

A Note from Evan ...

By the time you read this, many of you will have probably heard the news that I accepted a new job at Calvary Episcopal Church in Summit, NJ. I will serve there as organist and music director, overseeing and developing not only Calvary's choir, hand bell choir, and children's choir, but also playing the organ and enriching their worship with my musical talents and God-given vocation.

Moving to Indiana from Connecticut was one of the biggest transitions I ever made, and everyone at Speedway Christian Church helped make that as smooth as possible. The past four years here have been wonderful. From starting as the organist to taking over from Marge as music director, I couldn't have asked for a more welcoming congregation, staff, and clergy.

The choir has been wonderful to work with; I greatly appreciated how receptive they were to new rehearsal methods, new music, and how much the dynamic stayed the same after I took over as director. The bell choir may be shocked to learn I had very little experience with hand bells before starting this job, and I thank them all for helping me learn as much as I know now while leading them in music making. It was the best type of collaborative environment, and for that I'm grateful. Looking back over our performances this past year, I'm truly proud of all the work we accomplished.

The congregation has been equally wonderful. I know I've exposed you to a wider variety of music than previous organists, and I am so grateful for your willingness to listen to all different styles for the enrichment of worship. Over this past year, when we couldn't sing due to COVID, I hope my improvisations on hymn tunes brought those melodies to life in a way that spoke to some of you.

I am very glad that I stayed at Speedway long enough for some return to normalcy. I cannot tell you how happy I was to conduct the choir again and to resume playing hymns for everyone to sing as well. My dream has always been to return to the east coast and oversee a highly liturgical music program.

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A Note from Evan ...

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The job at Calvary has provided that opportunity, and God has opened a window that I would feel foolish for not climbing through. When I moved to Indiana, I initially planned to stay for only three years. Due to COVID, I stayed one year longer than that. At this new job, I will be less than two hours away from my family and able to participate in the musical scene in the greater New York City area, both things that I could not pass up.

I know you will welcome your next organist and music director as generously as you did me. I will cherish the time I worked at Speedway, and I will remember all of you fondly.

~ Evan Cogswell

Looking Ahead

Sunday July 11, 2021

- ◆ Evan Cogswell organ recital
4:00pm Church Sanctuary



Sunday, July 11, 2021

- ◆ Evan Cogswell final organ recital @ 4:00pm
- ◆ Farewell reception for Rev. Ron Degges and Evan Cogswell
Reception will follow immediately after one-hour organ recital. **(more information to follow)**

2021 Vacation Bible School

**Monday—July 12, Tuesday—July 13,
Wednesday—July 14**

(more information to follow)

Sunday August 1, 2021

- ◆ First Sunday for our new Senior Minister at SCC
Rev. Kyle Hunter
- ◆ Backpack blessing during worship services

Sunday August 8, 2021

- ◆ Fellowship Celebration to welcome our new Senior Minister, Kyle Hunter and family.

Please keep in Prayer

Betsy Enerson Teri Planalp
Sarah Clark (Anita Clark's granddaughter)
Greg Littrell (Deanna Beaver's brother)
Becky Patterson (Andrea Baetsle's sister)



Our Sympathy

To Brad and Andrea Baetsle upon the death of Brad's brother, August Baetsle, who passed away on May 23, 2021.

To the family of Ethyl Chambers, who passed away on June 1, 2021.



To Jack Realey and family upon the death of Pat Realey who passed away on May 19, 2021.

To Bev Katterhenry and family upon the death of Don Katterhenry who passed away on June 10, 2021.

Speedway Christian Church Stewardship/Finance Update

May 2021 Funds Received	\$ 24,629.10
May 2021 Expenses	\$ 27,209.57
May 2021 - Shortage	\$ 2,580.47

Another Way to Give.... The church is working to find ways to make giving more convenient. We have added Zelle, a **free** digital service, as an option for submitting your offering. You are able to use Zelle either through your personal bank or through the Zelle app to safely transfer money directly from your bank account to the SCC bank account. There is no fee involved, no postage needed, and it is totally secure and easy to use.

To submit your offering through Zelle, send to the email address wheller@speedwaychristian.org when prompted.

Interim Iterations

In Matthew 5, Jesus calls on his followers to be "salt of the earth . . ." [Matthew 5:13]. I believe that this congregation, its members and friends, can be salt of the earth by charting its direction into the future and making wise decisions. You have begun this journey into the future by calling a new Senior Minister to guide you.

I am aware that many congregations would rather do anything except make decisive decisions about their future. I have always counseled them that to not make decisions is to decide to leave your congregation open to the dual fates of whim and whimsy.

Inaction and hesitancy often paralyze congregations from moving into their future. So I encourage you to work with your new Senior Minister to lean on your strengths and strengthen your weaknesses. Socrates would tell you to "know yourself" as a congregation. Shakespeare would say, "to thine own self be true." Know what you do well, shore up your weaknesses, and be Jesus' salt of the earth here at Speedway.

There is a story about the concert violinist who had a brother who was a bricklayer. One day a person said, "It must be wonderful to be in a family with such a famous violinist." The person continued, "Of course we do not all have the same talents, and even in a family, some just seem to have more talent than others."

The bricklayer said, "Boy, are you telling me! That violinist brother of mine does not know a thing about laying bricks. And if he could not make some money playing that fiddle of his, he could not hire a guy with knowhow like mine to build a house. If he had to build a house himself he would be ruined."

As you begin a new chapter in your life here at Speedway, remember that if you want to build a house you do not want a violinist. If you are going to lead an Orchestra, you do not want a bricklayer. Continue to grapple with what God is calling you as a congregation to be and to do. As you figure this out, exercising the gifts you have and not the ones you wish you had, you will be able to build up this church to the glory of God, one decision at a time.

Decisively yours,

Ron

have **FAITH**
IN HIS timing



Retiring our Renovation Debt - the final sprint

As most of you know, Speedway Christian Church was renovated 20 years ago to make the building more modern, functional, accessible and attractive. Those are improvements we take for granted today.

To be good stewards of our money and reduce interest costs, we make loan payments twice a month and pay extra to reduce the principal from time to time. If we follow that pattern, we expect to pay off the loan at the end of this year.

As of the end of May, the renovation debt balance was down to \$46,676. We already have \$28,244 in the account we use to make payments. That leaves just a \$18,432 gap between our balance and what we already have in the debt payment account.

Now that we are SO close to paying off this debt, are you as members and friends interested in making a one-time additional contribution to pay off the renovation debt this summer?

All it would take is:

four people making a gift of \$4,608
five people making a gift of \$3,687
10 people making a gift of \$1,843
100 people giving \$184, or
any combination of the above.

You get the picture!

We are extremely thankful to everyone who has contributed to the renovation fund during the past 20 years. Wouldn't it be exciting to pay off the renovation debt before Rev. Hunter's arrival?

Throughout the renovation fundraising, we have encouraged members to think and pray about the amount they would like to give. If you decide to make an extra payment to get us to the finish, please write a check or send money by bank transfer or Zelle. As always, please indicate the funds are designated for the renovation debt. If you have questions, contact Wilma Heller or Michi Yochum.



from Katie....

Worship & Wonder and Sunday School

- **Worship and Wonder has resumed!**
All children ages 4 – 2nd grade are welcome to join us!
- Our nursery and toddler room is open and childcare is available during worship services and Sunday School.
- **Children's Sunday School is now in-person at 9:15am.** Sunday school will be a hybrid model, so children can participate both in person and over Zoom (using a link you can find in our weekly update email).

Church Camp

Church camp season is upon us! We are so excited, especially because we were not able to go to camp last year! This year's theme will be, **"Creation Speaks!"**



Church Camp

All information regarding camp, including prices, dates, COVID safety protocols, and how to register can be found at our region's website, www.indianadisciples.org.

Speedway Christian Church will pay half of your camp fee; however, if you need further assistance, please do not hesitate to ask. Everyone who wants to go to camp will be able to go. Contact Katie for more information at kggriffin@speedwaychristian.org.



Speedway Christian Church
5110 West 14th Street
Speedway, Indiana 46224

Lunch & Learn

Please join Ron or Katie each Monday at noon in the Bethany Room as they lead a study of the scripture that will be the focus of the sermons for the upcoming Sunday.



Become A Hosts Mentor

Become involved in an outreach of Speedway Christian Church. As a Premier Partner with Wayne Township Schools, Speedway Christian Church is building a community connection that benefits children.

Your commitment of only 1 hour a week can "make a difference" in the life of a child. Research shows that students who can read well by the time they are in third grade are more likely to graduate and become successful, productive citizens!



Finally, mentoring is a very rewarding experience. To better understand that experience just ask Sandy Hostrawser, Rich Hoerger, Linda Walthall, or Kris and Bill Workman about the program. Call 317-988-8675 for HOSTS information or if Roby Elementary is a school you would like to HOST at, call Holly Hintz at 317-988-6034.

~ World Outreach

There will be no Official Board Meeting in July. The next meeting will be Tuesday, August 10, 2021.

Vacation Bible School is happening soon!

Join us the evenings of **July 12 - 14** for "Discovery on Adventure Island". Register using this link: <https://www.signupforms.com/registrations/26447>. We

will embark on a variety of explorations, discovering how God's light shines in both our lives and the lives of our neighbors and friends. Details on registration will follow. Volunteers are very much needed! You could lead craft time, assist in registration, decorate the church, etc.

Contact Rev. Katie if you feel a call to serve with our VBS children. "Arise! Shine! Our light has come, the Lord's glory has shown upon you." - Isaiah 60:1



Have you considered Speedway Christian Church in your will?

