This past week, my family and I were able to enjoy some time away. After a family wedding in North Carolina, we spent 5 days in our nation’s capital, Washington, DC. This was the first time that Sheila and the boys had ever been there. It is a wonderful place to visit but with the traffic, I wouldn’t want to live there. The Metro is great – by the end of the week we were pros at it.

As we toured the city and the sites, I was struck by all the power that rests in this little House that has meetings taking place and decisions being made that we made never know that Sheila and the boys had ever been there. It is a wonderful place to visit but with the traffic, it. As we toured the city and the sites, I was struck by all the power that rests in this little House that has meetings taking place and decisions being made that we made never know that Sheila and the boys had ever been there. It is a wonderful place to visit but with the traffic, it.

I find it interesting that we were there just days after the Supreme Court ruled on DOMA and proposition 8. While there are many decisions made that we won’t know about, this was a decision that we do. I’m sure you have had some conversations about what the country is becoming. You may have shaken your head in disgust and you now might be looking down your nose at those who live and act differently than you.

Please understand that I am not in support of same-sex marriage. I believe it to be against what the Bible teaches. Clearly, God’s design for marriage was one man, with one woman, for a lifetime. However, just because I disagree with someone and their point of view or their lifestyle, doesn’t mean I get to choose to not like them. It’s okay to see things from different perspectives, to have a differing opinion. But it is not okay to not like the person.

So, how do we live in this country and in this world when decisions like this are coming down from the top of our government? I can think of 4 things that we need to do. 1. We did not take him by surprise. He still reigns and God is still sovereign. 2. We strengthen our marriages. The issue isn’t just same-sex marriage. The issue is how marriage all-together is changing under scrutiny and is being seen as outdated and not necessary. Part of the reason for that is how those of us who are married have lived out the institution. Husbands, be the godly husband God has called you to be. Wives, be the godly wife God desires for you. 3. We love the LGBT community. While we might think differently and live differently, our calling is still the same – we love people because they are God’s children, because he loves us in our ugliness. We can stand for what is right but let’s do it compassionately. 4. We share the gospel. No matter what the issue is, laws and legislation will not change people. Only Jesus changes people. Only Jesus transforms hearts. We who have Jesus are called to share him. That means we share him with everyone – even those who think and live differently.

In Him,
Pastor Steve
WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES FOR LADIES

Are you interested in participating in the next Ladies Bible Study?

Our next session will begin at Faith on Tuesday, August 27th at 9:30 am in Judson Hall. We will finish on November 12th.

I am looking for ladies to join this class and share an opportunity to fellowship together in a 12 week session. The material that I have chosen is "Embracing Forgiveness" by Nicole Johnson. It is a Women of Faith Study Guide Series. You will receive handouts for each week that we will work through together.

"Everyone makes mistakes. We all need forgiveness. We all need to be able to forgive others. And, perhaps even more difficult, we need to learn to forgive ourselves. Are you ready to know about forgiveness and embrace it in your own life? Join us as we learn all about God's amazing love, mercy, and forgiveness!" - Nicole Johnson

If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Cheryl Gump at 486-3967.

SARA’S SPOT

Teachers Meeting
Jesus and Me (JAM) teachers will have a kick-off meeting on Monday, July 29th at 10:00 am. Bring your ideas and get your schedule for another wonderful year.

Preschool
We are getting ready for a new school year. Soon you will see teachers in getting their classrooms ready and children enjoying their first in education experiences. Enrollment is going well and we are down to 4 openings left in most classrooms. If you have a friend or neighbor that has a need for “the best preschool in the whole wide world”, please have them call for a tour today.

Back to Sunday School Sunday
For all children 2 years old, 5 years old & 3rd grades attending Sunday School on August 25th, we will say good bye to our old classes and move up to our new ones. We will have a celebration time of donuts and juice and all will receive a special surprise. Now is the time to make Sunday School a priority as the children enjoy Bible lessons, singing, memory verses and crafts.

ARMY UPDATE

Congratulations to Pvt. Andrew Eichel, who graduated basic training last Thursday at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. For the second phase (AI) of training, Andy will remain at Fort Leonard Wood. Megan, Luke & Evelyn will join him following AI wherever he is stationed. He does not yet know where that will be. Andy would appreciate letters from home. His address is:

Pvt. Eichel, Andrew
C Co., 84th Chemical Bn
1st Plt. Class. 18, Unit 34
Fort Leonard Wood, MO 65473

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Senior Pastor
Pastor of Students
Director of Children’s Ministries
Administrative Assistant
Church Secretary

XYZ

XYZ Club members and friends should plan to attend the Thursday, August 8th, meeting of Faith Baptist Church. The meeting will start at 10:30 am. Mrs. Sara Heminger will be providing her great piano planning and Mr. Harold Johnson will be leading the group singing. Devotions will be presented. Mr. Jim Overholt will be directing the programs. The main program, “211 Activities”, will be presented by Ms. Joanne Fein. She will be presenting the features of the program which directs the questions, needs, and requests of the Fort Wayne residents to the correct city offices for rapid answers and solutions. This will be a very informative and educational program for all of us. The program is very helpful for all citizens who need help with city problems. At 12:00, the dinner tables will be ready. The Dinner Caters will have called all their members and reported the number of lunch guests to the church office so our chef, Mrs. Deborah Wight will know how much Swiss Steak to prepare. The club members will be bringing their “pot-luck dishes”. Cost for the lunch is “only” $2.00. As usual, all diners will enjoy the food, the fellowship and join in to help the Host and helpers clean up after the lunch. Club members, or any not called, who would like to attend the lunch, should call the church office, 485-1464, so the chef can plan for the correct number of diners. The meeting is open to everyone.

EARLY DETECTION IS THE KEY TO PREVENTION

Preventative health screenings can detect your risk for serious disease. LifeLine Screening has screened nearly 8 million Americans like yourself, using the latest in medical technology with painless and non-invasive tests and results reviewed by our staff of Board Certified physicians. Screenings include: Stroke/Carotid Artery, Arterial Blood Pressure, Autoimmune/Aortic Aneurysm, Peripheral Vascular Arterial Disease and Osteoporosis. Get any vascular screening done for $60 or all 5 for $159—a savings of $116. Call 1-877-792-8479. Screenings will be done at Faith Baptist Church—Fort Wayne on Wednesday, August 14, 2013.