

Area IV in the spotlight

Comet staff report

Area IV Agency on the Aging and Community Action Programs was presented with one of seven Spotlight Awards from the Indiana Community Action Association. The awards are designed to recognize effective, replicable, collaborative and innovative practices of agency problem response.

The Area IV was awarded for a two-pronged solution created to help elderly and disabled individuals manage their finances, allowing them to remain independent.

The agency's Organizational Payee Program allows for clients with multiple and complex issues to have Money Management Program (MMP) staff manage

their social security payments to cover expenses for necessities and to avoid homelessness. Clients are also linked with other community resources and social service agencies.

Area IV's AARP Volunteer MMP, in collaboration with AARP and Indiana's Family and Social Service Administration, trains volunteers to ensure that at-risk clients' bills are paid on time.

Area IV Agency on the Aging and Community Action Programs is a nonprofit, social service organization dedicated to improving the quality of life of individuals, families and communities. It serves Benton, Carroll, Clinton, Fountain, Montgomery, Tippecanoe, Warren and White counties.



Are you free?

By Pastor Justin Wagner

I wonder, do we know what true freedom really is? Do we really know the source of true freedom? What is the object of our faith? Freedom does not mean we are not sitting in a jail cell. Many of us are in a jail cell spiritually and don't even know it. Many are in bondage to various types of addictions. Many people, and probably the majority, are bound by money or the love of it. Fore some, it is debt and for others it is anger, or sexual immorality, or religious rituals. May are in bondage to past hurts and failures. Whatever your case is, you can be free. God has a wonderful plan for you, and He desires for you to be filled with His love, joy, and peace and to be the person He created us to be. Freedom itself begins with

accepting Jesus Christ as your personal savior. From that point on, He should become the object of your faith. It all starts by accepting the truth about who Jesus is and who He says you are. I encourage you to read Eph. 1, Rom. 8:1, and I Cor. 1:1-2 for a starting point into your identity as a believer. It is not a matter of God loving you because He does. It is a matter of whether you believe it.

I trust this will inspire someone who does not have freedom. God loves you.

Justin Wagner is pastor at Pine Grove Missionary Baptist Church near Delphi.

Pray for our nation to seek God

In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? John 14:2 Pd. Adv.

FOCUS ON THE FAMILY

By Dr. James Dobson

What to say to an adopted child about biological parents



Dr. Dobson

QUESTION: *What should you tell an adopted child about his biological parents in "closed" adoption situations? How do you answer his tough questions about why he wasn't wanted, etc.?*

DR. DOBSON: I'll give you an answer written by Dr. Milton Levine in a vintage parenting book titled "Your Child From 2 to 5," and then I'll comment on his recommendation. Dr. Levine was associate professor of pediatrics at New York Hospital at the time. He listed three possible ways to tell an adopted child about his origin, as follows:

1. Tell the child his biological parents are dead.
2. State plainly that the biological parents were unable to care for him themselves.
3. Tell the child nothing is known about the biological parents, but that he was secured from an agency dedicated to finding good homes for babies.

Dr. Levine preferred the first approach: "The child who is told that his biological parents are dead is free to love the mother and father he lives with. He won't be tormented by a haunting obligation to search for his biological parents when he's grown."

He continued: "Since the possibility of losing one's parents is one of childhood's greatest fears, it is true that the youngster who is told that his biological parents are dead may feel that all parents including his second set are pretty permanent. Nevertheless, I feel that in the long run the child will find it easier to adjust to death than to abandonment. To tell a youngster that his parents gave him up because they were unable to take care for him is to present him with a complete rejection. He cannot comprehend the circumstances which might lead to such an act. But an unwholesome view of himself as an unwanted ob-

ject, not worth fighting to keep, might be established."

I disagree with Dr. Levine at this point. I am unwilling to lie to my child about anything, and would not tell him that his natural parents were dead if that were not true. Sooner or later, he will learn that he has been misled, which could undermine our relationship and bring the entire adoption story under suspicion.

Instead, I would be inclined to tell the child that very little is known about his biological parents. Several inoffensive and vague possibilities could be offered to him: "We can only guess at the reasons the man and woman could not raise you. They may have been extremely poor and were unable to give you the care you needed; or maybe the woman was sick; or she may not have had a home. We just don't know. But there is one thing we do know. She must have loved you very, very much — enough to give you life and to make sure you were raised in a loving home where you would be taken care of. We're so thankful that the Lord led her to let us raise you."

QUESTION: *I understand your emphasis on a child being taught to respect the authority of his or her parents, but doesn't that coin have two sides? Don't parents have an equal responsibility to show respect for their children?*

DR. DOBSON: They certainly do! The self-concept of a child is extremely fragile and must be handled with great care. A youngster should live in complete safety at home, never being belittled or embarrassed deliberately, never punished in front of friends, never ridiculed in a way that is hurtful. His strong feelings and requests, even if foolish, should be considered and responded to politely. He should feel that his parents

"really do care about me."

My point is that respect is the critical ingredient in all human relationships, and just as parents should insist on receiving it from their children, they are obligated to model it in return.

Send your questions to Dr. Dobson, c/o Focus on the Family, PO Box 444, Colorado Springs, CO 80903; or to his Web site at www.fottf.org. These questions and answers are excerpted from books authored by Dr. James Dobson and published by Tyndale House Publishers. Dr. Dobson is the founder and chairman of the board of Focus on the Family, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation of the home and Judeo-Christian values. Copyright 1997 James Dobson, Inc. All rights reserved. International copy secured.

DIRECTORY OF AREA CHURCHES

SS=Sunday School	SW=Sunday Worship
AMERICUS UNION NON-DENOMINATIONAL: Larry Williams, pastor. SW: 10 a.m.	FLORA FIRST CHRISTIAN (Disciples of Christ) S. Center Street, Flora. Sam Davenport, interim pastor. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:30 a.m.
BRINGHURST UNITED METHODIST: Larry DeVos, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.	FLORA GRACE BRETHREN: 103 S. Willow St., Flora. James Franklin, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m., Wed. Prayer Service: 7 p.m.
BROOKSTON CHURCH OF CHRIST: 206 N. Prairie Street, Brookston. Ron Guzman, minister. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.	FLORA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH: 211 S. Center St., Flora. Charles Compton, pastor. SW: 10:15 a.m.
BUCK CREEK UNITED METHODIST: 4915 Ferret St., Buck Creek. Dwight Monical, pastor. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10:15 a.m.	FLORA UNITED METHODIST: 107 E. Main Street, Flora. Larry DeVos, pastor. SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10:15 a.m.
BURLINGTON FIRST BRETHREN: 205 W. 8th St., Rev. Dr. Peter Rousakis, pastor. SW: 10:00 a.m., SS: 9:00 a.m.	FLORA VALLEY VIEW SOUTHERN BAPTIST: Route 2, Flora. Bill Godbey, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.
BURLINGTON CHURCH OF CHRIST: Tim Pohlman, pastor. SW: 9:30 a.m. & 6 p.m., Children's Church: 10 a.m., SS: 10:30 a.m., Youth Groups: 6 p.m.	GRACE MISSIONARY BAPTIST: 1101 Dreifers Ave., Delphi. Joe Whitehead, pastor. SS: 10 a.m. SW: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
BURLINGTON UNITED METHODIST: SS: 10:50 a.m., SW 9:30 a.m.	HICKORY GROVE CHURCH: CR 700 W., Jefferson Township, Ken Smith, pastor SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10 a.m.
BURNETTSTVILLE FIRST BAPTIST: Second & Main, Burnettsville. SW: 10:00 a.m., SS: 11:15 a.m.	HILLSIDE MISSIONARY BAPTIST: Hwy. 22, 2 miles E. of Burlington. Doyle Buckner, pastor. SS: 10 a.m., SW: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
BURNETTSTVILLE CHRISTIAN: Sixth & Washington, Burnettsville. John Wright, pastor. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:30 a.m.	IDAVILLE CHURCH OF GOD: 11073 E 50 N, Idaville. Chris Murphy, pastor. Mearl Hodges, asst. pastor. SW 8:30 & 10:30 a.m., SS: 9:30 a.m.
BURNETTSTVILLE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN: First & Main, Burnettsville. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:30 a.m.	LIVING FAITH CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN: 310N 250W. Jeff Tomson, pastor SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10 a.m.
BURROWS PRESBYTERIAN: SS: 11:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.	LIVING STONE CHURCH: Meets at the Freedom Center in Delphi. Stan Williams, pastor. SS: 11 a.m., SW: 9:30 a.m. contact (765) 589-3771
CALVARY CHAPEL CARROLL COUNTY: Wabash & Erie Canal Interpretive Center, Delphi. Eric Haley, pastor. SW: 10 a.m.	LOCKPORT NON-DENOMINATIONAL CHURCH: East of Patton. Nord Zootman, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m. Sun. Bible Study: 6:30 p.m.
CAMDEN UNITED METHODIST: Dan Gottschalk, pastor. SS: 9 - 9:45 a.m., SW: 10 a.m.	LOWER DEER CREEK CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN: CR 300 N, SE of Camden. Guy Studebaker, pastor. SW 10:15 a.m., SS: 9:00 a.m.
CLYMERS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH: 4003 W 400S. Clymers Kevin Drane, pastor. SW: 10:30 a.m. SS: Same as worship.	MT. ZION INDEPENDENT BAPTIST: 102 N. Connelly Street, Delphi. Alfred Smith, pastor. SS: 10:15 a.m., SW: 9 a.m., & 6 p.m.
COLBURN ROAD BAPTIST: Bill Cadle, pastor. SS: 10 a.m., SW: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.	OAK GROVE CHRISTIAN: 11810 N & 900 W, Monticello. Interim pastor, Don Arterburn. SW: 10 a.m.
COLBURN UNITED METHODIST: Kasey Schnepf, pastor. SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10:20 a.m.	PINE GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH: Crooked Road, 1 mile E of Delphi. Justin Wagner, pastor. SS: 10 a.m., SW: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
COMMUNITY BIBLE MINISTRIES: 1/2 mile north of SR 22 on CR 1150W. Patrick Kamm, pastor. SS: 9 a.m. SW: 10:15 a.m.	PITTSBURG MISSIONARY BAPTIST: John Wagner, pastor. SS: 10 a.m., SW: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m. Bible Study: Thurs. 6:30 p.m.
CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN: 3570 E 200S, Bringhurst, Dan C. Butcher, pastor. SW: 9:30 a.m. SS: 10:30 a.m. Youth group 6:30 p.m., Bible study Wed. 6:30 p.m.	PLEASANT HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH: 5490 North SR 39, Frankfort. Donna Enerson, pastor. SS: 9:45 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m. Everyone welcome.
CUTLER PRESBYTERIAN: SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.	PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN: Pastor. Howard Hendrickson SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10:15 a.m.
DEER CREEK UNITED PRESBYTERIAN: Highway 29 in Deer Creek. SW: 10:30 a.m. SS: 9:15 a.m.	RADNOR CHURCH: Ed Selvidge, pastor. SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10 a.m.
DELPHI CHRISTIAN CHURCH: 315 E. Main St., Delphi. Andrew Paris, minister. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:45 a.m. Wed. Bible study: 7 p.m.	ROCKFIELD CHRISTIAN: Bob Cree, pastor. SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10 a.m.
DELPHI CHURCH OF CHRIST: 405 Cottage Street, Delphi. Sunday Bible study: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 & 5 p.m., Wed. Night 7 p.m.	ROCKFIELD PRESBYTERIAN: SW: 9:30 a.m.
DELPHI COMMUNITY CHURCH OF GOD: 321 W. Main Street, Delphi. Rev. Virgil Moss. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.	ROSSVILLE BIBLE FELLOWSHIP: 16 Cason St., Judd Dickey, pastor. Sunday Corporate Prayer: 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship 9:30 a.m.; SW 10:00 a.m.
DELPHI PENTECOSTAL: Hwy. 25 East, Delphi. Tim Stewart, pastor. Thurs. night Bible Study: 7:30p.m., SS: 12:45 p.m., SW: 2 p.m.	ROSSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH: 5434 W State Rd 26, Rossville, IN. Bob McAulay, interim pastor SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10:20 a.m.
DELPHI UNITED METHODIST: Union & Monroe Streets, Delphi. SW: 8:45 & 11 a.m., SS: 10 a.m., Todd Ladd, pastor; Micah Hudson, youth pastor.	ROSSVILLE UNITED METHODIST: Main & Gaddis Streets, Rossville. Rick Jones, pastor. SS: 9:15 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.
EASTLAWN UNITED METHODIST: SR 24 & Logan Street, Idaville. Ernie D. Elder, Jr., Pastor. SW: 10 a.m., SS: 9 a.m.	SHARON AMERICAN BAPTIST: St. Rd. 29, Carrollton Township. James Lund, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.
DELPHI WESLEYAN: North Union Street, Delphi. Rich & Carol Sche-neck, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.	ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC: 207 N. Washington Street, Delphi. Peter Vanderkolk, pastor. SW: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
FIRST APOSTOLIC CHURCH: U.S. 421 North, Tippecanoe Township. Gilbert R. Ingram, pastor. SW: 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.	ST. MATTHEW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH: 1301 S. Washington St., Delphi. Dale Larson, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.
FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD: US 421N., Pittsburg. Brent Oliver, pastor. SW: 9:30 a.m. Wed. Family Night: 6:30pm, Adult & Youth Services Sun. Evenings 6pm.	ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN: Church & Cumberland Sts., Camden, 2 blocks West & 1 block North of SR218 and SR75. Dale Larson, pastor. SW: 8:30 a.m.. SS: Same as Worship.
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF CAMDEN: Paul Marcellino, interim-pastor. Tue. 9:30 a.m. Women's study, Wed. 6:30 p.m. WW, SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:45 a.m., Sun. Youth Service 5:30 p.m. Sun. Bible study: 7:30 p.m.	WHIRLWIND MINISTRIES: 869 N. 90 E., Burrows, Greg Britt, pastor. SW: 10 a.m. (574) 652-2280
FIRST BAPTIST: Indiana & Franklin Streets, Delphi. William Glenn, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.	YEOMAN UNITED METHODIST: Dave Inskeep, pastor, SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN: Main & Indiana Streets, Delphi. Rev. Bill McLean. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:30 a.m.	
FLORA FIRST BAPTIST: 115 W. Columbia Street, Flora. Interim pastors. SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10 a.m.	
FLORA FIRST BRETHREN: 115 N. Washington Street, Flora. Dan Herendeen, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.	

Lutheran churches to celebrate anniversary

St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 282 West Cumberland Street, Camden, will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the dedication of the sanctuary on Sunday. A service of worship with communion will be held at 8:30 a.m. using the rubrics and lessons for a church dedication and anniversary, which will be followed by a celebratory brunch at 10 a.m.

Joining in the festivities will be the neighboring congregation of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Delphi. The two congregations are presently served by the same pastor and have shared in an informal yolk-

ing of their ministries in that manner since 2000.

Persons from the church council, building and finance committees responsible for construction of the sanctuary will be recognized. Those who first participated in the rites of the church in this sanctuary; baptism, confirmation, marriage and burial, as well as those who most recently did so have been invited to participate as well in the spirit of a homecoming event.

Established in 1846, St. Peter's has been a part of Camden's downtown for 161 years, and at its present location since

1873. In 1966 the historic multistoried wood sanctuary was razed and construction began on the present contemporary brick structure. Windows and light fixtures from the previous sanctuary were incorporated into the present architecture and the church bell from its steeple received a place of honor and resumed calling people to worship in 1992.

St. Peter's is affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America which is comprised of over 11,000 congregations with 4.9 million members. The Lutheran Church began as a reformation move-

ment within the Roman Catholic Church of the 1500s, receiving its name from one of the principle leaders of that movement, Martin Luther. It is liturgical in its worship, employing a variety of styles from the traditional Catholic Mass to contemporary orders inspired by it.

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