

The Witness

Volume XXIII, Issue VI

Newsletter

June 2025

“Do you see the blue lights?”

“Do you see the blue lights?”
“What blue lights?” ---
“Whatever you do don’t turn left!” This was the conversation I overheard years ago as I was flying into Chicago O’Hare, listening on the channel that broadcast the airport-to-plane communications.

Normal air traffic conversations continued. Suddenly, again I could hear the voice of a concerned traffic controller, “Do you see the blue lights?” Then a spaced-out response, “What blue lights?” Again, the frantic warning, “Don’t turn left!” The normal traffic responses once more filled the air. After a few minutes, again an almost hysterical request, “Now, do you see the blue lights?” Still with no emotion came the words, “What blue lights?” Almost screaming, the first voice came back, “Don’t move!” Again all was normal. After a time the voice spoke again. This time with a tone of hope, “Do you see the blue lights?” But the other voice remained the same “What blue lights?” One could only imagine the frustrated scene in the control tower.

With a new sense of resolve the controller firmly said, “Just stay where you are, and we will come find you.” Somewhere out on the massive Chicago airport that night a small plane was lost and

clueless. Disaster was imminent. Since the pilot was unable to find his way, the traffic controller finally did what had to be done. He sent someone to find that plane and lead it safely back to the terminal.

That night as I listened to this conversation, I rolled in laughter. It seemed so bizarre. Yet, as I reflect on it, there is nothing here that is very amusing. That pilot was in real trouble, even though he never seemed to understand the gravity of the situation. A wrong move and he would have had a disaster on his hands. He needed someone to lead him out of the maze. Yelling at him didn’t do it. Reasoning didn’t do it. He needed someone actually to come personally to help him and to lead him safely to the terminal.

And so it is with us. We so often are oblivious to our dilemma. Those around us are issuing warnings. But we have no clue. And we might be facing radical danger. What we need is for someone to do more than yell at us. We need someone to come to our aid. To come alongside. To help us by leading us to safety.

That is exactly what Jesus did for us. He came from heaven to find us and lead us home. He became a man so that He could communicate with us. He died on the cross for us so that He could pay the penalty for our sin, and thus pro-

vide the only pathway back to the terminal. He calls out to us and seeks us in the midst of our darkness, when we can’t even see the “blue lights.” He is willing to come and get us and take us home.

And if you are one who sits safely in the ‘control tower’, that knows the way home. Are you willing to help others find safety? To call out. To reason. And most importantly, to come alongside and help the clueless to find home. To find the Christ that will save them from disaster. This is what He has commissioned us to do.

Pastor Danny

June Outreach

It always feels like a major transition as we move from the school year into summer. With vacations and travel plans, things can be a bit chaotic. But also, it is an opportunity to connect with people, to do special things, and to reach out to those who may be uniquely available in the summer.

By the time you read this, VBS will be over. That’s a switch (we did it early this year). Our desire was to reach kids before they were distracted and/or were gone for various reasons. Be in tune with opportunities for follow-up with parents. The same is true for our Pre-Memorial Day picnic that occurred in late May. Reach out

to any visitors that we had on that Sunday evening.

Our lady's ministry Heart to Heart Fellowship is coming this month, June 21, 10:30-noon. It is typically well attended, offering fun, food, and a special speaker. But the success only occurs because of ladies inviting ladies. Keep up the good work. This time, Shelly Huff (our RBA local association secretary/assistant) will be speaking.

Several individual June activities: Father's Day, June 15. Cooking Video, June 19. Quarterly Business meeting June 22 (I think we will be doing after church lunch with it).

At the end of June, June 30-July 4, the youth will be headed to camp. Begin to pray now for significant spiritual breakthroughs and salvations during that time. It's summer. Stay engaged. Reach out to people.

Music Ministry

The Praise Team did another wonderful job during the month of April. Kathy Freeman started the month off with the great song "Desperate" by Jamie MacDonald. Then Jesse Rhodes blessed us with a beautiful song he wrote for his Grandmother on Mother's Day. Brother Bob Clopton and Pat Brown did a fantastic duet on the old hymn "Others".

I also want to Thank Pat Brown, Janice Parker and Carolyn Shelby for helping out on piano.

Sr Adult Ministry

The Senior Adult Rally took place on Thursday, May 8th at the Lakeview Baptist Camp. We had twelve people to go this year. As always, we all had a great time! The featured speaker was Greg Zackary with Worship pro-

vided by Ricky and Amanda Thompson.

The camp is still in the process of being restored and made ready for summer campers. Thanks again to all the Baptist on Mission Men and Women who have been working nonstop at the camp reconstruction due to the damage caused by the tornado that ripped thru the camp earlier this year.

The Fall Sr Adult Rally will be October 8th, 2025, so, mark your calendars now!!

Bro Steve

At-A-Glance:

April's Gifts: \$18,520.⁰⁰
2025 Gifts : \$79,510.⁶⁰
2025 Budget: \$286,384.⁰⁰

Authentic Youth-- May-June

It's been a great month in youth ministry! We wrapped up our final weeks of youth group for the school year and finished our series in James, learning what real faith in Jesus looks like when it's lived out. We ended with a fun and meaningful cookout to celebrate the year.

Looking ahead, several of our students are stepping up to serve during Wonder Junction VBS—pray that God uses them to impact younger kids while growing their own faith. Camp is also just around the corner—we leave June 29th!

Please pray for our summer Bible study series, Revival Generation, and especially for our students, leaders, and the camp's speaker, staff, and band. If you'd like to pray specifically for those going to camp, ask Dennis for a student list. Thank you for partnering

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with us through prayer and support!

I would also like to thank Wayne and Christine, Stephanie, and Keith for their work ministering to the teens this year, as well as Mike and Marty, and Steve and Pat and anyone else who has made this past year of Wednesday night youth possible!!

Thank you,
Dennis and Sam Wagner

