

What I Have Learned Along The Way

by Justin Boughter

It is hard to believe that it has been six years since I started on staff at Medina Community Church. I started as an office helper that was supposed to be there just for the summer, then moved to intern, then to student pastor, and finally to resident pastor. And with every step I have learned and grown so much that it would be impossible to list them all in a newsletter article. But I want to do my best to sum it up in two parts.

The first thing I learned is, to not take yourself too seriously and to walk with a humble spirit. When I first started doing ministry work here at MCC I quickly realized it was not all evangelism, Bible studies, church events, and youth groups. It was a lot of office work, prep work, yard work, and especially moving things, sometimes things that were very heavy and inconvenient. And I remember early on thinking to myself "God, this is what you have called me into? I want to do the important stuff! I am working on a master's degree and a lot of this stuff is not ministry!" But what God helped me to remember is that ministry is not about me, but it is about those whom I am serving. Somebody must set up the palm trees for VBS and that job is not below me. Ministry requires us to get our hands dirty literally and figuratively. And looking back I am thankful for all the things that I had to clean or move or set up because it helped me to not take myself too seriously and humbled my spirit and helped me realize no work is below me, I am called to serve God and others.

The second thing I learned is that God is faithful if we walk in faith. Now this may seem like a cliché answer, but I think we can often forget what this truth means when it plays out practically in our lives. I started at MCC as a lost and confused young adult with no real direction in life. I had no idea what God had in store for me. I was a social work major at the University of Akron and just six years later I am halfway through my master's degree, an associate pastor at a church, a husband

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Worship Schedule

Sundays • 9:30 & 11:00 am

Medina Community Church exists to help people begin and grow in their relationship with God. Our relaxed, contemporary style provides an enjoyable atmosphere where you can investigate the claims of Christ, deepen your faith and meet some great friends along the way.

SERIES: Been There

- June 9 — Breaking the Anger Cycle
- June 16 — When You're Struggling
- June 23 — Moving Past Rejection
- June 30 — Guest Speaker: Simon Bartos

SERIES: Summer Workshop

- July 7 — Bible Study Methods
 - July 14 — Guiding Our Life With His Word
 - July 21 — The Daily Walk With God (Prayer)
 - July 28 — Guest Speaker
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and most importantly a more deeply and devoted follower of Christ. If you would have told me that this is what God had in store for me six years ago, I would have thought you were crazy. But one step at a time with God's faithfulness what started as a summer job turned into a career path, lifelong relationships, joy, and laughter, mourning and tears, memories that I will cherish and most importantly a church family I know will always be home. As I am writing this, I remember the words of Paul in his letter to the church in Rome, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28) From the bottom of my heart and the depths of my soul, Thank you Medina Community Church. Thank you for loving and serving me so well and allowing me to serve you. May "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace." (Numbers 6:24-26)

In Christ,

Justin Boughter



MCC's Summer Mission Trip



Please pray for our mission team heading to the Bahamas **June 15-21**. They need our prayers and financial support. The team will serve with Praying Pelicans Missions doing a service project, children's ministry, and food distribution. They will tie in with Pastor Sterling's church during the week. The team is led by Teresea Medley and Justin Boughter. Also serving on the mission are Rob and Deanna Saba, Eva Saba, Erin and Alli Pagel, Brittany Tosatto, Xiamara Glover, Beth Davis, Jack Medley, Arlan Gerig, Maddie Boughter, Pam Castle, and Kathy Summers.

RAY BIRD MISSION TRIP

We're looking forward to another year of ministry at Camp Ray Bird. Our teens will come alongside the Ray Bird staff to help with the children who come to camp. This is an incredibly challenging yet rewarding ministry for our teens. Ray Bird is a non-profit Christian camp that seeks to reach out to at-risk children in the South Bend area with the gospel. We will be leaving on Sunday, June 22 for a week of camp and ministry. Please pray for our teens and staff for travel safety and for a rich and rewarding experience at camp.

Our team: Abby Hamm, Olivia Hamm, Layah Schmidt, Avery Angell, Xiamara Glover, Jay Espie, Eva Saba, and Becca Nichols. Lucas Nichols will be serving for the summer at camp. Pastor Doug and Maria Nichols will be overseeing the trip.



**CAMP
RAY BIRD**



dive into oceans of fun!

July 8-12, 2024

6:00-8:30 p.m.

Join us for a fun-filled week of music, games, and bringing the Bible to life. VBS is open to children grades K-8. Dinner for children and volunteers will be served at 5:45.



Scan the QR Code for additional information and to register for this year's VBS. Registration forms are also available on the information table at church.



Medina Community Church • 416 South Broadway • Medina
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Contact Us

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www.medinacommunitychurch.org

Doug Davidson — Sr. Pastor
Donna Spitzer — Family Ministry
Justin Boughter — Resident Pastor
Kristen Green — Intern



Week 1 June 2

Field 3 @ 1:00 p.m. Special Olympians @ MCC
Field 1 @ 2:30 p.m. MCC @ Medina UMC

Week 2 June 9

Field 1 @ 1:00 p.m. MCC @ The Revival
Field 3 @ 2:30 p.m. Medina UMC @ MCC

Week 3 June 16

Field 1 @ 2:30 p.m. MCC @ Average Joes

Week 4 June 23

Field 3 @ 1:00 p.m. Average Joes @ MCC

Week 5 June 30

Field 1 @ 2:30 p.m. Special Olympians @ MCC

Week 6 July 7

Field 1 @ 1:00 p.m. Countryside Crushers @ MCC
Field 3 @ 2:30 p.m. MCC @ Special Olympians

Week 7 July 14

Field 3 @ 1:00 p.m. The Revival @ MCC

Week 8 July 21

Field 1 @ 1:00 p.m. MCC @ Medina UMC
Field 3 @ 2:30 p.m. MCC @ Countryside Crushers

Week 9 July 28

Field 3 @ 1:00 p.m. MCC @ Special Olympians

Week 10 August 4

Field 1 @ 2:30 p.m. MCC @ Countryside Crushers

Week 11 August 11

Field 3 @ 2:30 p.m. MCC @ Average Joes

Week 12 August 18

Field 3 @ 1:00 p.m. Medina UMC @ MCC
Field 3 @ 2:30 p.m. The Revival @ MCC

Week 13 August 25

Field 1 @ 2:30 p.m. The Revival @ MCC

*Contact Matt Hulme with any questions:
(330) 328-0961*



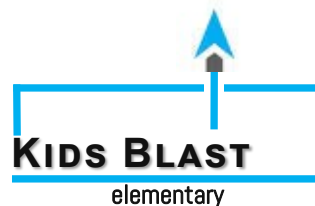
•**Bible Study**— The ladies are just about to finish their Thursday evening Bible study. They plan on taking a short break and start back up in August. Watch for details.

•**First Wednesday Dinners**— The ladies meet for dinner at a different restaurant every month (6:00 p.m.). Watch your email for details.

The women's ministry coordinator is Kathy Summers. If you're not receiving Kathy's emails regarding the ladies activities please contact her so she can get you on the list. She can be reached at kathyksummers@gmail.com or (330) 461-1081.



Look for information in an upcoming newsletter or on the information table at church regarding when these groups will resume in the fall.



We are pleased to announce that MCC will be hosting drive-thru Community meals on **Saturday, June 15th** and **Saturday, July 20th** from 6-7 pm for those in need. Meals will be handed out in a drive-thru lane. Volunteers will help guide guests to the meal pickup area. (All guests will be asked to remain in their vehicles.) We can always use drivers for meal deliveries at 5:00 pm and others to help with the drive through. Please consider how you could serve in this ministry.

For more information or to sign up please call or text Emily Winans at (240)405-4003.