

The Gathering

August 2024
Volume 4, Issue 1



The Discipleship Dispatch

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Greeting to you, brothers and sisters in Christ!

It's been a good while since we have had a newsletter come out. I'm so happy to be able to get back to giving everyone updates again. So much has happened with this little church in four and a half years. Who would have thought we would have survived the pandemic after planting just three months before its beginning?

Not everything has gone well, but we have certainly learned from it all and made adjustments accordingly. I see how each win and loss has contributed to our growth. Growth never happens when everything goes right. Growth happens in the challenges and set backs. That's why I thank God for the opportunity to grow, even when it's not pleasant.

Each year, I take time to sit with God and listen to His guidance and direction for the church. We begin each year with me communicating God's vision and direction for the church. This year, God asked us to be intentional in everything we do. We have been intentional in consistently communicating that to our church and helping them learn ways they can be intentional as individuals and as Christ's united body.

For my personal journey, I believe God is calling me into a new season of intentionality. There will be more time spent on building intentional relationships with our community members and organizations. There will be more intention in building, running, and evaluating what we are doing, where we are doing it, and its effectiveness. I will also spend more time working toward building ways to reach and serve our community and those who may have never heard the gospel before and those who are experiencing challenging times in their life.

My request from you is intentional, consistent prayer for me, for Pastor Jason, for the church leadership, and for those who serve in the church. Please pray that God blesses us and the church to bless Him, His kingdom, and everyone He allows us to reach. I don't ask that you pray God blesses us for our own prosperity. I ask so that we may be effective servants of Christ and effective in carrying out His mission and vision.

Thank you all for your continued love, prayer, and support. That, in itself is the biggest blessing we could ever receive.

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 sent to:
The Gathering
231 S Baxter St
Auburn, IN 46706

AXIOS

We are Worthy
A Youth Ministry of
The Gathering



Wednesdays (Sept-May) 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

6th- 12th Grades

Held at the YMCA of DeKalb County,
North St. Auburn, IN 46706

Door 4

"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, meets on Thursdays from 6–8 pm in the community room at the YMCA of DeKalb. All are welcome and a free meal is always shared each week.

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

YMCA of DeKalb County
533 North St
Auburn, IN 46706

Please enter door 4



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.

One point of evaluation is going to be our youth programming. We will be evaluating its effectiveness in the kingdom. This questions who we are reaching, where we reach them, and the lives that are changed as a result of it all.

We ask that you pray, specifically, for our next generation and for us to impact them with love, learning, leadership lessons.



GOSPEL PARTNESHIP

The Gathering has always been known and does things a little differently than most. We're big supporters of reaching the ones who are usually not reached by others. Sticking with that philosophy, we have partnered up with a race team out of Garrett, IN.

Tony Van Allen is owner and drives these cars. He and his wife, Chryl, feel very passionate about reaching everyone with the good news. They make bags with biblically-inspirational items inside.

The way we help support this effort is by providing "The Life Book" to pack inside. These books are easy to understand and contain the Gospel of Mark. Through this partnership, we are, literally, putting the gospel in the hands of people.

This effort gives an opportunity for a challenge. How can you do things a little differently and reach others for Christ? If you would like to have some books to complete your mission, please get with a church leader to request them. We would be equally happy to partner with you.



UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

August 1, 4-8 pm:

Garrett Night Out/Back-to-School Bash

Houston St, Across from Eastside Park, in front of Garrett Middle School

August 25, After Worship

Board Meeting

Labor Day Weekend (Sunday), after worship:

Fireworks at Dayspring Community Church, CR 27, North of Auburn

September 22, 1 pm

Fair Ministry, **No regular Worship Service**

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

No birthdays or anniversaries this month

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, disciples and 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 is a church the **GLORIFIES GOD** by **CENTERING** our lives on **PRAYER**, living lives of **DISCIPLESHIP**, and **SHARING** the hope and of **JESUS** with the **WORLD**

The Gathering

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To Our Friends:

The Gathering
AUBURN, IN