

## **Congregational Spotlight on: *Barbara Tucker – God’s Heart***

Raymond and Charlotte Boyd lived in Vevay, Indiana along the Ohio River. And on this particular Sunday they were rushing towards Madison to the hospital because Charlotte was giving birth to their first child together. It was June 14, 1953 and little Barbara decided that it was time she made her entrance into the world.

She already had an older half brother and then a sister came along afterwards to make the family complete. They lived in Vevay for a few more years; however, they eventually moved to Jeffersonville, Indiana because Barbara’s father had a job with Silgas working for Paul Ogle.

Mr. Ogle was such a wonderful man to the Boyd’s. To Barbara and her sister, he was an adopted grandfather. During Christmas time he’d dress up as Santa Claus and make Christmas fun for them.

And they always got to have the neatest things to play with. Once there were these ‘camper’ type structures that housed the bottled gas. One was given to Barbara and her sister and a big dollhouse was made from it. They also had tons of boxes they used to make tunnels, which was especially fun in the snow.

Then every summer for vacation they’d either pack up to head to Clearwater, FL for beach fun or they’d head to the Smokey Mountains. Sadly, Barbara’s parents divorced and many things changed.

One thing Barbara knew for certain was that when she grew up she did not want to be a hairdresser, even though her mother was one. Her mom had a little shop in their home and eventually the shop moved in town. When she got really busy she’d put her girls to work rolling hair, sweeping up hair, or shampooing hair. You name it...they did it! And that convinced Barbara that doing hair was not going to be her line of work.

When Barbara got older she married and had two sons, Jason and Chad. Life happened and Barbara found herself on her own with two young boys to raise. As with any devastating circumstances Barbara and her boys ended up living in a homeless shelter.

However, through a program Barbara began to work for the soil and water conservation program in Indiana. When they had an opening for a soil and water conservation teacher in Clark County, she applied and got the job. She built an educational program, had several outdoor labs, and was a traveling conservation teacher for Clark County.

In fact she was the conservation teacher of the year and in her outdoor labs that are still being used today there are still the trees she planted that are native to the state of Indiana.

There have been many ups and downs in Barbara’s life but through it all she now realizes that God was trying to help her realize her need for Him. When Revolution Church was named River Falls and was on Thames Street, her apartment was close by and she began attending. Pastor Tom and Ms. Bridgette took her in as part of the family and she gave her life to Jesus.

Although times can get difficult, she keeps reminding herself that God loves her and she knows she has to keep her trust in Him. And though she has her two sons, one granddaughter, and one great granddaughter, it is her church family that reminds her of God’s love and His constant care of her. She loves her family and prays constantly that they will make Jesus Lord of

Barbara Tucker

their life.

Here at Revolution Church, Barbara would love to see the church grow and that many people would get involved in outreach. She would also like to see us have more youth and children's programs.