



The Discipleship Dispatch

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Welcome to an exciting month for The Gathering!

This month we host our Annual DeKalb County Community Christian Night concert. This year's concert will be on August 21, 2021 from 7-9 pm. This is our largest fundraising event of the year. The concert is free and open to anyone who would like to attend and worship with their community. We are excited to announce that we will have the addition of four food trucks which will be donating a portion of their sales to the church and our community-enhancing programs. The four who are participating are: Street Taco Truck (Amanda Collins), Hoosier Mama (Auburn Deli), Frankie's Coney Dog Cart (Brian Dickman), and Kona Ice of Steuben Co. (Drew Pocock). Please take the time to thank them for their generosity!

We will also have a special guest with us to speak about her mission work in Nairobi, Kenya. Local missionary, Kathleen Lutz, will be speaking about her work with Heart-to-Heart children and families. She will be speaking approximately 10 minutes before the show and will have a booth there for more information. We are working with a few more of our partners to bring their booths and information as well. Keep a look out for them while you are there.

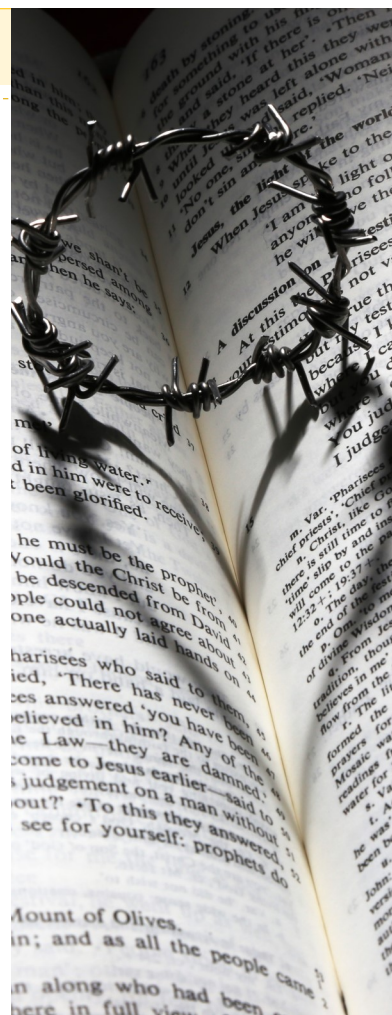
This year's entertainment will be courtesy of Tehillah. "Tehillah means to 'Sing a hymn of Spontaneous Praise, Glorifying God in song.' Tehillah was formed as a way to use our talents to spread the message of God's great love! We love to Lead worship and sing!" They will be opening our worship at 7 pm. Following Tehillah I will give a talk about unity and what is next for The Gathering and our community. Stay tuned during this time. You won't want to miss this!

Finally, one of our favorite people and her band will finish us out for the night. Jensen Snyder will be our headliner. She has a servant's heart and loves to share her God-given time and talent to lead worship. "Singing is Jensen's passion. She is 16 years old. Jensen is in her 9th year singing with the Fort Wayne Children's Choir. She loves to sing wherever she can including churches, fundraisers, county fairs, and coffee shops. She loves performing at various worship nights and Christian concerts."

We are blessed to have the love and support of our community! Thank you all and we look forward to worshipping with you!

May the grace and peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, be with you today and always,

Pastor Nicki



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TITHES & OFFERINGS

Can be completed at:
<http://thegatheringauburn.org>

Follow the PayPal link and instructions. The use of your bank account is preferred, so fees are avoided, but any major credit or debit card can also be used. Contributors can choose a one time offering or a monthly tithe on PayPal.

2000-Allows us to be fully staffed and trained to meet the needs of our entire community and the entire person, mind, body, soul

1200-Provides meals to those who are seeking to better their lives through the education and information we provide.

1000-Provides education and information to our community to help our neighbors live well, despite our circumstances.

500-Helps us provide a space to feel love and belonging and find hope in doing life together

Can you give up 1 cup of coffee a month?

The Gathering has a mission and a mission field. Our mission is: To restore hope and community through experiencing the hope and salvation of Jesus Christ.

We are all missionaries, sent to our community as our specific mission field. As such, we seek to complete the mission of Jesus Christ in reaching the people. We will follow Jesus' lead and example. We will seek to reach people in their hurt, loss, and brokenness as well as be with them to celebrate the victories in life. We seek to encourage, educate, and care for the whole person: mind, body, and soul. In doing so, we seek to compassionately come alongside everyone and to equip, train and educate our community.

We cannot achieve this mission alone. We need your help. 50% of the people we currently serve are recovering addicts. 88% of the people we serve have no ability to financially contribute to this mission. 15% of Auburn's roughly 13,000 population (almost 2000 families) live at or below the federal poverty level. That means, for a family of 3 their income is \$21,700 or lower. This statistic is unacceptable. Auburn can thrive and we can help each other overcome our circumstances.

Can you help us with our mission to care for our community? Visit our website <http://thegatheringauburn.org/2000@5> to commit to helping with a \$5 recurring monthly donation. We are a registered nonprofit church.



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2000

@ 5

DEKALB COUNTY



Community Christian Night

A FREE OUTDOOR CONCERT

FREE-WILL OFFERING AT GATE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21, 2021

7-9 PM

FOOD TRUCKS

STREET TACOS
HOOSIER MAMA
FRANKIE'S CONEY DOGS
KONA ICE

A portion of their sales will be donated to the church

Featuring

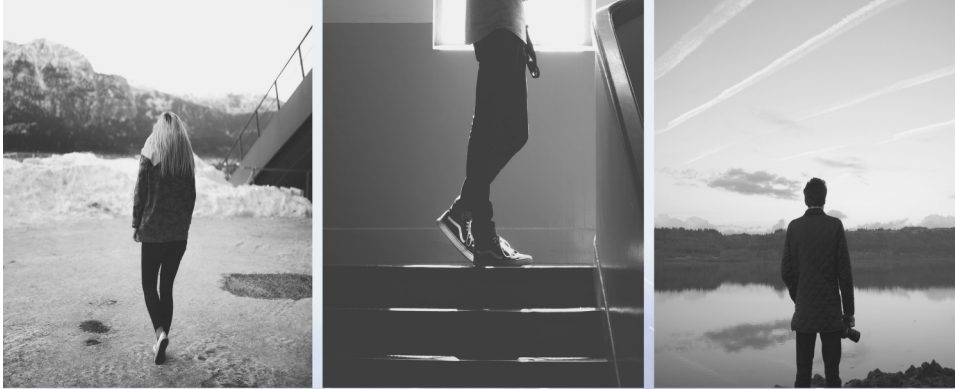
Jensen Snyder

With
Tehillah
Opening



A X I O S

We are Worthy
A Youth Ministry of
The Gathering



"50% of adults will develop a mental illness in their lifetime. This staggering reality can feel daunting, but there is HOPE for mental health." This group is meant for those who have, have had, or love someone diagnosed with a mental illness. It is our prayer that this program can shine a light into the lives of its attendees and bring hope to a sometimes hopeless situation.

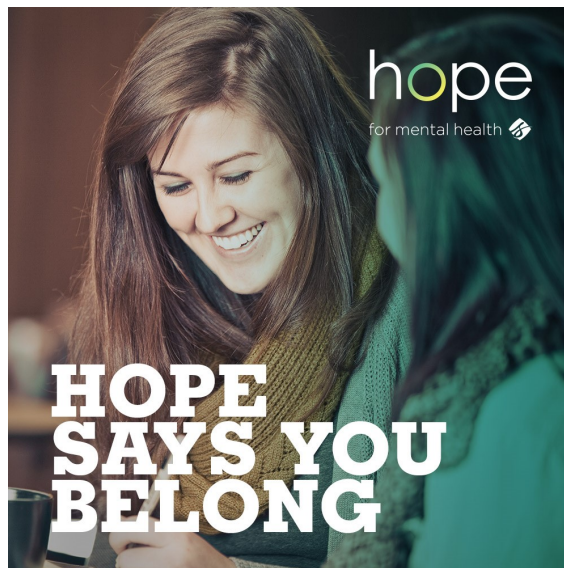
HOPE FOR MENTAL HEALTH

"No one gets better alone! No family should walk through a mental health crisis alone. We all need a support system of family, friends, mental health professionals, support groups, and a faith community in challenging times." - Hope for Mental Health Resource Guide, 2015

Hope for Mental Health, currently meets on Thursdays at our normal time, 6—7:30 pm. Youth, 6th grade through adults are welcome.

There is no better time for us to support one another. Mental health challenges will be at an all-time high.

We currently have a large group of youth to love and support. If you have or are experiencing challenge in your life, come help us show the youth that they can get through hard times too.



AXIOS

(YOUTH GROUP)

Axios means worthy in Greek. We are all worthy of God's love and the love of others. Axios is the youth ministry of The Gathering. This ministry opportunity is open for those in grades 6-12. Our 2021 Kick-Off Party will be August 1st, from 3-5 pm at the YMCA of DeKalb County, on North St. Please bring your swimsuit. Transportation can be provided.

Our regular, weekly, meetings will resume on Wednesday August 4th and will meet from 6-7:30 pm. Please let us know if transportation is needed, so that we can plan ahead. We will always serve dinner during that time as well.

We have a time of discussion about life, circumstances, etc., a sort of check-in. We then go into reading our Bible passage and one of us will draw what the group thinks is relevant to that passage. This way, each time they pass these drawing which are hung on our walls, so they will remember what they have learned and what God's word and promise says.



AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS



Last month, we announced our new program. We have decided to put our all into this program and due to some challenges we are going to push the launch of this program back and will be set to launch at the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year. This time will give us ample ability to learn as much as we can and to take our time in creating and planning the very best program for our community and our families because they deserve the best, our best! If you did not have a chance to read the announcement, we have included it below.

The Gathering is happy to announce that we plan on launching a new after school program for at-risk youth. At-risk can mean various things from

behavior issues, self-harm, learning challenges, or challenges at home. We will be piloting this program with 5 students from McKenney, 5 from Watson, 5 from the middle school, and 5 from the high school.

We will be focusing on physical and mental health, behavior, school work, financial literacy, and life-skills such as cooking, cleaning, and personal hygiene.

There will be ways to earn rewards as well. We will introduce “Hope’s Closet.” This will be where they can spend their rewards and “purchase” items such as clothes, gift certificates toward new shoes, personal hygiene and school supplies, snacks, jewelry and purses, games, toys, etc. They will be earning “money” to spend in the closet by completing all their homework, reaching their goals, parent reported good behavior, and through community service hours.

We will be working with various community members over the summer to build a curriculum and expectations for the students. We already have 3 McKenney, 2 Middle School, and 1 High School students committed to attending. If you know of any student(s) who would benefit from this type of program and who live in Auburn, please email Pastor Nicki at nicki@thegatheringauburn.org.



Blessed are those who find wisdom, those who gain understanding.

— Proverbs 3:13

THE GATHERING

The Gathering strives to love Everyone and we truly mean, **come as you are.** We all experience joys and challenges. Please allow us to share in your joy and to help carry you through your challenges, no matter what they may be. At one point or another, at least one of us has been where you are.

We were never meant to do life alone. God calls for us to be in relationship, not just with him, but with our community. That is why we, as a church, long to do life—really well—together.

Please join us on this journey of faith, hope, and restoration. Allow us to do life—really well—with you!

ABOUT THE GATHERING

We, as humans, all ultimately seek one thing, that is to belong to something and have a sense of worth that comes with belonging. God chooses each and every one of us. We are all called to ministry in the words of 1 Peter 2:4-5 "As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ." This is who we are, ministers of the gospel of Jesus Christ, offering hope through living as Jesus did and would be doing now. We offer hope through our example of living well and thriving, despite our circumstances and challenges. We love our neighbors as ourselves and join together as a community of believers as found in the example of the early church in the book of Acts.

The Gathering

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To Our Friends:



The Gathering
Experiencing Hope Through Jesus Christ