Word to the Wives

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written: “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.” Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength. 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Our “March Madness”

This year it includes a couple of weeks off for your husband, maybe a school break coming up for the kids. Perhaps a long weekend home with your family just over the horizon. Ham and Hot Cross Buns and Easter eggs. This year. And maybe next year or another year or two. But soon enough, in years to come, it’ll be a March Madness of your own.

While most of the church celebrates Lent, Holy Week, and Easter with quiet reverence, devotion, and peace followed by jubilation and alleluias—and while much of the world celebrates the same season with NCAA basketball—a pastor and his family do this time a little differently. He’s working longer days, later nights...
(still got all the regular pastor stuff to do, plus the extra services). That means you’ll have more quick dinners, conversations cut a bit short, and maybe have to postpone your date night till sanity returns. Hurry. Sometimes frantic. Madness. And potential frustration.

The truth is, this whole season seems like madness. Isn’t that what Paul said? “The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing.” Jesus, hanging limp and helpless and bloody and ugly on the cross does look like foolishness, madness. Not worth celebrating! Not worth disrupting life.

Except that Christ crucified is also “the power of God and the wisdom of God” to save us. It’s the only reason we have a life to disrupt, for apart from Jesus’ death, we’d have not only eternal suffering, but not another day to spend with husband and children here. Yes, it’s a burden to support the one who proclaims this to the flock, but what an honor! In the midst of the madness, you’re chosen by God to help see that God’s wisdom is heard. And the message the flock hears is also for you: the foolishness, the madness, of these days, Christ on the cross, does mean that alleluias and celebration await you for more than the years to come.

Dr. Carl Fickenscher
Associate Professor of Pastoral Ministry and Missions
Dean of Pastoral Education and Certification
The role of The Pastor’s Wife as I see it...

Lora Horn {rebelliouspastorswife.blogspot.com}

Very few other careers involve the general public knowing and caring about where your family lives and what happens in their lives...celebrities and big time politicians are the only people that come to mind. I don’t even know if my doctor HAS a wife. I don’t know if the policeman that pulled me over several months ago has kids, let alone who they are and where they live. For a woman who grew up with a six foot block wall around her house and an unlisted phone number, this can leave me feeling simply vulnerable.

I am an introvert. I am somewhat shy and I am uncomfortable in large groups. A key personality trait of introverts is that they are drained by social interaction. They can enjoy it…but afterwards, they need time alone to build up their energy again. I do well with interaction with only a few people at a time. I love my congregation...just not all at once. Some people get energized by serving and interacting with others. I don’t. I enjoy it at times, but it leaves me depleted. I need to be aware of this...because if I overdo it, I get cranky, depressed, and mentally disorganized, and I can’t meet my family’s needs. That is more important.

The daily process of being a pastor’s wife, in and of itself, is awkward. I always say the part that bugs me the most is the ontogeny of it; the very fact that 140 people actually know where I live...bothers me.
I am also a rather emotional woman with two rather emotional children. There are Sundays where we wake up and it is clear that it just isn’t worth it. I don’t make my children go to church because they are the pastor’s kids. Somewhere I did right, because they love church.

I also don’t go to church just because I am the pastor’s wife and I should be there. If I find when I wake up, that I am searching for clean clothes not because I want to hear God’s Word and receive His forgiveness, but only because I am the pastor’s wife, then I don’t go. I have learned that it is a sign that I am overwhelmed by it all and if I push myself, it is not going to get better. I pray for God’s forgiveness that on those days, His Word is not enough to get me there. The burden is far too heavy for me, so I give it to Him.

One thing that brings me comfort is the whole idea of vocation. God has given me certain tasks to do in life. I am a Christian, a wife, a mother, a homeschooler, a part-time social worker, a friend. Notice, I did not say that I am a “pastor’s wife” or “in the ministry.”

The man that I am married to has received a Divine Call to provide care to this congregation by preaching The Word and administering the Sacraments and using these tools to forgive people, guide them, heal their wounds and admonish them. He is to love them as Christ loves them. I happen to be married to him.

So where do I fit in? I’m his wife. I love him, raise his children and try to provide a safe (though nowhere near neat) home. I rejoice in his love and honor and respect him. My relationship to the congregation? I’m a member. The things that I do in the congregation, I do because I am a child of God and I feel that God has given me gifts in certain areas so that I can serve there. However, I am serving God just as much in my home by raising good Christian children, as I am by serving on any committee—even more so.

I am a wife and a mother—these vocations come first. These roles are sacred and were given to me by God. I am also a mother who has taken the responsibility of educating her children upon herself. That requires a certain amount of time and energy. It also means that I don’t have free time during the day. Emotionally, it also means that if I do have free time in the evening, it is often best used to take care of myself, so that I have something to give to my family (VBS? That’s the ONE week I have off. No, I’m not teaching! Sunday School? No. I need to grow and learn. I teach...
through the week. Right now, I do Altar Guild and sing in the choir, that’s pretty much it).

Just because my husband is called to serve a congregation doesn’t mean that I have an obligation to fill any particular role. In this, I am not his partner. He is called. I am not. I am his helpmeet, to be sure, but I am not a co-pastor or a ministry partner. I am there to love him, listen to him, and be his friend. This takes a HUGE weight off my shoulders.

A professor at the seminary once said that a pastor’s wife shouldn’t do a lot in the congregation. First of all, there are very few things that the pastor’s wife can do, that it would be better for people in the congregation to do. The more the church members serve their congregation, the stronger the church. There might be someone else who could actually grow in their role in the church if they fulfill the role that I might be swallowing up just because “I’m the pastor’s wife and I can do everything!” If my husband ends up being called elsewhere, the church will be left weaker, because then they are left with a hole where his role was...not to mention the one that the pastor’s wife also filled. I’ve always clung to that (even if only as a defense mechanism!).

Does it make it easy? I wish I could say it did. Because I always know that others have certain expectations of me, and they don’t necessarily see it the way that I do. They can be hurtful or distant in their expression of those expectations. In certain situations, this can be very painful. However, I also sometimes see other pastors wives busting their butts into non-existence and their husbands’ flocks still aren’t happy with them...so at least I’m at the same place without being completely overwhelmed with church duties.

One pastor’s wife mentioned having her guard up against the congregation. At times, I think this is a good idea.

Just because my husband is called to serve a congregation doesn’t mean that I have an obligation to fill any particular role... The more the church members serve their congregation, the stronger the church.
I heard a theologian speak on forgiveness once who pointed out that forgiveness does not mean being stupid. If someone is repeatedly nosy, harsh, or otherwise, it does not mean that you leave yourself vulnerable to them, or expect them to be otherwise. Knowing this can happen at anytime is being as smart as a serpent, in my opinion. However, knowing this also can leave me with my guard up at times it shouldn’t be, and then I am not open to the beauty in the people that I worship with. I make it a point to pray for the people that I worship with. In my church, since each person goes up to the communion rail, I find that as I see them, it is easy for me to pray for them and what is going on in their lives (if I know...if not, I leave it up to God. He knows) and I thank God for them. When I do this, I find I am more open to each person individually, and I am giving the future over to God. There are definitely days where I am brought to tears by this life and that I wish that my husband would find something else. Then I remember the souls that have been brought to faith because of him. I see how much he cares for his flock. I listen to him preaching in the pulpit...and I can't imagine him doing anything else; and until the next storm, I am comforted.

Serve because you want to, not because of whom you married. Love and respect your husband—that is your role.

These are the things that I do to make it manageable. Being a “pastor’s wife” doesn’t mean that you have a title and a role to fill. It doesn’t mean that the congregation has any unique claim on your time and your energies. Serve because you want to, not because of who you married. Love and respect your husband—that is your role.
When our military men and women serve on our behalf, they often rely on the silent soldiers back home—those friends and family members who support, comfort, pray, and encourage them, many times in quiet and unknown ways. Some people have referred to a pastor’s wife as the pastor’s silent soldier.

What could I do as a silent soldier for my pastor husband?

I asked twenty wives, each of whom have been a pastor’s wife for more than a decade, about being the “silent soldier.” Their responses are condensed in the following pages.
Prayer. Are you praying for your husband? Are you praying for his spiritual needs? Are you praying for those he ministers to? Are you praying for your marriage? Are you praying for the spiritual lives of your children and grandchildren? Are you praying for the spiritual lives of those that they are dating or married to? Are you praying for your spiritual life? Are you praying with your husband? Praying together isn’t a substitute for personal and family devotions, it is a supplement.

Girl Friends. Do you have fellow sisters in Christ with whom you can share? You want to be as well and strong emotionally as possible. Sometimes that means you need special sisters in Christ. These wonderful friends allow you the freedom to express your concerns and joys as well as sharing household, fashion, meal planning, child raising questions, etc. Such friendships allow you not to burden your husband with things that are perhaps better addressed by sisters in Christ.

Set boundaries. Protect family time. Take needed breaks. Honor the Sabbath. Make time for your husband and children. 

Examine your heart. Each person either focuses on the things of this world or the things of God. Your focus determines where your real love is. All of your values and actions will also reflect where your heart truly is. Your congregation and even the world will assume that both you and your pastor husband are focused on spiritual things. Sadly, this is not always the case. If you are not focused on spiritual things and your husband is; not only will you experience constant conflict, you will not be supportive of your husband and his calling. Every opportunity you have, you will challenge his work, his vocation, his commitment, etc. You will resent the time your husband spends preparing his sermons, ministering to congregational members, etc.

Make decisions together. Especially large financial ones.

Gossip control. Are you controlling your tongue? Are you controlling the spread of gossip? Are you keeping confidences? Are you putting the best construction on everything? Are you defending others?

Be true to yourself. Know your strengths and weaknesses. Embrace your strengths and understand your limits. You can not do everything and you can not do everything well. Volunteer for only those things you feel you have the ability to do. Give yourself permission to say, “No.”

Do not let your adornment be merely outward; arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel; rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God. For this is the way the holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to make themselves beautiful.

1 Peter 3:3-5
The Ordination vow.
Reread the rite of ordination often. Individually and as a couple. Remind one another of the promises made. Pray for wisdom and strength to fulfill those vows.

Simplify your life and belongings. Many of the wives commented that they learned this way too late. Take a minimalist approach. This makes housekeeping easier. It makes entertaining easier. Having a list of easy and inexpensive favorite recipes handy and the ingredients on hand is a true life and time saver. Having meals in the freezer relieves meal time stress. Physical clutter has a way of destroying the peaceful atmosphere in your own home. Less is more.

Humor and Laughter. Find both daily.

Physical Wellness. Are you exercising? Are you watching your weight? By maintaining your health, you are building up your endurance. This makes it possible for you to have the needed energy for unexpected events, full calendar weeks, etc. As many of us know, ministry often is filled with the unexpected. Proper exercise and nutrition also help you manage stress.

Modesty. Exhibit modesty in all areas of your life.

Hobbies. Do you have activities or crafts that allow you to express your talents? Things that provide you satisfaction, pleasure? Hobbies can be beneficial in restoring balance and harmony in your life. Hobbies provide you with an outlet for your need to create. Hobbies often can provide a new circle of friends. Hobbies will help you relieve stress.

As you can see, these responses are very similar to those of any Christian wife. Many of them emphasized the need for balance. Are you giving the needed time and attention to all areas of your life? Namely, are the main areas of your life being addressed: spiritual, physical, marital, familial, vocational, financial, recreational, social, mental, and emotional?

Life is ever-changing and we must continually adapt to those changes. Being calm, supportive, content—and most of all, deeply rooted in God’s Word—is one of the best ways to be a silent soldier.

Marsha Zimmerman
Relocation Coordinator

Student Wives Association Newsletter
March/April 2011
Spiritual Gifts

God has made each one of us unique and special. He has blessed each of us with special talents and abilities. Sometimes, others recognize our gifts more easily than we do. To help identify some of your God-given talents and abilities, complete the following survey.

Survey

Number a sheet of paper from 1-78. Read each of the following statements. As you read, put a check mark next to the statements that you definitely agree describe you. Once you have completed the survey, use the key to see what special gifts you possess.

Each of these statements were gleaned from several surveys.

☐ 1. People come to me when they need help and I am able to direct them to a source that can help
☐ 2. I enjoy using my artistic talents to make things that bring glory to God
☐ 3. I have spoken words of hope to others
☐ 4. I am attracted to non-believers because of my desire to share the gospel with them
☐ 5. I have urged others to seek Biblical solutions to their affliction or suffering
☐ 6. I can give sacrificially because I know that God will meet my needs
☐ 7. When I serve the Lord, I really don’t care who gets the credit
☐ 8. Our home is always open to whomever God brings to us
☐ 9. I find myself praying when I could be doing other things
☐ 10. Others follow my guidance to accomplish tasks around church
☐ 11. I feel great compassion for the problems of others
☐ 12. I am able to relate well to people of different cultures
☐ 13. Christian music and hymns always lift my spirit
☐ 14. I have a heart to help Christians who have lost their way
☐ 15. I choose to live a simple lifestyle so I will have more time and money to devote to God’s service
☐ 16. Studying the Bible and sharing insights with others is very satisfying to me
☐ 17. I have felt an unusual presence of God and personal confidence when important decisions have to be made
☐ 18. Sometimes I feel I can best express my faith by writing prayers or devotions

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 4:10-11
Spiritual Gifts Survey (page 2 of 3)

☐ 19. I have been responsible for guiding tasks in my church from conception to completion

☐ 20. I like to make gifts for others

☐ 21. It is a joy to speak uplifting words to people who are discouraged

☐ 22. I am comfortable sharing the Gospel with those I do not know

☐ 23. I find that I can comfortably challenge others in their faith

☐ 24. God has used me to meet someone’s financial or material needs

☐ 25. My faith leads me to do willingly do simple acts of kindness for others

☐ 26. I enjoy greeting and welcoming people to our church or our home

☐ 27. I am delighted to pray for others

☐ 28. I am able to delegate tasks to others

☐ 29. I have a desire to work with those who have physical or mental problems

☐ 30. I would be willing to leave comfortable surroundings if it would enable me to share Christ with more people

☐ 31. Singing or playing hymns is satisfying to me

☐ 32. My desire for spiritual riches always outweighs my desire for money or material possessions

☐ 33. People have told me that I have helped them learn Biblical truths

☐ 34. Sometimes God gives me a clear insight into the proper course of actions others should take

☐ 35. I am able to take complex spiritual truths and write them down in a way that others can easily understand

☐ 36. I can serve others by organizing and harnessing their gifts to solve a particular problem

☐ 37. I like to work with my hands

☐ 38. I can effectively motivate people to get involved

☐ 39. People accept correction from me

☐ 40. I have been willing to maintain a lower standard of living in order to benefit God’s work

☐ 41. I have enjoyed doing routine tasks that have led to more effective ministry by others

☐ 42. I try to make everyone feel welcome and comfortable at church suppers or social events

☐ 43. When I hear a prayer request, I pray for that need for several days at least

☐ 44. God has given me the ability to “rally the troops” in giving aid to others

☐ 45. I enjoy spending time with a lonely shut-in

☐ 46. The thought of beginning a new church in a new community is exciting to me

☐ 47. I feel the need to protect new or weak Christians from dangerous influences

☐ 48. Owning a large home, a fancy car, or having a huge bank account is not important to me
49. There are times when I have a burning desire to speak God’s work even when I know I will not be well received

50. Teaching a Bible class or leading a Bible study is some of the most enjoyable tasks I have done

51. When a person has a problem, I can frequently guide him or her to a Biblical solution

52. I love to study God’s word and write down what I have learned

53. I can recognize talents and gifts in others and find ways to use them

54. I am able to express my faith and thanksgiving through my artwork

55. I have verbally given confidence and hope to those that are troubled or discouraged

56. I am ready to leave my comfort zone and try the impossible because I know God is with me

57. I willingly give money to specific causes and ministries

58. I would rather work in secret than have my work publicly acknowledged

59. I do NOT feel uncomfortable when people drop in unexpectedly

60. Saying prayers for others is very easy for me

61. I love inspiring others to a greater involvement in church

62. I enjoy visiting people in nursing homes and hospitals

63. I have a strong desire to see peoples of other countries brought to Christ

64. I am NOT jealous of those who have more material possessions than I do

65. I willingly devote considerable time to studying the Bible in order to share its truths with others

66. Given a difficult situation, I have good insight into selecting the best alternative

67. Others have told me that my writings have touched them

68. People sometimes look to me for guidance in organizing and coordinating things

69. People who are perplexed sometimes come to me for comfort

70. I strive to find ways to give to others without calling attention to myself

71. When someone is facing a serious crisis, I take the opportunity to help them

72. When people come to our home, they often say they feel at home with us

73. People from different cultures and races often reach out to me

74. I enjoy using my musical talents

75. The Lord has given me the ability to share spiritual truths in ways that others can easily understand.

76. I feel I can best fulfill God’s calling in my life by living simply

77. People with spiritual problems seem to come to me for advice and counsel

78. I sometimes prefer to write down my thoughts about God rather than speaking them out loud
Spiritual Gifts Key

If you have a check mark beside the number, see what corresponding talent/gift that behavior/response indicates.

1. Administration
2. Craftsmanship
3. Encouragement
4. Evangelism
5. Guidance
6. Giving
7. Service
8. Hospitality
9. Prayer
10. Leadership
11. Mercy/Compassion
12. Outreach
13. Music
14. Shepherding
15. Sharing
16. Teaching
17. Wisdom
18. Writing
19. Administration
20. Craftsmanship
21. Encouragement
22. Evangelism
23. Guidance
24. Giving
25. Service
26. Hospitality
27. Prayer
28. Leadership
29. Mercy/Compassion
30. Outreach
31. Music
32. Giving
33. Teaching
34. Wisdom
35. Writing
36. Administration
37. Craftsmanship
38. Encouragement
39. Guidance
40. Giving
41. Service
42. Hospitality
43. Prayer
44. Leadership
45. Mercy/Compassion
46. Outreach
47. Shepherding
48. Giving
49. Shepherding
50. Teaching
51. Wisdom
52. Writing
53. Administration
54. Craftsmanship
55. Encouragement
56. Outreach
57. Giving
58. Service
59. Hospitality
60. Prayer
61. Leadership
62. Mercy/Compassion
63. Outreach
64. Giving
65. Teaching
66. Wisdom
67. Writing
68. Administration
69. Encouragement
70. Giving
71. Service
72. Hospitality
73. Outreach
74. Music
75. Shepherding
76. Giving
77. Wisdom
78. Writing
Upcoming Campus Events

**Pickup Soccer (co-ed)**  
Mondays, 6 pm  
CTS Soccer Field  
Everyone is welcome—no experience needed. For more information contact Sean Kilgo at Sean.Kilgo@ctsfw.edu.

**Seminary Playdate**  
Tuesdays, 1 pm  
CTS Student Commons  
Tuesday afternoons various seminary families meet at the commons on campus for fun and socialization. We would love to have you join us!

**Pickup Softball (co-ed)**  
Thursdays, 6 pm  
CTS Softball Field  
All CTSFW students and their wives are invited. Bring your own mitt and water!

**Understanding Lutheran Hymnody: Wives Class by Kantor Richard Resch**  
Tue. April 12, 7 pm - 9 pm  
CTS Loewe Hall, L-5  
Cost .................. $4  
Registration is available on-site prior to the start of class see Carol Bratton in the Administration Building.

**Talent Show & Fundraiser**  
Fri. April 15  
Dinner @ 5:45 pm  
Talent Show @ 6:30 pm  
CTS Sihler Auditorium  
All CTS students, staff, faculty, spouses and children are invited to showcase their talents to raise money for Hands of Mercy Sudan! All ages, voices, and costumes are welcome. Brats and beans will be served the night of the show. For more information please contact Isaac Schuller at schulleris@ctsfw.edu.  
**Admission .................. $2**

**SWA Coffee & Conversation**  
Tue. April 26, 7 pm - 9 pm  
CTS Luther Hall

**Campus-wide Cook-Out**  
Fri. April 29, 4:30 pm - 6 pm  
CTS Student Commons  
Good bye snow! Join us outside the Student Commons for burgers and brats. Please bring your favorite side dish to share.  
*Hosted by CTS Student Association.*

**Placement Services**

**Vicarage Placement / Deaconess Internship Assignment Service**  
Mon. May 2, 7 pm  
CTS Kramer Chapel

**Candidate Call Service**  
Tue. May 3, 7 pm  
CTS Kramer Chapel

**Deaconess Placement Service**  
Thu. May 19, 10 am  
CTS Kramer Chapel  
For those unable to attend, services will be broadcast live via Webcast at [www.ctsfw.edu > Placement Services > Watch Live!](http://www.ctsfw.edu) Links will be active 30 minutes prior to each service.

**SWA Champagne Farewell**  
Tue. May 10, 7 pm - 9 pm  
CTS Katie Luther Dining Hall Mezzanine  
All wives are invited to come and honor the wives who will not be returning next year. Appetizers and beverages will be provided. Attire will be Sunday dress. Look for your invitation soon in your campus mailbox!  
*No childcare provided.*
Upcoming Community Events

Local Shutterbugs 2011 Photography Show & Sale
Sat. April 9, Noon - 5 pm
Franke Park Pavilion #1
3411 Sherman Boulevard

Amateur photographers from the Fort Wayne area will display and sell their best work. Vote for your favorite in the “Best of Show” contest while you browse through the displays. If you would like to display photos of your own, please call Renee Baines at 427-6005 by March 23 for fees and other information.

Admission ............ FREE

Vera Bradley Outlet Sale
April 13 - 17
Memorial Coliseum
4000 Parnell Avenue

Join your friends and neighbors at the annual Vera Bradley Outlet Sale! The Vera Bradley Outlet Sale features incredible savings of up to 75% off of retail prices on retired and seconds handbags, travel items and accessories. A wide selection of colors and styles will be available throughout the event. For additional information, please visit www.verabradley.com.

Cost .................. FREE

Craft Cafe
Thu. April 14, 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Allen County Public Library
900 Library Plaza (downtown)
Meeting Room B

Want to get crafty? Bring your project to the library and enjoy crafting, coffee and conversation. All crafters and projects are welcome: scrapbooking, crocheting, beading, paper arts—anything creative! For more information, contact the ACPL Art, Music & Media department by calling 260-421-1210 or emailing amv@acpl.info.

Craft Cafe meets the second Thursday of each month.

FWMoA Chalk Walk
Online Sign-up by April 15
www.fwmoa.org/section/53/Chalk-Walk

FWMoA Chalk Walk is based on an Italian tradition of street painting that dates to the 16th century, known as i madonnari (street painters). Using pastels, artists may choose to reproduce existing artworks or create their own. As part of the Three Rivers Festival, Chalk Walk is truly a community event and will draw on the amazing talents of area, regional and national artists. Individuals and families with no training in art are welcome. Squares will be assigned to members first and then on a first come, first serve basis.

Event Type: Genealogy
Fri. April 15, 2:30 pm - 3:30 PM
Allen County Public Library
900 Library Plaza (downtown)
Globe Room

Kay Spears presents basic techniques for restoring those old family photographs by using Adobe Photoshop. Please register by email at genealogy@acpl.info or call Delia Bourne at 260-421-1225 (space is limited).

Over 250 toddler activities to do at home!
www.toddlerstoddler.com/archivedactivities.htm
Upcoming Community Events (cont.)

"Appleseed"
April 16-17, 2 pm
Arts United Center
303 E Main Street

A celebration of one of our most beloved local legends—John Chapman. Thrill to his adventures as he befriends animals, Native Americans, and settlers alike! A story of peace. Come and meet Johnny from the Fort Wayne TinCaps, too! For additional information, please contact the Fort Wayne Youtheatre at 260-422-6900.

Tickets
Children/students ........... $10
Adult ...................... $12

Butterflies of Belize Exhibit
April 16-June 26
Botanical Conservatory
1100 S Calhoun Street

The tropical forests of Central America are home to thousands of species of butterflies and moths. In the nation of Belize, one can find such spectacular varieties as the iridescent Blue Morpho butterfly, the well-named Owl Butterfly that feeds on overripe fruit at dawn and dusk, and the dainty, transparent glasswing. When you visit the Conservatory, you can enjoy both North American and Central American butterflies as part of your general admission.

IU vs Notre Dame: Shindigz National Soccer Festival
Wed. April 20, 7:30 pm
Parkview Field
1301 Ewing Street

For more information call 260-705-3967 or visit www.nationalsoccerfestival.com.

Tickets
Student .................... $7
Adult ...................... $9

Fort Wayne Children’s Zoo Opening Day
Sat. April 23, 9 am - 5 pm
3411 Sherman Boulevard

Rated one of the Top Ten Zoos in the country by Parents Magazine, the Fort Wayne Children’s Zoo houses more than 1500 animals and features a Sky Safari Ride, Train Rides, Pony Rides, River Ride, and Carousel. Members enjoy twelve months of free zoo admission, discounted admission to more than 150 nationwide zoos, 10% discount in the Wild Things Gift Shop and much more! For more information visit www.kidszoo.org.

Admission
Babies (ages birth-1) ...... FREE
Children (ages 2-14) ....... $8.50
Adults ...................... $13
Seniors (age 60+) ........... $10.50
Memberships ........ starting at $71

"Hereafter" starring Matt Damon
Tue. April 26, 6:30 pm - 9 pm
Allen County Public Library
900 Library Plaza (downtown)
Theater

Rated PG-13. 129 minutes. Doors open at 6 PM. First come, first seated. Seating is limited. Children under 13 must be accompanied by an adult.

Cost .................... FREE

March for Babies
April 30
Headwaters Park
110 W Berry Street

When you walk in March for Babies, you give hope to the more than half a million babies born prematurely each year. The money you raise supports programs in your community that help moms have healthy, full-term pregnancies. And it funds research to find answers to the problems that threaten our babies. For more information, or to pre-register, visit www.marchforbabies.org.

Party for the Planet
Sat. April 30, 10 am - 3 pm
Fort Wayne Children’s Zoo
3411 Sherman Boulevard

Join us for Fort Wayne’s most amazing Earth Day celebration.
Upcoming Community Events (cont.)

Fox Island Soi Fest
April 30 - May 1, Noon - 8 pm
Fox Island County Park
7324 Yohne Road
Enjoy a 2 day music festival complete with Beer Garden by The Mad Anthony Brewing Co. Food is also available. Kids can participate in nature hikes, crafts, edible insects, animal demonstrations and games. You can take a hayride to different area activities. Enjoy your day in the Sun! For additional information, please contact the Fox Island County Park at 260-449-3180 or visit www.allencountyparks.org.

Admission
Kids (11 and under). . . . . . FREE
Adults . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . $5

Fun & Games
Mon- Fri, 8 am - 4:30 pm
Community Center
233 W Main Street
Join organized Fun & Games or play on your own. Bring your own equipment or borrow ours from the information desk. Just drop in and join the fun—no pre-registration required.

Half-Pint Program: Kitchen Chemistry
Wed. May 4, 1 pm- 2:30 pm
Check-in @ 12:30
Science Central
1950 N Clinton Street
What makes bread rise and cookies flat? What do you get when you combine vinegar and baking soda? Explore chemistry in the kitchen during this tasty day. Activities include four hands-on science projects, time to explore Kid’s Central and a snack. For more information visit www.sciencecentral.org

Cost (1 Child + 1 Adult)*
Member . . . . . . . . . . . $8
Non-Member . . . . . . . . . $12

Mother’s Day in the Garden
Sun. May 8, Noon - 4 pm
Botanical Conservatory
1100 S Calhoun Street
Treat Mom—or anyone who means “mom” to you—to a special garden outing! You will enjoy beautiful flowers and a live Butterflies of Belize exhibit! Each mom will receive a special Mother’s Day plant while supplies last. For additional information, call 260-427-6440 or visit www.botanicalconservatory.org.

Village at Winona Arts Walk
Fri. May 13, 5 pm - 8 pm
The Village at Winona
901 East Canal, Winona Lake
Artisan Court
574-268-9888
Walk the Village to view art for everyone. Each shop features different “artistic” expressions.

Fat & Skinny Tire
Bicycle Festival
May 13 - 15, 8 am - 6 pm
The Village at Winona
901 East Canal, Winona Lake
574-268-9888
Fun for all ages including races, road rallies, hill climbs, kids’ events, prizes, national speakers and more.

Adventures in Geocaching
Geocaching is a high-tech treasure hunting game played throughout the world by adventure seekers equipped with GPS devices. The basic idea is to locate hidden containers, called geocaches, outdoors and then share your experiences online. Geocaching is enjoyed by people from all age groups, with a strong sense of community and support for the environment. Search for a geocache near you, or learn more at www.geocaching.com.

Admission
Kids (11 and under) . . . . . . . FREE
Adults . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . $5

*Includes Science Central admission. Open to children ages 2 to 5 years.
Announcements

It's Raining Babies! Meet God's Newest Little Miracles!

Phoebe Jayne Francis Kilgo
born to Sean and Michelle
February 4, 12:09 pm
weighing 7 lbs 15 oz
measuring 20 inches

Danielle Kristine Grewe
born to Nathan and Melinda
February 8, 9:56 pm
weighing 6 lbs 5 oz
measuring 19.5 inches

Abigail Lee Brummett
born to Steven and Arrin
February 15, 3:16 pm
weighing 7 lbs 9 oz
measuring 20 inches

Jason Phillip Flamme
born to Brian and Jennifer
February 23, 11:42 am
weighing 5 lbs
measuring 18 inches

Evelyn Marie Osbun
born to Josh and Sarah
March 18, 1:31 am
weighing 9 lbs 5 oz
measuring 21.5 inches

Levi Soren Gerdes
born to Chris and Dana
March 23, 9:03 am
weighing 8 lbs 8 oz
measuring 21 inches

Joseph Christopher Bucklew
born to Chris and Jennifer
April 4
weighing 7 lbs 11 oz
measuring 19.25 inches

Eva Marie Kieselowsky
born to Robert and Allison
March 3

Samuel Herman Frank
born to Tim and Sandra
April 7, 12:58 am
weighing 8 lbs 4 oz
measuring 21.5 inches

Food Co-op Schedule Changes

With recent staff changes, the Food Co-op will be open for working on Monday or Friday from 6 am - 2:30 pm. You need to arrive for work by 1:30 pm to complete your time. You can still work any day but Wednesday and Sunday in the Clothing Co-op. Remember that you must work in one hour increments in the month prior to shopping.

$25 Discount on Tax Preparation
Schopp Accounting, LLC
1121 E State Boulevard
260-484-6952
www.schoppaccounting.com

Second year wife and accountant, Tami Schopp, has been preparing tax returns for several years and last year, she filed taxes in 14 different states. Seminary families who file with Schopp Accounting will receive $25 off tax preparation services. Call 260-484-6952 to make an appointment.
Service Opportunities

SWA Hospitality Committee Chair

Fellow seminarians need help coordinating complimentary meal services by June 1.

When seminary families are blessed with the birth of a new baby or burdened by the loss of a loved one, the SWA Hospitality Committee responds with meals, light housekeeping or occasional child care services to help alleviate stress. The designated chairperson simply contacts the family in need to coordinate date, time and location information and then initiates action by their committee of volunteers. If you have a gift for communication or organization, please consider sharing your talents to serve the members of our seminary community. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Erin Zellers at erin.a.zellers@gmail.com.

Fort Wayne Children's Zoo

Volunteers are the heart of the zoo and adults are needed year-round. For more information, visit www.kidszoo.org or contact the Volunteer Office at 260-427-6828.

Botanical Conservatory

No matter your talent or interest, there’s a fit for you! Join our volunteer force to assist at the front desk, in the gift shop, with public events, or behind the scenes. Volunteers receive a 10% discount in the gift shop, free admission anytime during public hours, and training, as appropriate. For more information, contact Rebecca Canales at 260-427-6442 or visit www.botanicalconservatory.org.

Crock Pot Chicken and Dumplings

1 lb boneless, skinless chicken breasts
1 can cream of chicken soup
2 cups chicken broth
1 1/2 cups mixed veggies
salt & pepper to taste
1 can buttermilk biscuits, quartered

Combine chicken, soup, broth, veggies, salt and pepper in the crock pot. Cook 4 hours on high, or 6-8 hours on low. Top with quartered biscuits 30 minutes before serving.

Brooke's Best Bombshell Brownies

1 cup butter, melted
3 cups white sugar
1 Tbsp vanilla extract
4 eggs
1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
1 cup cocoa powder
1 tsp salt
1 cup semisweet chocolate chips (optional)

Preheat oven to 350° F. In large bowl, combine butter, sugar and vanilla until well blended. Beat in the eggs, one at a time. In a separate bowl, sift together flour, cocoa and salt. Gradually stir dry mixture into wet mixture; add chocolate morsels and stir. Spread into greased 9x13 pan; bake 35 to 40 minutes (until toothpick comes out clean).

- www.allrecipes.com
An Invitation from your NEW Editor!

If you have announcements or other helpful information to share with the seminary wives community, or if you would like to subscribe to the SWAN, please email Kristina at krillips@gmail.com.

Previous issues of the SWAN are available at www.ctsfw.edu/swa