

April &
 May 2009

THE
MISSION



**If our pastoral staff can be
 of assistance please feel
 free to contact:**

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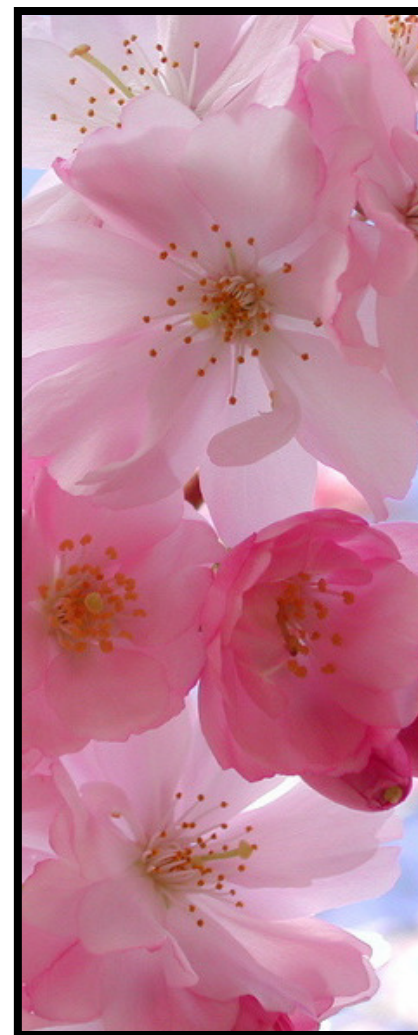
We exist to glorify God: building, equipping and sending
 believers to win people to Christ

Ministry Pants Seminar

“Ministry Pants” is a training opportunity for youth volunteers and senior high students. It will take place on April 18th from 9:00am to 3:00pm at Fairlane Alliance Church in Dearborn, Michigan. Designed for those who are seeking to learn how to minister to others, there is **no cost** for the event and lunch will be provided. A range of topics will be addressed during the seminar, including:

- utilizing online resources,
- games that engage students,
- counseling adolescents
- sharing an authentic Gospel
- connecting to the community to reach kids outside of your church

The trainers for the event will be Miguel Marti, Glen Merrell, Paul Irminger, and Brent Sickell. If you would like to attend the training event, contact Pastor Paul Irminger.



Why do we do short term missions trips?

Here are just seven reasons:

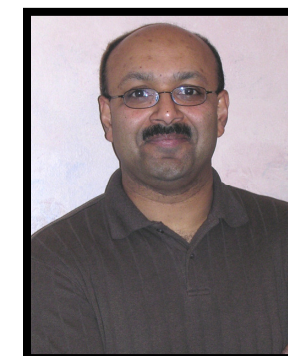
1. Experience – Short term missions is powerful to effect change in the lives of those going – for many people it is a tool used by God to call them to missions and/or full-time ministry.
2. Relationships – Building relationships with people from another culture who follow the same Lord takes us outside of ourselves to see the bigger picture. Also relationships established by the short-term missionary can help the missions work for the long term missionary and the church in the area.
3. Breaking down of barriers within the individual – trust barriers with God, learning barriers, prejudicial cultural barriers, etc. – the person who goes comes back changed, even if it is not immediately obvious on the outside.
4. Assisting the church and/or missionary (on location) with encouragement, and getting some work done – help with repairs, buildings, English classes etc.
5. Effect on the sending church – When the individuals return, a very high percentage get involved in ministry in the local church.
6. Missions giving - typically giving to missions increases after sending out a team.
7. Prayer Life – of the individual and the church - Praying for and helping those going on a short term trip, involves the local church directly in missions – because “one of our own” goes out.

There are more, but I think you get the idea....

Pastor Thomas



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Rev. Thomas George
 Senior Pastor

Children's Ministry: Reaching Out To The Youngest Generation

By: Pastor Dave

I attended a great conference at Westgate Chapel on Feb 27-28. Featured speaker was Phil Vischer of Veggie Tales fame. Phil's grandfather and other relatives were very instrumental in the early days of Westgate Chapel's existence. He shared his testimony and chronicled the rise and subsequent bankruptcy of Veggie Tales (Big Idea, Inc.). He says that when he got to the point that he didn't care if he ever wrote another children's story as long as he was where God wanted him, then God gave him some new creative ideas and he began again. Now he keeps things in perspective: God first and other things come after. His latest work is called Jellytelly.com, a subscription-based daily 20 minute program incorporating new characters similar to Veggie Tales.

While the conference reviewed various technological devices used by kids today and some innovative ways to use them, it was repeatedly pointed out that these are only tools and can never take the place of the live person/teacher who builds a relationship. A smile, a hug, a hand on the shoulder to say I care about you, cannot be done by Bob the Tomato (one of the characters voiced by Phil several times for our amusement). Nothing can replace the teacher!



I would recommend to those of you with elementary age children to look at jellytelly.com (\$3/month—daily 20 min programs and movies on Sat/Sun) and see if it would be something your family might like.

Also mentioned at the conference that a large mega church in Texas surveyed their 15,000 members to find out what additional Biblical training their children were receiving during the week, outside of church. They found that 90% were doing nothing beyond saying grace at meals. Children may have a tough time filtering all the school, media, TV, etc info presented to them, almost all of which portrays life without God at best and a blasphemous portrayal at worst, if all they have is 45 minutes a week in Sunday School. We have a Children's devotional available for grade-schoolers, that is produced by CBH Ministries out of Grand Rapids, MI. Let Pastor Dave know if you are interested.

Remember PAC has children's bulletins available from the ushers or on the welcome center each week. There are two age groups available: 3-6 and 7-12. They contain Bible games and activities.

Missions and Outreach

By: Pastor Dave

Sometimes in the busyness of ministering to the church body, we ask ourselves, "Am I actually making a difference?" Many times the change in a person's heart is not immediately obvious. We can trigger a response that takes years to come to fruition. It is encouraging when we hear, years later, that something said made a positive difference in someone's life. Scott Miser and his family (parents Dave and Lynn and sister Amanda) attended PAC in the 1980s and Scott, as a high-schooler, happened to sit in on an adult class discussing missions in South America. He says, "I have great memories of our several years there [PAC]... In fact, a specific memory I have is of being in a Sunday school class...and...the story of Bruchko and when he tried to walk out of the jungle and was so hungry he collapsed on the trail, being woken from his dream of having a butterfly fly into his mouth to find himself pulling out his tapeworm, who was coming out to look for food! That was enough to get me to read the book. Now I'm a missionary in S. America, but intentionally where there are a minimum of bugs and no snakes (but still plenty of parasites)!"

What we say does make a difference. "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." Gal 6:9

Scott and his wife, Lisa and daughter Natalie serve in Bolivia, SA with SIM, USA out of Charlotte, North Carolina. He graduated from Toledo Christian in 1990. Email: scottynlisa@gmail.com and blog: www.scottandlisa.blogspot.com



MAY 17TH 6:00 P.M. - SENIOR BANQUET

We will celebrate the journey that God has lead our students and their families on as they have grown from childhood to adults. Parents if you have a graduating senior please RSVP to Pastor Paul to confirm your families attendance. This year we have a great group of students who have been intimately connected to our church and they will be greatly missed. There will be many great moments to share as we look back on all that God has done. Mark your calendar to share the evening with us. The Senior banquet is open to any of the church family that would like to attend. Our graduating seniors are Daniel Mettert, Breck Overy, Matt Scherreik and J.D. Walbom.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

- April 5th: Students Spring Break - No Ekklectic
- April 8th: Students Spring Break - No Overflow
- April 12th: Easter Sunday - No Ekklectic
- May 10th: Mothers Day - No Ekklectic
- May 24th: Last Ekklectic of the School Year
- May 27th: Last Overflow of the School Year
- May 31st: Memorial Day Weekend - No Senior High
- June 7th: No Senior High
- June 14th: Collide Begins

