

We are a church with one mission: to grow followers of Jesus through grateful worship, genuine community, and generous service to each other and our world. We believe by loving God and loving people we can have an impact that really matters, and would like to tell you more about that. If you are interested in being a part of what God is doing with us, or just have some questions, **fill out the contact card** or ask the person next to you. **Please feel free to call or email too if you have any questions.**

FAMILY NEWS AND NOTES

Indiana church of Christ
225 East Pike
Indiana, PA, 15701

E-mail:
indianacofc@gmail.com

Website:
indianapachurch.org

Evangelist
C J Moffett
985-807-7593

GOD'S FAMILY TIMES

BIBLE CLASSES
Building—9:30 am Sunday

WORSHIP
Building—10:30 am Sunday

GROWTH GROUPS
Suspended for the summer
To resume in September
Grose's -- 6 p.m. Sunday
Irwin's -- 6 p.m. Sunday

BIBLE CLASSES
Building—7 pm Wednesday

Family Picnic: TODAY after services at Blue Spruce Park; Pavilion 4 (on the right). Bring your favorite dish to share.

Congregational Meeting: Thursday September 7th at 7 p.m.

Family Covered Dish Dinner: Sunday September 10th after services

Don't forget to sign up for the "meet and greet" for Mayleen Niehenke

Haley Sistiki, Dave & Sharon Mack's granddaughter, is participating in a marathon with Team World Vision to raise funds to provide clean water for African communities. If you would like to donate please give your gift **directly** to Dave or Sharon by September 17th. Checks can be made payable to Indiana church of Christ.

Mary Fasanya is looking for work. So if you need any odd jobs done around your house and need some help please see Mary.

Please update your directories to include: Donna Shank, 133 Penn St, Clymer, PA, 15728 (419-989-5130) and Tony & Le (Lisa) Crouch, 128 General St, PO Box 92, Forbes Road, PA, 15633 (Tony:412-609-5112 & Le:412-609-9568)

Happy Birthday

8/29 Lois Tonkin

9/2 Dave Mack

9/7 Jeanette Bracken

9/9 Bob Reininger

9/12 Don Baker

Happy Anniversary

9/7 Ron & Sally Duriez

9/23 Chris & Mary Masterson

CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER

TS:

Family are now in North Africa. Pray for peace and protection, for spiritual and wants and for many connections with others God has called there. Pray for personal engagement into their new communities and for all the logistics that need to begin a new life in a foreign place.

FOR MARY FASANYA's asylum request to be granted and for the girls as they are in the USA

FAMILY MATTERS

Indiana

Church of Christ

724.463.7240

August 27, 2017

Self-Inflicted Wounds

By Dr. Stan Helton

Recently I was reminded of a Charlie-ism, a saying of the late Charles Siburt who had a knack of compressing a great amount of wisdom in a few pithy aphorisms. Since I did my Doctor of Ministry work under his leadership, I heard many of his sayings first-hand. One was "Most wounds are self-inflicted." And how true that is for leaders—at least, I can give testimony of this piece of wisdom.

I wondered if this might also be true of congregations. As I have coached and counseled churches and their leaders through the years, I have come to realize that getting churches to quit doing the counter-productive things was nearly as important as helping them do the right things. For example, if a church is not collecting basic information on visitors, then there can be no follow-up. Or if a church is not tracking individual attendance, then, they cannot be proactive in caring for people who are thinking about leaving.

While pondering the meaning of Charlie's statement, it occurred to me that Peter Wagner in his book *The Healthy Church* (Regal, 1996) gave a list of what he called "Church Diseases" and, as I noticed, most of them were self-inflicted. Here is Wagner's list with a quick explanation:

- **Ethnikitis** happens when a church finds itself in a changing neighborhood and refuses to adapt to serve the people who now live there.
- **Hypercooperation** happens when a church works harder to get along with other believers rather than focusing on God's mission.
- **Koinonitis** is the disease we experience when our local fellowship is too tight to let new people in.
- We suffer from **Sociological Strangulation** when the potential of growth is stifled by a lack of vision and leadership.