Pastor’s Desk

Finding What You’re Not Looking For

By Rev. Jonathan Cornell

*The Kingdom of Heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.*

(Matthew 13:44)

Might I discover something profound in the messes? This is a question I often ponder while I’m standing over a sink of dirty dishes with little energy to finish the job. Maybe if I leave it ‘til morning, something of a revelation will come.

It’s not impossible.

Dr. Alexander Fleming was something of a slob. The Scottish biologist failed to clean up his lab in the basement of St. Mary’s Hospital in London before heading off on summer vacation in 1928. This was nothing new. He hated throwing out bacterial cultures until he had learned everything he possibly could.

But when he came back from his summer break, his overgrown Petri dishes yielded a discovery that changed the history of medicine. As Fleming gave his cultures a final glance before tossing them into the wastebasket, he noticed something.

“That’s funny,” he said, his voice trailing off.

A mold had contaminated one of the plates. Around the perimeter of the mold, there was a clear bacterial no-growth zone. Was it possible that the mold inhibited the growth of the bacteria?

It didn’t take long to identify the invasive fungus. It was a common growth called penicillium, the sort of mold that messes up your Wonder Bread when it’s been on the shelf too long. Fleming named the antibiotic component in the mold “penicillin.”

Fleming, who would have been known as “the really shy guy” at a conference of introverts, published a paper on what he discovered but never followed up with further research or attempts to spread the word.

*Please continue on page 2.*
**Finding What You’re Not Looking For** (con’t)

But World War II changed everything.

Myriads of soldiers who had survived firefights were succumbing to the infections that ravaged their wounds. Scientists, desperate to find a wonder drug, came across Fleming’s paper.

The rest is history.

In June 1942, there was only enough penicillin in the world to treat 10 patients. By the end of the war, 21 drug companies had joined forces to produce 650 billion units (that’s billion, with a B) every single month.

Fleming was honored with the Nobel Prize for Medicine in 1945. The Scottish biologist himself remained unfailingly humble. “One sometimes finds what one is not looking for.”

That’s reminiscent of Jesus’ parable of the buried treasure, where a fellow digging in a field makes the discovery of a lifetime. What should he do? He quickly sells everything he has in order to own the field that contains the treasure.

Most of us don’t wake up on yet another ordinary morning suspecting this will be the day we make the biggest discovery of our lives. Jesus suggests we ought to live with such anticipation and to act boldly when it’s in our power to steward a treasure that God has chosen to entrust to us.

So stay alert today. You never know what might turn up in that pile of dirty dishes.

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**Pastor Jonathan**

Email: jonathan@wabashpresbyterian.com

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**Birthdays:**

1st – Megan Frank
3rd – Lois Jones
4th – Katie Baer
5th – Dennis Gray
10th – Mildred Paullus
10th – Adam Zwiebel
16th – Judy Waggoner
19th – Emerson Zwiebel
19th – Erica Moore
22nd – Chloe Miller
24th – Amira Siddiqui
25th – Hank Decker
26th – Bryan Frank
28th – Julie Lavache
28th – Matt Brane

**Anniversaries:**

3rd – Don & Barb Maggart
3rd – Duke & Julie Lavache
10th – Bob & Issy Lewis
11th – Terrence & Kendall Hoover
12th – Pete & Susie Jones

Mildred Paullus will be turning 90 on August 10th.

Let’s celebrate her by showering her with birthday wishes! You can mail cards to 1441 Richmond Drive, Zionsville, IN 46077.
Loving people with the heart of Christ in the heart of Wabash

Feed Our Community
You are always encouraged to bring canned/dry goods for the FISH food pantry and drop them off in any of the boxes throughout the church. This month, we are collecting canned soup and rice.

Give Back to the Community
The Y-led Togetherness program of community service is scheduled for the afternoon of Sunday, August 28th. Contact the Wabash County YMCA for more information at 563-9622.

Preschool Registration
There are still openings available in our Preschool classes. Learn more online. Registration is available online or through the church office. The first day of class is Thursday, September 8th.

Mission Spotlight
Access Youth Center
Christ Centered, Youth Driven, Community Minded

The Access is a community youth center providing after school and weekend activities for all youth ages 8-18. Their goal is to provide a calm, consistent presence in the lives of local youth; serving as a reminder of God’s love for each of us. Each program they offer is free of charge due to the generous giving of various members of our community.

The Access Youth Center strives to maintain a safe, family-friendly environment accessible to every youth in our community ages 8-18. They are open daily Monday-Saturday providing after school and weekend activities, homework help, free snacks, and Bible studies. In addition, they provide an in-home visit program and host special events monthly.

Learn more, find ways to volunteer, or donate online at the Access Youth Center website: www.accessyouthcenter.org.

A Trip Down Memory Lane
On Sunday, September 11th during our Celebration Sunday service, we’ll open the time capsule that was planted in the church yard 25 years ago by the Bible School students of June 24-28, 1991. The following individuals were a part of that project. If you know any of them, please reach out to them and invite them to attend!

David Bickford
Michael Bickford
Ian Clark
Lindsay Clark
Kenny Crawford
Andrew DeMoss
Margaux DeMoss
Matthew DeMoss
Adam Desper
Maggie Early
Patrick Early
Jennifer Fisher
Katie Fisher
Amanda Foust
Erica Foust
Catherine Griffith
Whitney Haupert
Michael Kaltenmark
Jennifer King
Jeannette Leming
John Miller
Laura Miller
Ryan Shoemaker
Andrew Swanson

Teachers/Helpers
Corky Herbert
Keri Kerr
Diane Miller
Susie Swanson
Bev Trantum
# August Church Calendar

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<th>Sunday</th>
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<td>Sunday School (9am)</td>
<td>ROMEO Men’s Lunch (12:30pm @ Ugalde’s)</td>
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<td>Buildings &amp; Grounds (7pm)</td>
<td>Worship Team (7pm)</td>
<td>Book Study (11am)</td>
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<td>Sunday School (9am)</td>
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<td>Session (7pm)</td>
<td>Book Study (11am)</td>
<td>Tin Caps Game (leave at 5:15pm)</td>
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<td>Sunday School (9am)</td>
<td>Helping Hands</td>
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<td>Sunday School (9am)</td>
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<td>JULIET Women’s Breakfast (8am @ Ugalde’s)</td>
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*Loose Offering: Gas Vouchers

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Photo Credit: “Beach 1” by Travis Silva
**July Session Minutes**

- Need to repair/replace roof. Looking into ways to cover expense.

**Loose Offering | WPC’s Gas Voucher Program**

The loose cash that is collected on August 7th will help provide gas vouchers to those in our community who come to the church for aid. Give to this fund at any time by indicating “Gas Vouchers” on your offering.

**Quarter 2 Contribution Statements**

Contribution statements for January-June 2016 have been mailed. We strive for the utmost accuracy in our records. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

### Financial Report

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<th>June</th>
<th>Total 2016</th>
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<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td>$8,955</td>
<td>$133,435</td>
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<td>Expenses</td>
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<td>Balance</td>
<td>-$9,890</td>
<td>$1,930</td>
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God’s tithe and our offering support the ministry programs and outreach ministry of our congregation. May your faith lead your giving.

**You can now give online.** Use our secure site to set up recurring gifts (like pledges) or for one-time gifts (like paying for a Bible study book or supporting our Mission Partners). For more information, visit [www.wabashprebyterian.com/donate](http://www.wabashprebyterian.com/donate).

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**Worship & Connect**

**“Closing Ceremony” for VBX**

We’re hosting a special closing ceremony on the last night of VBX, complete with a Fun Run and closing cook-out, Friday, August 5th, 6:00-7:30pm. Everyone’s invited; volunteers welcome!

**A Night at the Ol’ Ballgame**

Friday, August 19th, come on “out to the ol’ ballgame.” Join us for a night at the Tin Caps Game. Tickets are $10 each. We will caravan from the parking lot leaving at 5:15pm. Please RSVP to the church office.

**Celebration Sunday**

Mark your calendar: Sunday, September 11th, 10am. We’ll open the time capsule planted 25 years ago.

**Serve**

**Caring for Our Kids: Safe Church Training**

Help our children feel safe and loved during their time with us. Children’s ministry volunteers, plan to attend one of the Safe Church Policy trainings, either Sunday, August 7th or Sunday, August 21st at 11:30am.

**Be a Mentor or Prayer Partner**

If you would like to impact a child’s life by being a mentor or prayer partner at OJ Neighbours Elementary School, contact Kari in the office to learn more.

**Share God’s Story with Our Little Ones**

We are looking for men and women to commit to being a Godly Play storyteller for three Sundays this school year. For more information, contact Kendall Hoover at 228-0957.

**Find Your Ministry**

Want to get more involved at WPC? We’d love to help you find a place to volunteer. Contact Kari or Jonathan at the church office to get started.
A Self-Guided Study from WPC
June-August 2016

August Challenges:

1. **Kids**
   
   Let your child create a picture of their church family with an envelope and some craft sticks! Help them identify specific people in the church they know and interact with. Ask them questions about what they like about their church family or things they’ve learned from people at church.

2. **Parents**
   
   Find a way to celebrate your family. Use your creativity here! Could be a special meal, family night/outing, photo album, video, or event.

3. **Extended Family**
   
   Invest in a parent/couple. Parents need to know the church is there for them. Find a way to encourage, support, or come alongside a parent or two in our congregation.

Learn more at www.wabashpresbyterian.com.

Follow us on Facebook for quotes, tips, and other tidbits throughout the summer.

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**Scripture Verse**

**Matthew 13:44 NLT**

The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure that a man discovered hidden in a field. In his excitement, he hid it again and sold everything he owned to get enough money to buy the field.

**Reflection:**

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**Prayer List**

Hope Unger
Mark Coppler
Carl Willmert
John Schultheiss
Carolyn Blitz
Judy Waggoner
Jakobe Wolf
Kay Caudill
Tina Easterday
Jennifer Maxwell
Bill Campbell
Teresa Bowman
Judy Lovellette
Kim Noland

Danika Landis
Heather Houlihan
Alison McAllister
Rita Alexander
Steve Snyder
Kevin Gerhart
Debbie Phillips
Ari Halderman
Jack Crosby
Jack Francis
Amy Turner
Mary Jane Garrison
Bill Skeans
Lois Smith
Nancy Chowning
Lois Dickinson
Mildred Paulus
Elmer Myers
Ron & Faith Rider
Mary Leland
Dessie Sturgeon
Connie Squires
Helen Shanks
Martha Helm
Katie Baer

**Have a prayer request?**

If you have a prayer request, please email Kari Lee Otto at office@wabashpresbyterian.com. Please respect the privacy of others and share their concerns only with their permission. You can also email Kari if you’d like to receive the weekly prayer list via email.
Can you imagine becoming king when you were eight years old? What second grader do you know who accepts responsibility for their own actions, let alone is ready to accept responsibility for an entire kingdom?

Intrigued as I am by Josiah’s early years as king, the moment that captures my attention is when he is 26. He instructs men to repair the Temple, and as they do so, they find a copy of God’s Law—something that has apparently been overlooked for decades, if not centuries. As Josiah hears God’s Words, he is broken with the realization that he and his people have not been following God’s ways and he tears his clothes in despair.

Have you ever been there? Ever felt crushed the weight of sin? Ever been afraid you’d never be able to get out from under it, never able to let it go and move forward? Live in that place for a moment. Cry out with David, “I am exhausted and completely crushed” (Psalm 38:8). It weighs on you, doesn’t it? Proverbs 18:14 says, “The human spirit can endure a sick body, but who can bear a crushed spirit?”

Yet listen to what God says: “I restore the crushed spirit of the humble and revive the courage of those with repentant hearts” (Isaiah 57:15).

Life giving words, aren’t they?

God did that for Josiah. Josiah was sorry and humbled himself before the Lord. He tore his clothing and wept before God in repentance. And God declares, “I have indeed heard you.” Then—and this is beautiful—Josiah renews the covenant with God, pledging to obey God with all of his heart and soul. He oversees complete reform in his kingdom, removing articles used to worship other gods, tearing down shrines, getting rid of mediums and idols. “Never before had there been a king like Josiah, who turned to the Lord with all his heart and soul and strength, obeying all the laws of Moses. And there has never been a king like him since” (2 Kings 23:25).

Please realize that God does not do this for everyone. Only those who are humble. Only those with repentant hearts. We must come before Him, grieved by our sin, ready to walk away from it and turn toward God (2 Corinthians 7:10).

But friends, if we do that, God graciously meets us in that place of brokenness and sorrow. He restores our crushed spirits and revives our courage.

Those moments we can’t breathe because we’re crying so hard? He calms our hearts and breathes His precious life-breath into us. Those moments we can’t imagine getting out of bed and facing everyone? He gives us new courage—His courage—to get up, look people in the eye, try again, make changes, and start over. Just like Josiah did.

Is that you? Are you crushed? Afraid? I invite you to come with a humble and repentant heart before our compassionate God. He is ready to restore your spirit and revive your courage. The only question is, will you let Him do so?
Wabash Presbyterian Church
123 West Hill Street
Wabash, IN 46992

Phone:
260-563-8881

Office Hours:
Mondays-Fridays
8:30am-12:30pm

Email:
office@wabashpresbyterian.com

Website:
www.wabashpresbyterian.com

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/wabashpresbyterian

Loving people with the heart of Christ in the heart of Wabash

**VBX | Eye on the Prize**

August 2nd-5th, kids Pre-K through 4th Grade are invited to experience God’s love for each of us and how he walks with us each step of our race. We will be learning stories about how Jesus runs with us, struggles with us, and carries us through to the finish line.

**Registration**
Registering early will help us plan ahead, but registrations will also be accepted day of VBX. To register, contact the office or see the brochures in the Fellowship Hall.

**Volunteers**
Want to help? We’ve got a place for you! Contact the church office for more information.