and Brachen McCurdy.*

MPC Men's Fall Whitewater Rafting Trip: September 30 - October 3. Camp and raft on the most famous whitewater river in the U.S., the Gauley River in West Virginia. Build lasting friendships and the adventure of a lifetime! The cost is \$350 per person (16 years and older) and includes campsite, meals and rafting. *Contact: Jeff Matas, Senior Associate Pastor or Jennifer Eviston at the Church Office.*

Women's Ministries

RefresHer Women's Bible Study: Tuesdays, September through May at 9:15am in Crossroads Auditorium. The Fall session, September 7 through December 14 will study Joyce Meyer's book, *Me and My Big Mouth*. The Spring Session, January 4 through March 29 will feature Beth Moore's *Stepping Up*. The Spring Tea will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2011. Childcare is available. *Contact Tami Seulean at (765) 643-9233 or Becky Rosenberg at (765) 642-8560.*

Connect, Grow, Serve

Looking for a place to Connect, Grow and Serve?

Check out the *Ministries Guide* at the Information Center or visit the Ministries page online at MadisonParkChurch.org.

Memorial Tree for Children's Play Ground

Every once in awhile we get to be part of something that touches others in meaningful ways. Dale Burnett was a person who seized these kinds of opportunities. Having served on the first Board for North Kids (MPC Day Care program), Dale was instrumental in providing inspiration and expertise. In his memory, a tree will be planted on the children's playground at MPC. Donations are being collected to provide this living memorial. Make donations to MPC with the memo "Burnett Memorial Tree Fund". A planting ceremony will be held in October. *Contact: Jennifer Wilson at (765) 649-8095 or jjwilson@anderson.edu.*

Tuesday Talks: First Tuesday of every month from 7:00-8:30pm in Room 182.

Childcare is provided. Monthly gatherings and conversations focus on relevant topics for women. First Tuesday of every month. *Contact: Kimberly Majeski, ksmajeski@anderson.edu.*

- **Healthy Body Image.**

Speakers: Hillary Novak and Emily Stottlemeyer. Tuesday, September 7 at 7:00pm-8:30pm in Room 182

- **Domestic and Relationship Violence Awareness.**

Speakers: Evie Jacobs and April Linville. Tuesday, October 5 at 7:00pm-8:30pm in Room 182

- **W.o.W. (Women of the Word)**

Wednesdays at 6:30pm in Room 175. An in-depth Bible study.

The one-hour meeting includes teaching time followed by small group discussion. Childcare available. *Contact: Kimberly Majeski, ksmajeski@anderson.edu or Barbara Collier, collier32@aol.com.*

Zumba Gold: Saturdays from 8:30-9:10am, beginning September 4. Designed for the true beginner and people who are looking to gently ease back into a fun exercise routine, Zumba Gold offers the same great features of the regular Zumba class with lower intensity. This amazing program is very easy to follow so anyone - no matter your age or skill level - will fall in love with this innovative and fun aerobic Latin inspired dance class! Wear comfortable clothes and tennis shoes. Cost: \$4 per person; 10% benefits designated charities. FREE Child care! *Instructor, Kimberly Majeski, ksmajeski@anderson.edu*

Children's Ministries

For more information contact, *Paula Spear, Children's Ministries Pastor.*

Peanut Butter for Haiti: Help feed children and families in Haiti by donating jars of smooth peanut butter - a good source of protein. Consider taping a quarter to the top of each jar to help pay shipping. Look for the donation tubs in The Commons and the Children's Center through September 26.

Veggie Tales Live: Monday, November 8 at 7:00pm at Northview Christian Life Church

in Carmel. *Contact: Paula Spear, Children's Ministries Pastor.*

Nosey Parent Sunday: Sunday, September 12 at 9:00am and 10:45am. Parents are invited to come with their kids to their elementary grade classroom and get a peek at MPC's exciting Children's programs. Get a better understanding of how Children's Ministries encourages kids to grow in wisdom, faith and friendship. The class with the most parents participating will be treated to donuts the next Sunday.

Student Ministries

For more information, contact *Gretchen Olson, Junior High Ministries Pastor or Eric Reeder, Senior High Ministries Pastor.*

Impact (Junior High)

- **Do Something!** Sundays from 9:00-10:30am in Crossroads Auditorium. What is God's plan for us? To make our lives count and *Do Something* for His glory!
- **Small Groups:** Wednesdays from 6:30-7:45pm in Room 176: Get connected and dig deeper into the *Do Something!* series.
- **3rd Annual Dodgeball Tournament:** Saturday, September 11 from 7:00-9:00pm at Cross Street Gym, 2200 Madison Square. Pre-register teams of five by September 8. \$5 per team.

Ignite (Senior High)

- **Senior High Class:** Sundays at 9:00am in Room 176. Open to all ninth through twelfth grade students. *Jonathan Trick, Leader.*
- **Senior High Small Group Fall Retreat:** Friday-Saturday, September 17-18
- **Tenth Avenue North Concert with John Tibbs:** Friday, September 17 at 7:30pm
- **Senior High Small Group Launch:** Sunday, September 19 from 6:00-8:00pm

Opportunities to Serve

Dove Harbor Mentoring Program Training: September 14, 16, 18. Women, prayerfully consider your involvement in Dove Harbor's Mentoring Program. Connect in meaningful relationships with women who need Christ's care. *Contact: Darlene Pease at (765) 622-9653 or Cheryln Horning at (765) 642-1853.*

Missions Haiti, Inc. Midwest Semi-Trailer Work Day: Saturday, September 18 at 8:00pm at the Scatterfield Site. Help sort, organize and pack items into a semi trailer for delivery to the mission needs in Haiti. Meet in the back parking lot of the Scatterfield site. Rain date and follow-up work day will be on Sunday, September 19 at 1:30pm. *Contact: Kathy Fulton at (765) 643-9731.*

Items Needed for Dove Harbor Auction: Enjoy and support the annual live and silent auction to benefit Dove Harbor. Items are needed including new items, services, corporate sponsors and volunteers. Tickers

Explore Madison Park

Wednesday, September 15 at 6:00pm in the Hospitality Room

Explore Madison Park provides the essential information you need to know before calling Madison Park Church your church home. The class answers questions such as who we are, what we believe, and our church membership process in a relaxed, fun, and interactive format. You'll meet others who are on the same journey as you and begin the process of getting connected. This class is offered the third Wednesday of every month. Find details or sign-up in the Hospitality Room or online at MadisonParkChurch.org. *Contact: Shelly Stottlemeyer, Director of Front Door Ministries.*

One Huge Step for MPC

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passion for transformational change in the community match our own.

(2) New Life will lease the building for seven months. During that time, New Life will assume full responsibility for the site's operational expenses and additionally, pay us rent. During November and December, they will finalize the ministry groundwork for their new launch in Anderson, set for January.

(3) It is New Life's intention to purchase the building at the end of the seven month lease; if the new satellite ministry at Scatterfield does not prove viable by March 31, however, New Life can opt not to buy.

(4) The terms of purchase have been agreed upon, outlined in the contract, and approved by our mortgage company (which had to sign off on the deal, too); Scatterfield, like all our properties, is held as collateral against our system-wide debt; we consolidated our debts when we moved into our new facilities in 2007. We ordered a new appraisal of the Scatterfield property in June of this year; it came in at \$1.65 million. New Life will pay us \$1.2 million, cash. Our 17 Steps plan included a \$1.25 million sale of Scatterfield; with the sale price and the lease income combined, we're there, matching our projected need. Given the economic realities of our town and time, this is in the near-miracle category.

(5) New Life would like to partner with Madison Park, as it expands into Madison County, too. I am meeting with Pastor

Ramsey in a few days to explore the possibilities and finalize plans for a joint service of worship (with mass choirs, shared platform, and a common voice) in January. The Holy Spirit always does great things when God's people work together, as one Body. Our two congregations, side-by-side, have enormous potential to bring folks together. Awesome.

Thanks to our Scatterfield Sale Team (including Business Administrator Rob Spaulding, Real Estate Agent Tom Seal, Attorney Bill Davisson, Barry Bentley, Dave Crandall, Terry McCardwell, and Dave Whitmoyer – some of the best real estate, financial, and legal heads in the county); the Team represented our Board of Elders, managing the negotiations and disposition of the property.

Another of the 17 Steps targets prayer. A 14-day, 24-hour-a-day prayer initiative launched the whole 17 Step project in February. That prayer platform continues. We're watching God's intervening hand move, week-by-week. Prayer opens the door for God's power to be displayed among us. Thanks for praying. Keep it up. And, thanks for being faithful! Even with the long, lazy days of summer, attendance on Sunday mornings at Madison Park is up 5% over summer last year. We're praying for 10% by year's end. Don't miss any of the **Do Something** Sundays (now through October 10). God is doing something already. Be encouraged.



Share your thoughts on Jim's article; visit the blog and leave a comment at MadisonParkChurch.org.

Mountaintop Experiences

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discovered the value of men helping men. When I returned home I began attending the Friday morning Men's Fraternity group." He shares that, "The lessons were really good but I really enjoy the friendships and more importantly the comradery of the men. It is good to be around Christian men."

Men's Fraternity offers not only adventure but an opportunity for men to come together and strengthen one another. Several opportunities are offered weekly that combine biblical teaching and interaction. Doug and Brachen are joining together in another adventure. "Wild at Heart" will begin on Wednesday evenings in September. Doug invites all men to "Learn what it means to have a masculine heart for God and perhaps plan an adventure or two where we can live it out."

Jeff Matas, coordinator for Men's Fraternity and Senior Associate Pastor, will challenge men in another Wednesday night study, "Winning at Work and Home." Men's Fraternity provides an encouraging process that teaches men how to live lives of authentic manhood as modeled by Jesus Christ and directed by the Word of God.

For a complete listing of Men's Ministry opportunities, classes, small groups visit the Ministries page at MadisonParkChurch.org. Find Facebook Groups and details on upcoming ministry happenings and adventures for men on the News and Events webpage.

Opportunities to Serve

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are \$10 each. Submit all contributions and purchase tickets by September 17. Contact: Deanna Zimmer at (765) 642-1853.

Items Needed for Christian Center: Help provide essentials for hygiene care packages distributed at the Christian Center. Drop off items in The Commons on Sunday, September 5. Current needs: facial soap (small, labeled complexion or facial), quart size zip-lock bags, toothbrushes, razors, bath/shower gel, bubble bath, deodorant, shaving cream, floss, shower cap, washcloths, comb, brush, mini Kleenex tissue packets. Contact: Trish Thomas at (765) 649-0850.

Trunks and Treats Needed! More than 75 trunks filled with candy are needed to welcome more than 1600 anticipated trick-or-treaters at this 10th annual community event. Team up with your small group, Sunday school class, friends and family, to decorate your trunk or trailer! Sign up a trunk or bring candy donations to the Children's Center. Contact: Paula Spear, Children's Ministries Pastor.

North Kids Benefit: ZUMBA for Kids: Saturdays from 8:30-8:50am through September. Cost for the child sessions is \$2. Child care is provided during the adult

session at no extra charge. All proceeds benefit North Kids childcare.

Family News

To submit a threads announcement regarding a birth or death, please Shari Lawyer in the Pastoral Care office at (765) 642-2000.

In Sympathy With:

Ruth Scharnowske at the loss of her husband, Bob on August 27.

Nancy Mallarnee and family at the loss of her mother, Phyllis Saxon on August 23.

Kent Dramer, Carolane Nossett and families at the loss of his step-father and her husband, Stan on August 22.

Marvin Baker, Judy Matas and families at the loss of his wife and her mother, Faye Baker on August 14.

Esther Crnkovich and family at the loss of her brother, George Kufeldt on August 13.

Good to Know

Dove Harbor Job Posting: Dove Harbor is accepting resumes for the part-time position, Building Manager. The position is 20 hours a week; hours are flexible and will include

Saturdays as needed to lead volunteer work groups. Responsibilities include management of building maintenance, donations and volunteers. Female applicants only, please. Dove Harbor is a ministry for women and women with children. Submit resume to: Doug Linville, 1400 Broadway Anderson, IN 46012 or email it to dlinville@broadwayministrycenter.org.

ACSC Volunteer Initiative Meeting:

Wednesday, September 1 at 6:30pm at the Salvation Army Headquarter on 15th Street and Meridian. Learn of ACSC policies from the Parent Advisory Council, whether you plan to volunteer one time or on a regular basis. Contact: Andrea Clapp, ACSCPAC President at (765) 642-4885 or andreaclapp@comcast.net.

Contact Us

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2200 Madison Square • Anderson, IN 46011
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Hours: M - F / 8:30am to 4:30pm

www.MadisonParkChurch.org