



# West Point United Methodist Church

A U G U S T 2 0 1 0

“and the truth shall set you free.”

John 8:32

Two plus two equals four. Seems to be a simple enough statement. What if Congress passed a law saying that effective immediately two plus two equals five? Or what if we as a society simply decided that we liked the outcome of two plus two equaling five so we just agree collectively that from now on, that's the way it would be. Stupid right? Everybody knows that no matter how you legislate, no matter what we collectively decide as a culture, you can't alter the fact that if you have two cans of soup and you add two more, you're still only going to have four cans of soup. You are not going to be able to feed the same amount of people with four cans of soup that you could with five no matter what any law says or how much you might wish you could. I have to wonder if our political leadership in Washington understand this. And when I say political leadership, I mean all of them and not just the party in power right now. Just want to be clear about that. In the early nineties, the federal government told the banking industry in effect, you will start handing out subprime mortgages. What that means is that the feds told the banks that you will start lending money to people regardless of whether or not they can produce any evidence that they can pay it back. If you don't, says Uncle Sam, we will scrutinize your banking practices with a microscope. The rationale seemed to be that everyone deserved to have their own home and Uncle Sam was going to make sure that that happened. It's only fair you see. Eventually, some person can't pay back the mortgage on their home and the bank is forced to foreclose. When that happens to one person, that's a personal tragedy. When that happens to millions, it's a national disaster. Oh but in Washington DC, two plus two *can* equal five. Facing a national disaster due to the subprime mortgage crisis? Not to worry; we will pass a stimulus package that spends trillions upon trillions of dollars to make things right. Never mind the fact that our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren will be stuck with this debt, a debt which will eventually negatively impact our standard of living and our national security. Never mind the fact that a significant percentage of the stimulus expended thus far seems to have far more political implications than national recovery implications. Oh yes and in this two plus two equals five world, let's make sure that none of our speech ever, *ever* offends anyone. So when a group of nineteen men crash airplanes into our buildings killing thousands of Americans, and other men on multiple other occasions try to blow up our airplanes and buildings or shoot unarmed soldiers on our military bases, let's make sure we go through all kinds of linguistic contortions and engage in all kinds of convoluted logic to avoid recognizing the common thread in all these men; that they are all Islamic radicals. We have millions of folks that are in our country illegally and more coming everyday. But let's make sure that we don't hurt anyone's feelings by point out this fact.

Continued on page four

# August 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>Cluster Group meeting @ Stidham UMC 2:30 PM</i>	2	3 <i>Administrative Council meeting 7:00 PM</i>	4	5	6	7
8 	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 <i>Women's bible Study 7:00 PM</i>	18 <i>Morning Bible Study 9:00 AM</i>	19 <i>Serving in Attica UMC 4:00 to 7:30</i>	20	21 <b>Community Picnic 4:30 to 6:00</b> <b>Scott Greeson Concert 6:00 to 8:00</b>
22 <b>Community worship at Cadet Park 10:30 AM</b> <b>One service only</b>	23 	24 <i>Women's bible Study 7:00 PM</i>	25	26 <i>Light House Kick off 7:08</i>	27	28
29	30	31 <i>Women's bible Study 7:00 PM</i>				

SERMONS & SCRIPTURE  
LESSONS

August 1

- 10th Sunday of Pentecost
- Holy Communion
- Sunday School 8:30 AM
- Traditional Worship 9:30 AM
- Praise & Worship Service 11:00 AM

1 Samuel 19:8-17 & 1 Samuel 20:1-4. Pastor Jeff's sermon will be "Thrown Under the Bus."

August 8

- 11th Sunday of Pentecost
- Sunday School 8:30 AM
- Traditional Worship 9:30 AM
- Praise & Worship Service 11:00 AM

1 Samuel 28:3-5 & 1 Timothy 3:1-13. Pastor Jeff's sermon will be "A Higher Standard".

August 15

- 12th Sunday of Pentecost
- Sunday School 8:30 AM

- Traditional Worship 9:30 AM
- Praise & Worship Service 11:00 AM

Luke 7:1-10 & Genesis 18:10-15. Pastor Jeff's sermon will be "Are You Open To It".

August 22

- 13th Sunday of Pentecost
- Worship in the Park at 10:30 AM

Mark 8:22-30 & Genesis 12:1-5. Pastor Jeff's sermon will be "Changes in Attitude, Changes in Latitude."

August 29

- 14th Sunday of Pentecost
- Sunday School 8:30 AM
- Traditional Worship 9:30
- Praise & Worship Service 11:00 AM

Psalm 119:32 & Joshua 24:15. Pastor Jeff's sermon will be "Running on Empty."

August Birthdays

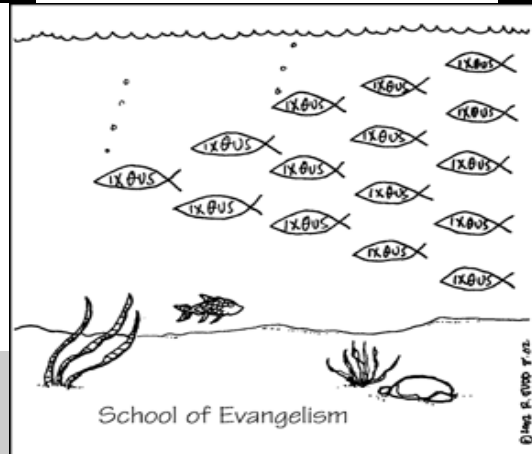
Adults

Phil Katter	Aug. 1
Eve Hamilton	Aug. 2
Jeff Stout	Aug. 3
Ed Reeves	Aug. 5
Diane Stout-Gaither	Aug. 8
Derek Byers	Aug. 10
Sara Ritter	Aug. 21

Bible Verse of the Month

John 8:32

"Then you will know the truth and the truth shall set you free."



Prayer Concerns

Connie Burke, Joyce Hubbard, Sharon Hughel, Helen Nice, Eric Elming, Bob Bowsher, Jim Deckerd, Chris Emerick, Harold Bolinger, TCS School Corporation, Krystal West (friend of Robin Leuck), Brent Maxwell, Frosty Richardson, Len Fouts, Kathy Jarvinin and family, Jane Fifer, Kenny Freeland, Stephanie Cart Whitmore, Pat Maxwell, all college and high school graduates, Virginia Mickle, Paul Wimmer (Ronda Smith's uncle), Shay Mehils, Dick Swank, Dave Dinwitty, (Robin Leuck's father), Sharon Johnson (Bev Matthews sister-in-law) and Dale Russell.

All our men and women in uniform, particularly Cody Hamilton, John MacIntosh, Rob Gaither, and Jeremy Ritter, especially those serving in harm's way.

“and the truth shall set you free.”

John 8:32

Continued from page one

By now, you might be thinking that you’ve just stumbled onto some right wing blog instead of a pastor’s newsletter. I can only tell you that what I see and what I feel about what’s happening in our country right now goes well beyond conservative or liberal, left or right. The real problem with two plus two equals five thinking is that it victimizes the Truth.

John Adams once said: “Facts are stubborn things.” The fact of the matter is that truth is often unpleasant. I can understand the desire to soften the impact of an unpleasant truth or to ignore it altogether. I think that’s what two plus two equals five thinking is all about. The problem is that such an approach doesn’t help in the long run. In fact, it cripples us as a people because not facing unpleasant truth makes an honest debate impossible. As human beings, we should face the unvarnished truth because it’s in our best interests *in the long run*. As Christians, it’s not an option; we have to deal with the truth, even unpleasant truth, because that’s where Jesus lives.

So as Christians, what should our response be to this troubled two plus two equals five world in which we live? This pastor is dedicated anew to looking at the world and what’s happening in it, through the lens of the truth; Biblical truth. Over the next few months, we will talk about things like collective salvation, social and economic justice and what our response as Christians should be to a world in some much trouble. In the end, there will probably be some things that we can’t agree on. That’s okay. But where we disagree, it won’t be based on the notion that two plus two equals five.

Blessings,                      Pastor Jeff

**The Beth Moore Simulcast is a month and a half away. (see ad on page seven) This is a really big deal for the ministry of our church and your prayers would be greatly appreciated. Specifically:**

- Pray for every woman in the viewing audience and at the live location in Chicago.
- Pray for the simulcast coordinators at all of the other host churches around the country to have a peace and to be able to hear a fresh word from the Lord during the event.
- Pray that every woman attending the simulcast will invite someone who does not know Christ or is not connected to a body of believers.
- Pray for the simulcast to encourage the church to have a greater commitment to reaching and ministering to lost women.
- Pray for those who are serving others and for those who are volunteers during the simulcast.
- Pray for the lost to be saved and the unchurched to become connected to a church body of believers.
- Pray for Beth Moore herself and all the folks with her who make her ministry events so full of the spirit. Pray that they might have good health, safe travel, and no distractions.

## West Point Community Picnic

**When:** Saturday, August 21  
**Where:** West Point Cadet Park  
**Time:** 4:30-6:00 p.m. we will eat; Scott Greeson will entertain us from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

The meat (hamburgers, hotdogs, and brats) has been donated. We will begin asking for donations to purchase side dishes and drinks in the near future. We look forward to seeing everyone at the picnic. Questions: Rick & Lisa Snider—572-2326.

### How things stand with our new property: Faith to Build

The steering committee continues to interview general contractors and construction management companies in order to take the next step towards building. In addition, we have toured a couple of churches near us to look at their facilities to get ideas. We continue to move forward. **But the most exciting news I can share with you this month is that our playground now has a new swing set and two play toys; a rocking horse and a mushroom for our kids and the community to play on.** This is an exciting time to be in ministry, doing God's work, here in West Point Indiana. Keep praying for God's will and discernment my friends.

Blessings my friends.

Pastor Jeff



### Our Ongoing Commitment to Missions:

In late May, Kim and Matt Holtman shared with us that they were heading to China on a missions trip. They have recently returned and have shared with church leadership that their trip was successful beyond their wildest dreams. We are in the process of scheduling a time when they can come and share with us. Look for that in the near future and share in the joy of a mission assigned my God successfully completed.

## August Birthdays

Ady Gutierrez	Aug. 2
Levi Bilyeu	Aug. 6
Tyler Meadows	Aug. 8
Ashlyn Cheesman	Aug. 13
Cassandra Cade	Aug. 13
Tyler Anthrop	Aug. 16
Nate Harbath	Aug. 24
Drew Snider	Aug. 25
Garrett Birge	Aug. 25
Meriah Green-Wright	Aug. 27

If we missed anybody, please accept our apologies and let Pastor Jeff know so we can update our records!



## Little Beamers to Resume Soon!!!

With another successful VBS program behind us, we look forward to next fall. Our Little Beamers Wednesdays will resume on September 15th. Be watching for details. We hope to recapture the excitement and the spirit of our VBS adventures from last summer.

Look for information on our fall program in next month's newsletter.



# August

## Hey Light House;

The start of August means many things. One thing it means for sure is that the start of school is just around the corner. Light house will kick off the year on Thursday August 26th at 7:08 at the church. We will also be planning our canoe trip which will tentatively be on September 12. In September we will also resume our study of the bible and begin planning ministry events for the following year. God is good; all the time; and all the time; God is good.





Living Proof Live brings beloved bible teacher Beth Moore and worship leader Travis Cottrell via live simulcast from Chicago directly to women in the Lafayette area. This fun, authentic ministry team prepares a unique message from God for each event. You'll leave knowing that the message you heard was created just for you.

Date: Saturday, September 18, 2010  
 Where: West Point United Methodist Church  
 Time: Registration will begin at 8:15 a.m.; Broadcast begins promptly at 9:00 a.m. and will run until 4:30 p.m.

We are expecting 150 women and will need the help of everyone in our church. Committee sign-up sheets (e.g., parking, lunch, set-up, clean-up, prayer team, greeters/ushers) will be available on the back table and future planning meetings will be posted on the bulletin board. Please pray for the planning of this event, Beth Moore and her team, and those who will be joining us that day.

We are offering tickets to the women of our church through July. We will then open up registration to our cluster churches and then to the Lafayette area. You may obtain your tickets on Sunday mornings or by calling Julie Jameson at 538-2566 or email [julie8616@gmail.com](mailto:julie8616@gmail.com). Tickets will be \$5.00 which includes the simulcast, snacks, and a boxed lunch. Carpooling is encouraged and for those who attend our church, please consider parking at someone's home in West Point rather than the church. We would like to reserve church parking for our guests and handicapped parking.

Due to limited space and the length of the program, no child care will be available.

*Fall Women's Bible Study*  
 Starting Tuesday, Aug. 17 at 7:00

*JESUS, THE ONE AND ONLY*

*Get to know Jesus, the One and Only in this 11-week, in-depth, interactive study. We will learn how it felt to walk the dusty roads of the Holy Land with the incarnate son of God and what it was like to know him personally. Encourage a friend to join us!*

*Upcoming Bible Studies*

*One of our upcoming bible studies will be on prayer and is tentatively scheduled to start September 9th. The Wednesday morning bible study group will meet on August 18th at 9:00 to discuss what topic we will cover this fall. Additional bible studies are under consideration as well. Here we go!!!!*

## Our Vision Statement

We envision the West Point United Methodist Church to be the focal point of our community and to be a welcoming church reaching out to everyone; offering all the opportunity to know and serve God; providing fellowship; offering spiritual leadership; and teaching the Word of God.

**For more information about West Point UMC, contact us at 765-572-2256, or  
wpumc@tds.net or check out our webpage at  
Www.westpointunitedmethodist.org**

Sunday School:	8:30 AM
Traditional Worship	9:30 AM
Praise & Worship	11:00 AM

**West Point UMC**  
Post Office Box 8  
West Point, IN. 47992