



Connections

VOLUME 21, ISSUE 6

THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2014

PEOPLE WHO CHOOSE TO LIVE IN GLASS HOUSES



A quote from *the New York Times* says it about as directly as it can be said: "You can't believe the Bible without believing that God hates people. It's pure nonsense to say that God loves the sinner but hates the sin. He hates the sin, and he hates the sinner. He sends them to hell. Do you think he loves the people in hell?" The speaker is the Reverend **Fred Phelps**, the leader of the cult-like

family congregation, the **Westboro Baptist Church**. It is an organization that the Southern Poverty Law Center describes as: "arguably the most obnoxious and rabid hate group in America."

Fred Phelps died this last week after a long illness. The street protests of the Westboro congregation continue on. I am sure that a lot of people have tried to understand the influence this one man and his tiny church have had on public discourse in our nation. There are those who are probably glad he is gone, and there are those who undoubtedly mourn

his passing. But how you and I go about making sense of his twisted version of the gospel, as well as the relentless protests he and his congregation led, will continue on for a while longer.

I went to the Westboro Baptist Church web page to see if maybe the hype about Phelps' hatred was overblown. Alas, on the left side of the homepage is a running tally that includes the following:

- ♦ **680**—soldiers that **God has killed** in Iraq and Afghanistan.
- ♦ **124**—people whom **God has cast into hell** since you loaded this page.
- ♦ **218,400,000+**—gallons of oil that **God poured** in the Gulf.
- ♦ **8**—people that **God saved** in the flood.
- ♦ **16,000,000,000**—people that **God killed** in the flood.



- ♦ **0**—nanoseconds of sleep that WBC members lose over your opinions and Feeeelllllliiiiings

No, unfortunately the hype was not overblown. Here is a community of folks who claim to follow Jesus venting rage and hate under the guise of prophetic

proclamation. I couldn't help but shudder to think of the impact the witness of these persons has had on those who are unconnected to God.

The second tally of people—those whom God has cast into hell since you loaded this page--continues to tic higher and higher as you view the rest of the web site's content. It must be reassuring in a perverse way to have such absolute confidence about the eternal destiny of those unknown to you. The lack of sleep lost over the contradictory beliefs of other

(Continued on page 2)

Crossroads Ministries..... 7
 Easter 5
 Email Alerts 4
 Garden Plots..... 4
 InTouch..... 3
 LUM Follies..... 6

In This Issue

Missions 6
 Orientation Class 4
 Pastor's Pen..... 1
 Small Groups..... 4
 UMW 5
 VBS..... 2

Our Mission: God has called us together to become like Jesus in authentic community for the sake of the world.

(Continued from page 1)

followers of Jesus Christ projects a God-like certainty in their judgment. If it is true, I can't help but be impressed and horrified at the same time.

Looking for some help in thinking this all through, I was struck by an article I read by Matthew Paul Turner on *The Daily Beast*. He observed, "One thing we can say about Fred Phelps is that we knew his God. We knew that Fred's God hated us, or most of us. We knew that Fred's God couldn't wait to destroy the world with hellfire and brimstone. We knew that Fred's God was seemingly void of a conscience...Fred's hateful God left nothing to the imagination, and was easy to reject. But for countless American Christians, finding a God who doesn't hate them for what they are is a long and painful journey."

Two things we might take away from Rev. Phelps' passing.

One, whatever you might say about the God of Fred Phelps, you knew what that God was like. It was a God of vengeance and judgment. Phelps was transparent to his belief in that God. How transparent are we to the God of acceptance, forgiveness, and love? I hope it would be as obvious to the people around us where we stand as well.

Second, Turner's last sentence really hit home for me: "Will countless American Christians be able to connect to a God who

doesn't hate them for who they are?" Again, that is also up to us. Have we found in the God of Jesus Christ unconditional acceptance and jaw-dropping grace? And if getting to that place was a long and painful journey for us, what then can we do to make that journey shorter and less painful for the people around us?

It is always a sad and tragic occurrence when the witness of the church is eroded and degraded by those who claim to speak on its behalf. Jesus warned about false teachers but only those within a Christian community of faith would ever be aware of those warnings. When TV evangelists get caught up in scandal, when priests molest children while their actions are covered up, when trusted church leaders embezzle funds, and when local congregations turn a blind eye to the crying need of their neighbors, the whole Body of Christ

suffers. It makes it doubly important for the rest of us to listen thoughtfully, speak boldly, and

act faithfully according to the good news of Jesus Christ. Especially in an age where everyone has a camera in their cell phone, where what we may say is one tweet away from "going viral," and what we post online can be forwarded to dozens of others with the push of a button.

May God give you and I what we need to live in glass houses, transparent offices, and open classrooms so that what is apparent to others is also pleasing to God.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING SUNDAY, MARCH 30



VBS VOLUNTEERS JUNE 16-20

Each year close to 100 volunteers come together to make VBS one of our biggest outreaches and a huge success.

Right now we are looking for a few people



to be preschool station leaders (you prep one 20-minute lesson and deliver it five times as students pass through your station), a photographer, and a leader for the opening/closing. An experienced VBS leader has even volunteered to co-lead a station with someone to make it easier for YOU to say YES! VBS is June 16-20 from 12:30-3:30 p.m. each day. Please contact Janet Dietz (janetdietz@frontier.com) or Jan Collins-Cutter in the office to volunteer for this fun week!

Keeping in Touch with InTouch Ministries

Loving our neighbors through acts of caring that bring healing and health to those in need.

March 2014

Introducing...Munchies for Mommas



InTouch is proud to announce the launch of a new ministry—Munchies for Mommas!

Parenting a newborn child can be exhausting, especially if mom is breastfeeding, and it can be very challenging to find the time to prepare food that is a good nutritional choice. Munchies for Mommas provides delicious homemade high energy snacks to new mothers in our congregation who may be too busy to fix something healthy for themselves. These treats are ready to eat when Mom (or Dad!) needs some quick fuel.

Janet Dietz heads up this ministry and provides the recipes along with the snacks. Munchies for Mommas will work in conjunction with **Swaddling Cloths**, so that our new parents will enjoy their treats at the same time they receive a beautiful handmade baby blanket. Both of these programs shower parents in our community with the love of Jesus at a time when their lives can be stressful. Thanks to Janet for following God's call!

If you know of a newborn in our midst, please contact Sue Burchill (sue@andrew-umc.org) or call the church office. We don't want to miss a single baby!

Let Us Know!

Our ministry works best when we know who and how we can help! Just call the church (497-7755) or click on request for outreach (<http://andrew-umc.org>).

Faithfully Fit...in the Kitchen offers a "honey" of a deal this month

Did You Know...??

Honey increases the production of anti-oxidants in the bloodstream. Honey bees must visit 2 million flowers to produce 1 pound of honey. A worker honey bee will only produce 1/12 of a teaspoon of honey. Honey that was discovered in the pyramids of Egypt was over 5000 years old but was still edible!



Come join **Faithfully Fit...in the Kitchen** this month as we explore the benefits and uses of a sweetener that can also be health-promoting.

Friday, April 11 at 7:00 p.m.
Childcare is provided

HeartSavers Adds a Leader

HeartSavers is the InTouch ministry that equips individuals to provide CPR/AED for medical emergencies that occur at St. Andrew during our Sunday morning worship services. **Dan Leaird** has joined **Helen Citro** in the leadership role for this lifesaving ministry. Together they will provide and coordinate training (including CPR, AED, and basic first aid), develop procedures to ensure coverage and follow appropriate standards, maintain equipment, and stay in contact with the many people who serve as volunteers. Dan brings a background both as a fireman and EMT to his role, and we are excited to have him join the team.



Please take a moment to thank Helen and Dan—you never know, the life they save might be your own!

ORIENTATION CLASS

Seriously, I am really looking forward to Spring, with no more surprise snows! I hope you will look forward to our next **Orientation Class**.

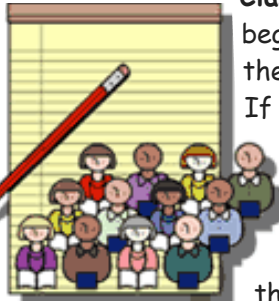
It is set to begin April 27 in the Intersection.

If you are new to St. Andrew or just want to get to know more about our church, this class is for you.

We will look at our mission statement, our ministries and what programs we offer. Especially, we want you to meet more of us, and we want to know you! We will meet five Sundays from April 27 to May 25 at 10 a.m. in the Intersection. Look for more information and sign up sheets to come!

Hope to see you there! Call with questions, 463-5570.

Becky Bolin
Church Growth



PRAYER QUILTS IN PRAYER ROOM



The idea behind a prayer quilt is simple, yet powerful. A heavy thread is used to take stitches through the quilt layers and the ends are left free to be tied with a square knot. As each knot is tied, a silent prayer is offered for someone in special need. When all the ties are knotted, the quilt is given to the person(s) for whom it was made.

You are invited to come to The Prayer Room and say a prayer while tying a knot on the Prayer Quilt made for:

Rosanna Dyer

GARDEN PLOTS AVAILABLE

The trustees are making available, on a trial basis, garden plots. They will be located north of the garage. Water will be available.



Details of the procedure will be developed in consultation with those interested in having a plot this summer. Plots will be roto-tilled but not limed or fertilized. If you are interested in this opportunity contact Andrew Daigle (zowilveram@hotmail.com). A meeting will be called once interested parties have been identified."

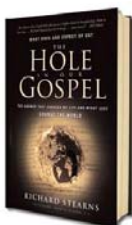
ECHOES OF THE GOSPEL BOOK GROUP

Book: *The Hole in Our Gospel*
by Richard Stearns

(discussion led by Luci Keazer)

Date and Time: Sunday, April 27,
6 p.m. Snacks provided

Location: Adult 2 Classroom



BE IN THE KNOW!

Occasionally, the church office feels there is a need to inform or notify the congregation of matters that are of some urgency. It may be that a member of the St. Andrew congregation has passed away or weather related cancellations have occurred or some other similar current event that affects a large number of the congregation. In such cases, the office would like to be able to send out an e-mail to those in the congregation who have indicated a desire to receive such notices. This notification system will not be used routinely, but in more urgent situations. **Would you like to receive these e-mails?** Simply let the office know of your desire and make sure we have your most current e-mail address.

If the church has your e-mail address, you should have received some similar e-mails recently. If you have not received any e-mails with the church heading on it, the office does not have a current, working e-mail address for you. You should let us know if you do NOT wish to receive these notifications. Thanks for your help with setting up this new system.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

St. Andrew United Methodist Women will meet Tuesday, April 8, at 7:00 p.m., in the Conference room. The program, *Family*



Promise, is to be presented by Susan Foster. Our church participates in this interfaith program to assist homeless families in finding housing and employment. Our special project this month is to bring items needed by the day center: toilet paper, paper towels, small tubes of toothpaste, toothbrushes, dishwasher detergent, kitchen-sized heavy-duty trash bags, travel size shampoos and conditioners, deodorant, baby wipes, gas cards (\$15-\$20), WalMart cards (\$10-\$15), and office supplies such as pens and printer paper. All interested women are invited to attend this meeting. Questions? Contact Ellen Byers at 413-7713.

CALLING ALL ST. ANDREW MEN!

The Men's Group and the Fellowship committee are teaming up to serve the congregation Easter breakfast once again!

Breakfast will be served from
9:30–11:00 a.m.
on Easter Sunday, April 20



They could sure use some help serving breakfast to everyone that morning. If you are interested in helping with the breakfast by serving, cooking, or if you could provide some food for that morning, please contact John Baldwin, John Chapman, or Gavin Stetler.



EASTER FLOWERS

To help celebrate Easter Sunday, we are offering an opportunity to purchase potted flowers in memory, or in honor, of your loved ones.

This year, we will purchase a variety of spring flowers in addition to the traditional Easter Lilies. Lilies, tulips, and hyacinths will be ordered in equal amounts. The cost of all flowers is \$8.50 each. You are encouraged to take home a flower of your choice after the last service on Easter Sunday. Please use the order form found in Sunday's bulletin to purchase flowers by April 6.



LENTEN CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Join our worship services each Sunday during Lent. Worship times are:

8:45 a.m.—Traditional Worship
10 a.m.—Acoustic Worship
11:15 a.m.—Praise Worship

Our MidWeek Worship Services are every Wednesday at 7 p.m. During Lent we will focus on digging deeper in the scriptures discussed the Sunday prior to each Wednesday. The MidWeek Service meets in The Intersection.

Holy Week Worship

April 16

Holy Wednesday Service 7 p.m.

April 17

Maudy Thursday—Simple Service
of Communion 7 p.m.
The Intersection

April 18

Good Friday Service—7 p.m.

April 20 Easter Sunday

8:45 a.m.—Traditional
Hallelujah Chorus & Brass

9:30 a.m.—11:00 a.m.
Easter Breakfast Served

10:00 a.m.—Traditional
Hallelujah Chorus & Brass

11:15 a.m.—Contemporary
Drama & Special Music



BLOOD DRIVE APRIL 6!

The Blood Mobile will be at St. Andrew UMC between 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on April 6. Look for it in the parking lot, pulled up to the church sidewalk. Lots of time slots are available before, between, or after worship and Sunday School! You can sign up at donorpoint.org. Now that winter is behind us, I hope you'll donate on April 6!! Peggy Hoover, contact at 404-8128; peg4billh@yahoo.com



LUM MEALS

April 13

The next Sunday for St. Andrew to do a LUM meal is April 13. For the winter months, a basic soup or stew or chili is requested for the meal along with crackers/saltines for up to 30-50 folk. April can also be considered a "summer" month for preparing sandwiches; you can go either way. Please encourage your group, family members, or friends to prayerfully consider hosting a LUM meal through St. Andrew. Contact Peggy Hoover (404-8128), if interested.



LUM GOOD SAMARITAN FUND FOLLIES—APRIL 4

The Lafayette Urban Ministry (LUM) will again host the Good Samaritan Fund Follies at St. Andrew on Friday, April 4. This light-hearted evening of food, fun, and fellowship will benefit the children and families served each day at LUM. A reception and silent auction will begin at 5:30 p.m. Dinner will be at 6:30 p.m., followed by the Follies show.

Our own Simply People Puppets group will be among the performers. They were a big hit last year, and the show was excellent. Please don't miss this great evening for a great cause. Reservations cost \$42 (LUM is 42 years old), with \$27 of this amount being a contribution to LUM's Good Samaritan Fund, so tax deductible. You can make your reservations by getting a mail-in form in the church office, by visiting LUM's web site at www.lumserve.org, or by calling LUM at 423-2691. **If you would like to sit at a table with other St. Andrew folks, please be sure to indicate that with your reservation.** If you have questions, contact Cathy Potter (743-9804 or cathrynpotter@juno.com).



FAMILY PROMISE

St. Andrew is forming a team to participate in the Greater Lafayette Homeward Bound walk on April 6 at 3 p.m. at Riehle Plaza, to benefit Family Promise. If you are interested in walking, please sign the list at the welcome center or contact Etta Lazaros (ettaroselazaros@yahoo.com). If you would like to pledge to support our walkers in their efforts to help raise funds by walking, go to HomewardBoundIndiana.org, click on Greater Lafayette Area and search for St. Andrew's team to pledge.



TAX Help FREE INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE

Lafayette Urban Ministries can do your taxes for free if your household income is less than \$52,000 and you are a resident of Tippecanoe County. For more information call LUM, 423-2691 or pick up the small yellow flyer at the Welcome Center today.



Food Pantry
Item for
April is
once again
Peanut Butter

APRIL 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 8:45 AM Trad. Worship 10:00 AM Praise Worship 10:00 AM HeartSavers Mtg 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:15 AM Praise Worship 6:00 PM ABC's of Bible Study	31 5:30 PM Lenten Task Force Mtg. 6:00 PM Fast Track Disciple I 6:00 PM LUM Follies Rehearsal 6:30 PM GOLDen Girls 6:30 PM Unbroken 7:30 PM Men's Ministry Group	1 7:00 AM Staff/Parish 9:30 AM InTouch Resource Meeting 10:00 AM Worship Planning Team 1:00 PM Prayer Quilts 6:00 PM Staff meeting 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Tutoring 7:30 PM VBS Leadership Team	2 10:30 AM Korean Bible Study 6:00 PM Waiting2Wake reh 7:00 PM Mid-Week Service 7:00 PM WINGS Bible Study 8:30 PM LUM Follies Rehearsal	3 5:30 PM Music Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Tippecanoe Fly Fishing Fellowship 6:30 PM BroZone 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM LUM Follies Rehearsal	4 9:15 AM Oasis Bible Study 5:30 PM LUM Silent Auction 6:30 PM LUM Follies Dinner	5 9:00 AM Faithfully Fit-Zumba/Exercise
6 8:45 AM Trad. Worship 9:00 AM Indiana Blood Center Blood Drive 10:00 AM Praise Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:15 AM Praise Worship 2:00 PM Eagle Court Honor 3:00 PM Homeward Bound Walk 5:00 PM Sr Hi Mission Trip Meeting 6:00 PM ABC's of Bible Study 6:00 PM Jr High Youth Grp 6:00 PM S High Youth Grp	7 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE 6:00 PM Fast Track Disciple I 6:30 PM GOLDen Girls 7:00 PM Unbroken 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop Committee Mtg. 7:00 PM Prayer Shawl ministry 7:30 PM Men's Ministry Group	8 9:30 AM InTouch Resource Meeting 11:00 AM Staff mtg 12:00 PM Worship Planning Team 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Finance mtg 7:00 PM Tutoring 7:00 PM United Methodist Women	9 10:30 AM Korean Bible Study 12:00 PM Exec. Tm. 3:15 PM Brownie Troop 1559 Meeting 6:00 PM Waiting2Wake reh 7:00 PM Comm. Min. 7:00 PM Mid-Week Service 7:00 PM WINGS Bible Study	10 NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED 6:00 PM Prayer Quilts 6:30 PM BroZone 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	11 9:15 AM Oasis Bible Study 6:30 PM Ashlee Shondell/Gary Huff Wedding Rehearsal 7:00 PM Faithfully Fit...In the Kitchen	12 9:00 AM Faithfully Fit-Zumba/Exercise 4:30 PM Ashlee Shondell/Gary Huff Wedding
13 Palm Sunday 8:30 AM Band of Angels 8:45 AM Trad. Worship 9:30 AM Blood Pressure Monitoring 10:00 AM Praise Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:15 AM Praise Worship 4:00 PM Bl-grass Genesis 6:00 PM ABC's of Bible Study 6:00 PM Chichester Chron. 6:00 PM Jr High Youth Grp 6:00 PM S High Youth Grp	14 6:30 PM GOLDen Girls 6:30 PM Unbroken 7:00 PM CareNotes 7:00 PM Trustees mtg 7:30 PM Men's Ministry Group	15 9:30 AM InTouch Resource Meeting 10:00 AM Worship Planning Team 11:00 AM Staff mtg 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Tutoring	16 Holy Wednesday 10:30 AM Korean Bible Study 6:00 PM Waiting2Wake reh 7:00 PM Mid-Week Service 7:00 PM WINGS Bible Study	17 Maundy Thursday 6:30 PM BroZone 6:30 PM Praise Team 7:00 PM Service of Communion 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	18 Good Friday 7:00 PM Good Friday Service	19 9:00 AM Faithfully Fit-Zumba/Exercise
20 EASTER 8:45 AM Trad. Worship 10:00 AM Trad. Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:15 AM Praise Worship	21 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE OFFICE CLOSED 6:30 PM GOLDen Girls 6:30 PM Unbroken 7:30 PM Men's Ministry Group	22 9:30 AM InTouch Resource Meeting 10:00 AM Worship Planning Team 11:00 AM Staff mtg 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Tutoring	23 10:30 AM Korean Bible Study 3:15 PM Brownie Troop 1559 Meeting 6:00 PM Waiting2Wake reh 7:00 PM Mid-Week Service 7:00 PM WINGS Bible Study	24 NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED 6:30 PM BroZone 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	25 9:15 AM Oasis Bible Study 6:00 PM Junior High Over Night	26 Junior High Over Night 9:00 AM Faithfully Fit-Zumba/Exercise
27 8:45 AM Trad. Worship 9:50 AM Orientation Class 10:00 AM Praise Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:15 AM Praise Worship 12:30 PM HeartSavers 12:30 PM VBS Leadership Team and Station Leaders 6:00 PM Echoes of the Gospel Book Group 6:00 PM Jr High Youth Grp 6:00 PM S High Youth Grp	28 6:30 PM GOLDen Girls 6:30 PM Unbroken 7:30 PM Men's Ministry Group	29 9:30 AM InTouch Resource Meeting 10:00 AM Worship Planning Team 11:00 AM Staff mtg 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Tutoring	30 10:30 AM Korean Bible Study 6:00 PM Waiting2Wake reh 7:00 PM Mid-Week Service 7:00 PM WINGS Bible Study			

St. Andrew Connections

St. Andrew United Methodist Church
4703 N. 50 W.
West Lafayette, IN 47906

Thursday, March 27, 2014

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Lafayette, Indiana
PERMIT NO. 54

St. Andrew UMC
Phone: 497-7755
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. -4:30 p.m.
Traditional Worship: Sunday 8:45 a.m.
Contemporary Worship: Sunday 10 & 11:15 a.m.
Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.



Your St. Andrew Staff

Pastor	Tim Burchill
Associate Pastor	Pat Sleeth
Pastoral Assistant	Hyesook Kim
Church Administrator	Donna Biehl
Church Secretary	Laurie Klenosky
Financial/Office Asst	Tricia Sembroski
Dir. of Children's Ministry	Jan Collins-Cutter
CrossRoads Dir. of Programs	Dana Kirkwood
Dir. of Small Group Ministries	Barb Jones
Dir. of Music Ministry	Dave Evans
Dir. of InTouch Ministry	Sue Burchill
Organist/Pianist	LuAnn Boggess
Asst. Organist/Pianist	Lisa Tally
Chancel Choir Director	Ben Waltz
Worship Leader MWS	Katie Biehl
Caretaker	Juan Valdez
Childcare Coordinator	Jan Collins-Cutter
Trustees	Trustee Concerns

E-Mail Addresses

tim@andrew-umc.org
pat@andrew-umc.org
hyesook@andrew-umc.org
donna@andrew-umc.org
laurie@andrew-umc.org
tricia@andrew-umc.org
jan@andrew-umc.org
dana@andrew-umc.org
barb@andrew-umc.org
dave@andrew-umc.org
sue@andrew-umc.org
luann@andrew-umc.org
lisa@andrew-umc.org
ben@andrew-umc.org
waiting2wake@gmail.com
juan@andrew-umc.org
nursery@andrew-umc.org
trustees@andrew-umc.org

you can access our web page at <http://andrew-umc.org>