

SCHWIEBERT PARK POT-LUCK

PHOTOS AND RECAP

Two Rivers, The House, and Gaines Chapel share brunch and more



Mason Parks, pastor of Gaines Chapel AME, shared his closing affirmations. "I am! A Child of God!"

Pastors Robb McCoy, Gregg Hampton, and Mason Parks have been friends for years. They get together regularly for coffee, conversation, and mutual support. It is their dream that their congregations share a similar relationship. It was Jesus' dream as well. One of his final prayers in the Gospel of John was that his followers be united in love (John 17:9-20).

On Sunday, August 3, the people of Gaines Chapel AME, The House, a local congregation, and Two Rivers Church gathered at Schwiebert Park for a celebration of Christian unity. It was not a typical worship service. Instead, it was a chance for people of God to get to know each other.

People brought food to share, and there was an array of donuts, pastries, hashbrowns, and other brunch items. The House brought coffee. Two Rivers brought water. Gaines Chapel brought paper products. All three churches brought tables. People who forgot to bring chairs found seats on the steps.

In addition to the food, people were encouraged to get together in small groups and share answers to a few questions. There was some mixing going on as people from different congregations met - and a few old friends .



Pastor Gregg Hampton of The House encouraged the congregation to mix it up and get to know each other.

reconnected. The best part of the day was when people shared ideas for future gatherings. Many things were suggested, including a family bowling night, book clubs, prayer groups, and a pulpit exchange.

Many volunteered to get into small groups and meet again. In the coming weeks Robb, Gregg, and Mason will get together to go over the ideas and thoughts that were shared. The congregations will follow-up before next summer when we hope to gather again.

