

Growing Student Ministry Invites ECBA Churches to Partner in Mission Trip Outreach

By Jeremiah Kinney

Remedy City needs help with a clothing drive. We are asking sister churches if they can collect clothing to donate to a mission trip outreach as part of our BSU ministry.

We continue to see growth in our Ball State University men's college group. By the end of the past school year we had 35 regular attendees. Through this ministry, we have seen dedications to Christ, 8 baptisms (6 by Remedy City), evangelism to professors and classmates, and even parents getting back to church, as well as many more expressions of growth in grace.

This year, we are hoping to do a mission trip to Ross Baptist Church in Gary, IN and to partner with them in community outreach, including a coat drive. Chris Hubler, senior pastor at New Day Baptist Church, will also be coming with us. Our trip will be over the BSU fall break, October 8th -12th. We are asking our ECBA churches if they can partner with us by collecting clothing, especially coats, shoes, sweatshirts, and other fall/winter clothing items that we could pick up by September 30th. If you can partner with us in this ministry, please call or text me at 765-631-7842 or email me at jskinney88@gmail.com.

Redeemer Baptist Church in Anderson Prepares to Offer AWANA for First Time Since March 2020

Redeemer Baptist Church in Anderson is working hard to prepare to, once again, offer an AWANA program at the church. When the Covid pandemic hit in March 2020, Redeemer had to shut down the program that they had offered for over 12 years. Since the quarantined period last year, the church has slowly and carefully reopened programs and activities. The program has always operated on the guidelines that if schools were open, AWANA was, too. Since, at this time, there are in person classes being held at the area schools, the AWANA program will go forward, beginning with a kick-off festival on September 8. The festival will feature games and activities for the children and allow parents to register their children for the program.

AWANA stands for "Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed" and is a Christ centered program to introduce children to Jesus. The AWANA website states, "Our proven and adaptable curriculum will have you developing leaders and discipling kids to walk with Christ for life." "Large group teaching, small group discipleship, and engagement time make up the flexible structure of AWANA approach. Gametime provides flexibility and allows for creativity."



This picture is from 2019. It's been two years since Redeemer hosted their last AWANA Festival to kick off the annual program and they are looking forward to beginning it again.

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Dr. Ron Ross

The Katecheo

Recently, this writer has been reading a book he received from the authors entitled, *Rediscover Church*, by Collin Hansen and Jonathan Leeman. The book is premised on Hebrews 10.25, “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.” The writers include the following verse, which states — “For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins.” Rightly so, this passage admonishes readers to reconsider the importance of gathering with fellow-believers on the first day. This truth certainly needs to be proclaimed in light of recent international events that have dramatically curbed weekly attendance in most local church settings.

As church leaders positioned their congregations to at least see and hear their pastoral staff through an audio/visual medium, the resource quickly became a substitute for actual attendance when the distractor weakened. Without realizing the side effects of the virtual service for many; it began to produce an individualized Christianity; a Christianity focused on oneself, disregarding the importance of Body-Life. As we know, Christians have been adopted into the family of God for the purpose of

being conformed into the image of Jesus Christ. God’s family is presented in Paul’s Letter to the Corinthians as Christ’s body and we know the human body is amazing, with eleven main body systems with seventy-eight discovered body organs. With such physical manifestations as a comparison, the spiritual Body of Christ, with many, many members, are still only ONE BODY. When any body part is malfunctioning, it has a direct affect on the entire body and so if one member of our church is not functioning properly, it effects the entire local body of believers.

Unfortunately, with international unrest on many fronts, local church congregations are experiencing the lingering effects of worry, doubt, anger, and unforgiveness to name a few. May we, each one, endeavor to seek the counsel of God’s Word and the empowerment of the Holy Spirit as we daily desire to be conformed into the image of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Something to consider as we Rediscover Church!

Upcoming Events

Thursday, September 2, 5:30 p.m.—ECBA Leadership Council Meeting at Redeemer Baptist Church, 3230 Lindberg Road, Anderson IN 46012.

Thursday, September 23, 6:00 p.m.—ECBA Fellowship Meal at Old Town Hill Baptist Church, 3000 S Burlington Drive, Muncie IN 47302

Thursday, September 23, 7:00 p.m.—ECBA Annual Meeting at Old Town Hill Baptist Church, 3000 S Burlington Drive, Muncie IN 47302

SBC Emphasis for September

Month of September — State Missions Offering Emphasis

September 5 — Single Adult Sunday

September 12 — Baptism Sunday

September 19 — Anti-gambling Sunday



Please pray for our pastors and their wives on these special occasions.

Birthdays

September 1—Deneia Trego, New Day—Muncie

September 18—Dana Jones, Faith Christian, Anderson

September 21—Melissa Reynolds, Old Town Hill, Muncie

Anniversaries

September 8—Jearme & Melissa Ousley, Redeemer, Anderson

Disaster Relief Team Continues Ministering to Those in Need.

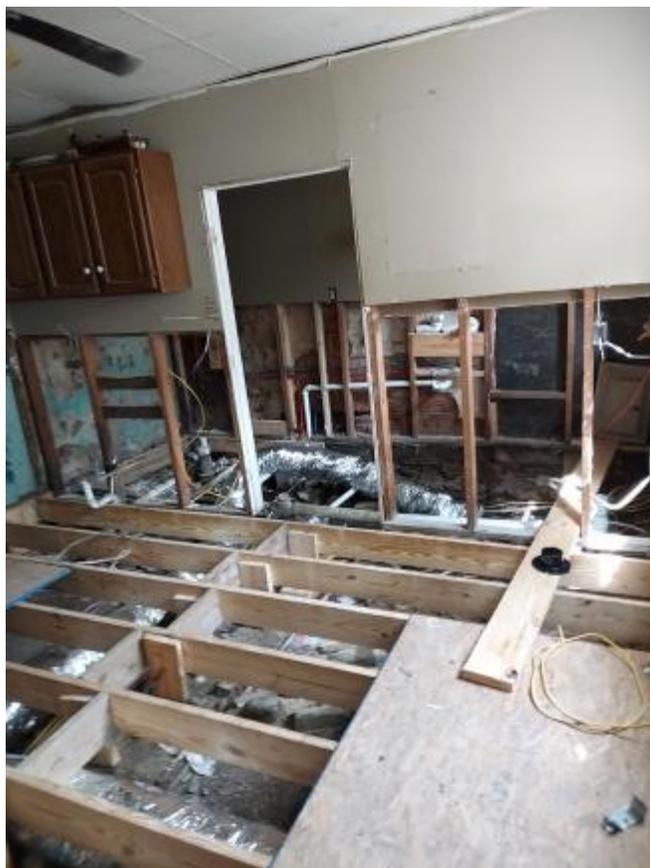
Our Disaster Relief ministry continues to reach out and help people in need. This past week, the team continued their work in Madison, Indiana. Flooding had damaged several homes. Team Leader, Joe Fox, said that they had “touched” 60 homes in the area (checking out, inspecting, determining how to help) and worked on 36 homes. Many were sprayed for mold so that the homes could be inhabitable again. Two homes had to be rebuilt. This past week the team worked on one home that had to be almost entirely rebuilt. It not only required a tear out and rebuilding walls, it also needed all new appliances and furniture (pictures on this page). They hope to have everything done this coming week so that the family can move back in.

church fellowship halls and gymnasiums and not in the comfort of an actual home. They certainly appreciate the generosity of the church and their pastor, J. D. Traylor.

Joe said they are glad to be able to help these people with their physical housing needs but they also are thankful for the opportunities to minister to their emotional and spiritual needs. There have been several opportunities to listen to and pray with these families.

There are always opportunities to serve. Joe said they will be heading back to Sunman, IN and then Bloomington, IN to help with flooded homes. They also are gearing up to head to Tennessee to help with the recent flooding disaster in the eastern part of the state.

If you are interested in becoming part of this valuable ministry, whether it be to do physical labor, evangelistic counseling, or just being a listening ear or a helper, please contact Joe Fox at 765-729-1366.



While in the Madison area, the team has experienced the hospitality of a sister SBC church, Hanover Baptist Church. They have provided housing and meals for them. The church has a “missionary home” on its property and they have been able to stay in it, which has been a real treat for them. They are used to “camping out” in



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Follow us



ECBA Annual Meeting

Thursday, September 23, 2021

Fellowship meal - 6:00 p.m.

Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

Old Town Hill Baptist Church

3000 S Burlington Drive

Muncie IN 47302

Hope to see you there!