

Evan's Corner

As I write this, the Lash family is closing out its last few days of ministry in Lapel. We are here but most of our things are in our new home in LaPorte. (Many more things are still in the garage, but someday we hope that those things too will be unpacked.) We have enjoyed our ministry in Lapel, and many tears are being shed. Still, we know that God is calling us to LaPorte, and we are looking forward to many years of ministry shared with you.

Together, on July 1, we will be starting a new chapter in the history of LaPorte First. I have no idea what we will find as we write this chapter together. I do know that God has a plan (a dream, a vision, a hope) for us, and it will be exciting to live it together and watch it unfold. My own plan for this summer is to get to know each of you—so that I can begin being your pastor. I also want to learn about LaPorte, the history of First Church, and our role in the community. I hope that we will begin that process on July 6th. I know that many of you will be gone vacationing or getting away for a long weekend on that first Sunday. Enjoy, but get back on the 13th so we can start getting acquainted.

A little bit about my family. My wife, Barb, has had her own video production business for more than 20 years. She specializes in documentaries and promotional/educational videos primarily for non-profit organizations. She has a Master's degree in Special Education and has had numerous positions in that field both in Ohio and Indiana, and has also been the Head Start Director for DeKalb County. Barb and I have been married for 29 years.

Our older son, Chris, is working this summer in Lincoln, Nebraska. In September, he will begin a six-month co-op program working for Becton-Dickinson near Baltimore, Maryland. In the spring, he will return to Rochester, New York, where he is a student at the Rochester Institute of Technology.

Greg, our younger son, has just graduated from high school. Since he was in elementary school, he has had an interest in performing, and using his mother's gear to create movie projects of all sorts. His plan for the near future is to pursue a career in movie-making. In the fall he will be attending York University in Toronto, and studying film production.

For myself, I will be coming to you somewhat physically wounded. On this coming Friday, June 29, I will be having surgery to remove a melanoma from the front of my neck. (High collars are in my immediate future.) During the past two weeks, I have been undergoing test of all kinds to determine if there is cancer elsewhere, and a concern about my blood pressure has also newly surfaced. I trust that by the time you see me on the 6th, that all will be well. I am looking forward to meeting you. (I'll be the one in the turtleneck.)

Evan