

The Courier

a newsletter from your friends at
First Baptist Church
in Hamilton, Ohio



"Where everybody is somebody and Jesus Christ Is Lord"

February, 2006

Valentine's Day

Today is Valentine's Day, and florists, card companies, and chocolatiers are thrilled. I've been to all of them already for the sake of my Valentine. And if there's somebody really special to your heart and you haven't gone yet, I'd recommend you make a last-minute dash to one or more of them.

The truth is, however, that most of us let ourselves off too easily with our professions of love. Our culture doesn't know much about love. We probably use the word too often and practice the virtue too seldom. Although Valentine's Day is hardly a Christian holiday, love is the central Christian virtue. Jesus said that God's will for humans boils down to this: Love God, and love one another.

Loving God means getting to know him. Not just knowing about him, mind you, but knowing him. Some of the meanest people I've ever met knew a lot "about" God from studying the Bible and going to church. But what they knew seemed to be for the sake of arguing. Winning at verbal fisticuffs. Proving themselves right and everyone else wrong. Beating people up with Bible facts.

Knowing God, on the other hand, is about spending time with him. Letting some of him "rub off on" you. Picking up his attitudes and habits. There is precious little credibility for the person who says "I love God!" and turns right around to insult, take advantage of, or abuse someone created in his image.

Loving one another means caring. Valentine's Day is focused on romantic love, and that's a wonderful form of love. Heavenly, in fact. But even romantic love, if genuine, begins in simple caring. Concern for his welfare. Wanting to do good things for her. Being moved to help when they are in some sort of distress.

Most of us seem to have reduced love to mushiness. Sentimentality. Or, perhaps more commonly still, lust. Thieves, racists, liars, stingy people, people who cheat on their mates, adults who abuse children—their fundamental sin is against love. They violate their

basic link with humanity by refusing to care that they are exploiting, hurting, or otherwise diminishing the well-being of another.

Want to find out if you really know the meaning of love? Then read Paul's beautiful love poem at 1 Corinthians 13 and insert your name for the word "love" when you see it: John is patient, Latitia is kind, Evan isn't jealous, and so on.

Seems like everybody is looking for love these days. Once you discover it in God as The Source, you can get over the selfish quest to *find* love and be that rare soul who knows how to *give it away*. It is the essence of your humanity.

—Rubel Shelly
Fax of Life

Friendship Quotes

True friendship is like sound health; the value of it is seldom known until it be lost. —C. Colton

A friend is someone who is there for you when he'd rather be anywhere else. —Len Wein

A friend is someone who knows the song in your heart, and can sing it back to you when you have forgotten the words. —Unknown

A friend is one who believes in you when you have ceased to believe in yourself. —Unknown

A hug is worth a thousand words. A friend is worth more. —Unknown

Two may talk together under the same roof for many years, yet never really meet; and two others at first speech are old friends. —M. Catherwood

The better part of one's life consists of his friendships. —Abraham Lincoln



American Baptist Women's Ministries

Blanket Sundays–Disaster Relief

Blanket Sundays will be February 5th and February 12th. In natural disasters (tornado, hurricane, flood, fire, mudslide, earthquake, etc.) many people are left with little or nothing. Church World Service furnishes initial emergency service with blankets, mattresses, tents, etc. Suggested donation for a blanket is \$8.00. Checks should be made payable to American Baptist Women.

Don't forget that in February there will be a bassinet in the lobby of the church for baby items to be collected for the layettes. If you see a bargain, please bring it in and place it in the bassinet.

Baby Kit (Layette)

- 4 Cloth Diapers
- 2 Shirts
- 2 Washcloths
- 2 Gowns or Sleepers
- 2 Diaper Pins
- 1 Sweater or Sweatshirt
- 2 Receiving Blankets
(1 can be a knitted blanket)

Disaster survivors need essential items to reclaim their homes and lives. Through the White Cross you can help prepare special recovery kits that provide both tangible assistance to people in need and show that neighbors near and far truly care. The contents of these kits are small things but having or not having them can make a world of difference in an on-going development program or when disaster strikes. Would you help Church World Service build an inventory of baby kits?

–Bertha Campbell

February Missionary of the Month:
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Wayne & Katherine Niles

Bible Book of the Month Jonah

Jonah is a short book about a kind God, a selfish man, and a wicked city. It summarizes two themes that run through the entire Bible. One is the temptation of those who God chooses to keep God's mercy for themselves. The other is God's concern for all persons and living creatures, a compassion that extends even to the cruel oppressors of God's own people. The Book of Jonah characterizes the tension

in which believers live. It is a reminder to God's people both of their self-will and of God's concern.

PRAY for the oppressed peoples of the world, that through God's love and mercy they might truly be free.

–Madge Walters

AB Girls Of Faith

The AB Girls of Faith met on Sunday, January 5th in the Family Center following the morning worship service. Seven young ladies and four advisors were present. Nancy Whipple provided a "Healthy Me" lunch. It was very good! We signed valentines for seven very special ladies here at First Baptist. We also sent a valentine to the Niles in the Congo. We will present a Valentine Day gift bag and card on February 12th to the following ladies: Jewell Bowling, Bert Brantingham, LaVerne Gerth, Julie Ford, Lisa Dulli, Jill O'Hara, and Debbie allen. All of these women do very special jobs to help in various ways; funeral committee Cherub choir, workers in the nursery every Sunday during the Sunday School hour, and a puppet ministry for the 1-2 year olds. Amy Wallace brought wonderful treats for each member. Thanks, Amy, for such a neat gift (bubble bath and nail polish!) The girls presented fourteen hard back books to Brandi Emenaker for the 2 year old classroom. Brandi explained her job to the girls and praised them for helping in various areas of children's work. She and her two daughters had lunch with us. What fun! Future AB Girls.

Megan Miller introduced Mrs. Carla Metzler as our guest speaker. Wow! What a great job she did. She gave the girls a really neat set of handouts. She also talked about how she became interested in becoming a registered dietitian. She told them how she uses her faith in her job. We learned a lot! The girls had their exercise clothes on and Carla showed them many great floor exercises to do. We hope the girls will put the information they heard into a "Healthy Me". We will meet again on Sunday, February 19th. We will eat out and then have dessert at the home of Mindy Hazelwood. Love will be our theme.

Serving in His name,
Marilyn Bowling, Mindy Hazelwood,
Karen Schumm, & Nancy Whipple

N*either do men put new wine into old wineskins...*” It was a re-statement of commonly-held wisdom. The fermentation of newly-produced wine would stretch already-expanded skins to the point breaking, losing both the wine and the skins. Jesus told this well-known principle in the context of His calling Matthew (Levi) to become one of His disciples. Matthew, of course, was a tax collector. His tax office was in Capernaum, possibly near the place where the *Via Maris* passed close to the Sea of Galilee. He may have been responsible for collecting tolls from the commercial traffic traveling through the area, or receiving taxes for the fish caught on the Sea of Galilee. The tax was heavy on a people already burdened by Rome’s interference in their lives. Matthew was hardly held in warm esteem by the people of his community. In fact, his neighbors likely thought of him as a traitor, and treated him as a outcast. Friends disappeared. He became wealthy, but money could not end his loneliness. His own heart became hardened by their rejection. Then Jesus showed up. New wine!

Capernaum was Jesus’ hometown. It is likely that Jesus had crossed Matthew’s path on many occasions. But this is the one that counted. Jesus offered a simple command—an invitation, really—*“Follow me.”* As Matthew pens his own story, he tells his readers that the response was immediate: *“Matthew got up and followed Him.”* As they left that monied-place, Matthew finds himself heading back home to throw a party to be given in Jesus’ honor. Those who were not embarrassed by calling themselves a “friend of Matthew” were also in attendance. As critics watched, they complained to Jesus’ disciples: *“Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?”* Over-hearing the comment, Jesus responds:

“It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. But go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”
(Matthew 9:12-13).

Jesus was bringing a new movement of God upon the people. People were being healed; sins were being forgiven; the dead found new life again; demons were cast out; the mute were given speech. Mercy was the order of the day. The people were amazed and said to one another: *“Nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel!”* Matthew 9:33.

It was new wine. And Jesus was concerned that the people would miss seeing God in the midst of it all because they were so focused on their old traditions; their old way of doing things; their desire to preserve the status quo. He wanted them to understand a faith practiced in this way would cause them to miss the fact that God is a party-giving God who throws a celebration when His people return to Him.

He wanted them to understand that God is always doing new things. In Isaiah, God said, *“Behold, I will do a new thing.”* (Isa 43:19). At the end of the New Testament, He said, *“Behold, I am making all things new.”* (Rev 21:5). Joe McKeever (Missions Director for the New Orleans Baptist Association) comments, *“Between these two promises, God makes a new covenant with a new people, to whom He gives new commands, charges them with new ministries, challenges them to live a new and living way, resulting in new persons who will live in a new heaven and a new earth, receiving new names and singing a new song.”* New wine!

In the weeks and months before us, we will attend to the exciting business of exploring new ways of connecting with

(From the Pastor's Heart, continued)

people and making a difference in their lives. It is never the Gospel message that changes—God's love, Jesus' atoning death, His amazing resurrection, His grace and mercy that brings us to Himself. These are things that will stand firm forever. But how we communicate those great truths may require some creative and energetic attention.

In our "Vision Conference" in January we identified several ministry areas that we wanted to pursue in the months before us:

- To articulate our vision/purpose/mission with clarity about our mission context (What is our purpose? Whom are we here to serve?).
- To strengthen our worship attendance and participation.
- To become more effective in our local and global outreach.
- To create a culture of "generous" Christians.
- To give sincere attention to the practice of prayer.
- To identify and develop effective leaders.
- To deepen our commitment and interaction to others in the Body.

New wine. New vision. New opportunities. New service. Renewed commitment. And a deeper walk of faith for us all. I am looking forward to what God has in store for us. And I am willing to do my part to make a difference. How about you?

Loving you more and more as we serve our Lord,
Pastor



Budget Status Report

The Month of December, 2005

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$52,676
Offerings	<u>103,985</u>
Over (Under) Budget	\$51,309

Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$49,376
Offerings	<u>103,985</u>
Over (Under) Actual	\$54,609

The Year Through December, 2005

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$685,121
Offerings	<u>666,440</u>
Over (Under) Budget	(\$ 18,681)

Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$666,393
Offerings	<u>666,440</u>
Over (Under) Actual	\$ 47

—The Board Of Trustees



Family Life Committee 4th Annual Family Festival

Saturday
March 11, 2006
3:00 - 7:00 p.m.

See Family Life Bulletin Board in connector for all of the exciting details. Sheet for workers also posted.

KeenAger February Meeting

Our February meeting will be Monday, February 20th. Dan Finrock, will be presenting one of his very interesting pictorial travelogues. We will be eating at a local restaurant immediately following the meeting. Please sign the list on the bulletin board.

—KeenAger Activity Committee
Lil Senior, Betty Powell, & Bertha Campbell



It's hard to believe that our MOPS year is half over! We have seen many new faces this year. What a tribute to the faith and love that our moms have for fellowshiping with other believers in Christ! January's meeting was very inspirational as veteran mentor Thelma Stanger presented the nine needs of every mom. It's always refreshing to know that others have experienced the same situations you are experiencing now and to be reminded that God is the same now as he was then and will always be.

February is a popular month for our moms as we celebrate our third annual Pamper Fair! Several area salons donate their services to offer free hair styling, manicures and massages. There will also be an assortment of crafts to make. Time to sit and relax, a paraffin wax hand treatment center and a local gourmet coffeehouse!

Our mom only outing this month is the rescheduled Christmas party, now known as the February Fling! This event will be held at the home of Thelma Stanger on Thursday, February 2nd at 6:30 p.m. Please RSVP to Thelma by Wednesday, February 1st.

We also will be hosting our second craft night on Monday, February 6th at 7:00 p.m. We will be meeting at the home of co-coordinator, Gina Stitsinger, for an evening of making a "bucket of love". Perfect for that special someone for Valentine's Day. The cost for each bucket is \$5.00. Please be sure to RSVP to Gina at 867-8456 or craft coordinator Kerri Miller at 892-3645 no later than Friday, February 3rd, if you plan to attend.

The MOPS Steering team is hosting a spring fundraiser to earn the needed funds to attend the MOPS Annual Convention held in September at the Opryland Hotel. We will be selling portrait vouchers for \$10 each that allows you to obtain a free 10 x 13 portrait of your children. These portraits are unique in the sense that they are taken in dress up clothes provided by the photographers. Portrait date is April 22nd. If you are interested please see Elise Martin or Kerri Miller to purchase your voucher.

Please don't forget our new start time of 9:45 (registration begins at 9:30) due to the time change with Hamilton City Schools. Also if Hamilton City Schools are delayed or closed we will not have our meeting.

Shining for Jesus-
Elise Martin
Co-Coordinator

First Baptist Youth Science Fair Winners

Congratulations to these students who placed in the Hamilton Rotary Club Science Olympiad:

Andy Cain - 1st - Drop Zone
Emily Cain - 2nd - Naked Egg Drop
Katie Ford - 1st - Excellent Graphing
Katie Ford - 1st - Pentathlon
Brad Rasnick - 2nd - Mousetrap Car
Katie Scott - 3rd - Surfing The Net

Edgewood High School Play

A Children's Play for all children young and old, **Charlotte's Web**, will be presented by Edgewood Thespian Troupe #591 on Friday, February 24th at 7:30 p.m. & Saturday, February 25th, at 2:00 and 7:30 p.m. in the Edgewood High School Auditorium. Tickets are available at the door.

Cast members include **Martha Helton**, playing the role of Charlotte, the Spider, and **Drew Helton**, as Wilbur, the Pig.

Bring your children and grandchildren and you old folks, too, to this tale of friendship and salvation, a story of miracles—the miracle of birth, the miracle of friendship, the miracle of death.

—Editor's note: Please report items of interest, honors, roles in plays, etc. to the office so they can be noted in the Courier. Thanks!





Awana Club

Awana February Calendar

- 1st - BIG NIGHT (Sparks & T&T)
- 8th - Regular Club Night
- 15th - teeny,tiny night (Sparks & T&T)
- 22nd - T&T Grand Prix workshop (T&T Game Time)
Cubbies Mismatch Night

BIG NIGHT, February 1 (Sparks & T&T)

Have an enormous hat? Colossal shoes? Mammoth pants? Wear them on BIG NIGHT! Game Time will have oversized game equipment.

teeny, tiny night, February 15 (Sparks & T&T)

DON'T try to squeeze into those shoes you outgrew last summer, but DO come play games with our teeny, tiny game equipment.

T&T Grand Prix

March 8 is the date for the 2006 T&T Grand Prix. Race car kits are on sale now for \$3 per kit. If you need help cutting out your car, draw the design on the side of the car, write your name on the bottom, and we will have the car cut out for you. There will be workshops on Feb. 22 & March 1 if you'd like to work on your car at club (sanding & painting). Every clubber who participates in the 2006 T&T Grand Prix will receive a racing cap on Race Night.

Cubbies Mismatch Night, February 22

Wear clothes that clash! Let dad dress you, not mom! Or better yet, pick out your clothes yourself! Just make sure nothing goes together!

Reminder for all Sparks & T&T Clubbers

Everyone needs to wear gym shoes for Game Time. Do not take your shoes off during Game Time unless it is part of the game. These rules are for your safety.

-In His Work,
Emily Metzger
Awana Commander



Time For Junior Jam At Cedarville University

Who? Students in 3rd - 6th grades

What? Junior Jam is a one-day, high energy event that includes music, videos, games, hands-on activities, lunch, and one-on-one time with University students. This year's theme, "*The Ultimate Challenge*", will drive home that your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus taken from Philippians 2:5.

When? Saturday, March 25th. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. and we will head for home at 4:00 p.m. as it takes a little over an hour to get there, we must leave the church by 7:30 a.m. and we will be back at the church by 5:30 p.m.

Where? Cedarville University - Cedarville, Ohio

How Much? \$20 per person. (Add \$5 for an optional Junior Jam T-shirt)

Adult Awana leaders and Sunday School Teachers are welcome to go along with us to participate in separate teacher training seminars.

Registration forms will be available very soon as our numbers and T-shirt orders will need to be turned in soon. There is a limit on registration this year so we need to get our registration in early. Let's encourage our 3rd - 6th graders in Sunday School and Awana to be a part of this great experience.

In His Service,
Cheryl Motzer



PRESIDENTS'
DAY

February 20, 2006



From The Heart Of Marilyn

College Corner

E-Mail From God

Go After Love

“Go after a life of love as if your life depended on it—because it does—1 Corinthians 14:1 (The Message)

Dear Child of Mine,

Lots of people set their sights on some specific goal in life. It’s like they circle a dot on the map of life and then point themselves in that direction. They may not meet their goal, but they spend their entire lives trying.

Some people may not even be aware that they’ve set a goal, but they have. One dot on the map says “Rich,” one says “Popular,” one says “Intelligent,” one says “Rebel,” or one says “Class Clown.” Then every action in their lives is focused on that goal.

Okay, now I want you to circle another dot on the map of your life: “Love.” Point yourself in that direction and go for it as if your life depended on it—because it does! Love the people in your life and love Me. That’s why you’re here. Love is the goal worth going for. Go after love!

Your Loving Guide,
God



Valentine’s Day is a wonderful time to remember that our Father’s love never changes and His heart is always open to receive us. May our college students feel His special love this Valentine’s Day. Our college students would love to receive a loving thought of encouragement from their First Baptist Church family. The wintry days can get cold and long when you are on a campus and a card in their mailbox really will help to pick them up!

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–Marilyn Bowling
College Coordinator





Carpenter's Hands Signs Of Love



Happy Birthday!



February 11 Jack Wyant

Interpreter Schedule for February

Feb. 5	Maria Miller	Jo Manson
Feb. 12	Jo Manson	Maria Miller
Feb. 19	Jo Manson	Maria Miller
Feb. 26	Jo Manson	

The next **Silent Dinner** will be held on Friday evening, February 4th at Cincinnati Mills. See you there!

—Maria Miller
Director of Deaf Ministries

Free Noon Concerts In Oxford

22 year old Russian pianist, Anna Polusmiak, performs at 12:10 p.m. on Wednesday, February 16th at the Oxford Presbyterian Church, 101 N. Main Street in Oxford. She has been called “a phenomenal rising star” and will perform three concerts with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra in April. For information call Jack Daugherty - 523-6969.

Matthew Ministries

The next scheduled Work Day at Matthew 25 will be Thursday, February 16th. As usual, we would like to have a good working group to go. We will leave the church at the usual time, 8:30 a.m. Bring your sack lunch and beverage and be prepared for a good day of work and fellowship. Thank you.

—Pastor Bill and Bert Brantingham



Souper Bowl Sunday

Sunday, February 5th, is Souper Bowl Sunday. Please bring to church with you a can of soup or any other food item and \$1. Members of CREW will be collecting these items at the doors. Our food pantry needs to be replenished and what we have on hand and the surplus will be donated to the New Life Baptist Mission. Thanks for your participation!

—Deaconess Relief Committee



Rotary Revels Present



Damn Yankees

March 16, 17, & 18 at 8:00 p.m.
March 19 at 2:00 p.m

At Parrish Auditorium
Miami University Hamilton

Tickets are \$15.00
Contact Karen Buchanan
863-1472

Bob Borden - Conductor
Tisha Patton - Pianist
Karen Buchanan - Props and Costumes



Children's Library

Good News!! The Children's Library will once again be open! Krys Schramm is our new librarian and is looking forward to a visit from your child. The library will be open on Sunday mornings from 9:00 until 10:15. There are many books and videos to check out. Our Children's Library is located on the lower level - right next to our Kindergarten Room. Hope to see you there soon!

—Linda Hoover
Director of Christian Ed



Child Care Schedule

Nursery (Morning)

February 5 - Linda, Sara, & Emily Cain
February 12 - Linda & Rachael Davis
February 19 - Lori Hamblin & Teen Helper
February 26 - Emily Metzger & Teen Helper

One & Two Year Olds

February 5 - John & Ruthie Wallace
February 12 - Brian & Barb Begley
February 19 - Chuck & Lisa Witmer
February 26 - Juli Ford & Lisa Dulli

Kinderchurch

February 5 - Brad & Jerri Begley
February 12 - Brad & Jerri Begley
February 19 - Brandi Emenaker
February 26 - Chuck & Lisa Witmer

Attention All Morning Worship Child Care Workers



Just a reminder that all child care workers should try and trade with someone on their schedule sheets when something comes up and they are not able to keep their scheduled Sunday. Also, it would be extremely helpful if child care workers would be in their scheduled room by 10:15 a.m. to help with the transition time between Sunday School and Morning Worship time. Several of our Sunday School teachers need to be relieved for choir and the adult worship service. When you have difficulty finding someone with whom to trade, please call the following Child Care Coordinators:

Kim Schuermann - (674-7321)
Brandi Emenaker - (738-2439)

Thank you for volunteering as a child care worker and may you always know how much we appreciate you!

—Brandi Emenaker
Interim Director of Children's Ministries



Wednesday Family Dinners

February 1 - Pastor Den's Birthday Dinner

Menu: Meat Loaf, Mashed Potatoes with Gravy,
California Blend Vegetables, Tossed Salad,
Rolls, Pineapple Upside-Down Cake
Hosts: Family Life/Missions/Homebuilders

February 8

Menu: Chicken and Dumplings, Peas and Carrots,
Fruit Jello, Rolls, Cherry Cobbler
Hosts: Keystone I

February 15

Menu: Chicken Jambalaya, Rice Pilaf, Capri Blend
Vegetables, Applesauce, Rolls, Loretta's
Texas Sheet Cake
Hosts: Trustees

February 22

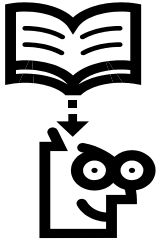
Menu: Vegetable Soup and Potato Soup, Grilled
Ham and Cheese Sandwiches, Tossed
Salad, Rolls, Dessert
Hosts: Chancel Choir

Reminder: Adults should contribute \$4.00 per person for the meal; the cost for children under 12 years old who eat at the "Hot Dog" table is \$1.25. If they chose to eat from the main table, the cost is \$2.00. Be sure to make your reservation on the Friendship Folder each Sunday.

Reminder: Anyone desiring to borrow items, such as, chairs, tables, coffee pots, etc. are now required to fill out a sheet in the office with name, date, item, and number borrowed and then the date, item, and number returned. Please see Ellie.

February Greeters

February 5 - Flo Gill, Kathy Inloes, & Katie Hoskins
February 12 - Brian Begley, John Wallace, & Teri
Horsley
February 19 - Brad Gerth, Helen Mullen, &
Bob Braun
February 26 - Janet Day, John Riczko, & Nancy
Follmer



Pastor Jeremy's
Think Tank
Names of God

Have you ever thought about all the names/characteristics of God in the Bible? I didn't either except for a song that Mark Shultz performs entitled "I Am". It is a song that talks about different names of God and/or characteristics of what He/Jesus did while here on earth. Let me share some of those with you.

"I am the maker of the heavens. I am the bright and morning star. I am the breath of all Creation. Who always was and is to come. I am the One who walked on water. I am the One who calmed the seas. I am the miracles and wonders, so come and see. I am the fount of living water. The risen Son of man. I am your savior and redeemer who bore the sins of man. I am almighty God your father, the risen son of man. The healer of the broken and when you cry I am your savior and redeemer. Who bore the sins of man. The author and perfecter, beginning and the end. I am."

There are other ones in the song itself and I would encourage you to seek out the words to this great song and let it minister to you. The question is: what name/characteristic of God do you need right now?

If we all shared our answers we would realize that each of us need God to meet us in a specific way. In fact, given enough time we will need to be ministered to in a different way by the same God. That is why God has so many different names and characteristics. He needs and wants to be able to minister to us just in the place we need.

This is probably why I love the song so much. Each time I hear it I am reminded of how big and great our God is. I am also reminded of just how much I need from God. One time it is the "maker of the heavens" that I need to be touched by. Another time it is the "author and perfecter" that must meet make me whole, or at least see the light at the end of the tunnel. A third time it is the "healer of the broken" that must minister to me.

I encourage you to allow the names of God be on your mind and in your heart this month. Our God is such a big God that each name and characteristic is his way of showing us what He can do and that He can handle any problem, pain, or hurt.

So I end with a couple questions: Which name of God do you need to work in your life today? This week? This month? Will you let the names of God penetrate your soul today? Do you truly believe that

our God is big enough to meet your needs in a specific way? I encourage you to answer these questions honestly as we both continue in this life as a Christian. Join me as I go before the throne of the God of grace asking that He would show me more of Him each and every day. Love you all and praying for you.

Be God's,
Jeremy

UPCOMING EVENTS:

February 5th: CREW Super Bowl party at the home of the Moorehead's. We will get things started at 6 p.m. If you need a ride there please let Jeremy know and arrangements will be made for you.

February 12th : Small groups start back up on Sunday nights at 6 p.m. Studies have yet to be announced but we will have a group just for our 7th and 8th graders, 9th and 10th graders and also a 11th and 12th grade small group. If you have ideas on what should be talked about in your small group please let Jeremy know and we can see about discussing that.

February 24th-25th: Sr High CREW members will be going skiing at Perfect North Slopes. We will **leave** the church at 9:30 p.m. on Friday and be picked up by 8:00 a.m. Saturday. Cost is \$25 and you must have a release form filled out to go. See Jeremy today. If you would like to help lead/chaperone this even please let me know. I am always looking for people to go with us.

February 25th 5:00 p.m.-Jr High CREW members will be **leaving** the church for Perfect North Slopes to tube for the



evening. Cost is \$10 and we will be ready to be picked up at 10:00 p.m. Saturday. You must have a release form filled out so see Pastor Jeremy today. Parents feel free to make this a whole family outing. Tubing is great fun and may be a good time for you to have some great time with your teenager.

March Sometime: 30 Hour Famine combined event with Oxford Bible Fellowship and Bethel Community Church. You won't want to miss this CIA service project to help raise funds and awareness for starving people.

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

February 2006

5 Souper Bowl Sunday
 9:15 Sunday School
 10:30 Worship
 4:30 Family Life
 5:15 Youth Choir
 6:00 CREW Super Bowl
 6:00 KingsKids
 6:00 Cherub Choir
 6:00 Evening Celebration

12 9:15 Sunday School
 10:30 Worship
 4:30 Board of Missions
 5:15 Youth Choir
 6:00 Small Group
 6:00 KingsKids
 6:00 Cherub Choir
 6:00 Evening Celebration

19 9:15 Sunday School
 10:30 Worship
 12:00 AB Girls of Faith
 4:30 Diaconate
 5:15 Youth Choir
 6:00 Small Group
 6:00 KingsKids
 6:00 Cherub Choir
 6:00 Evening Celebration

26 9:15 Sunday School
 10:30 Worship
 4:00 CE Board
 5:15 Youth Choir
 6:00 Small Group
 6:00 KingsKids
 6:00 Cherub Choir
 6:00 Evening Celebration

6

13

20
 10:00 KeenAgers

27

7

9:30 MOPS Steering

14

10:00 Holloway Circle
 7:00 Abell Circle
 7:00 Smith Circle

21

9:30 MOPS

28

1

6:00 Family Dinner
 6:30 Awana BIG NIGHT
 6:30 Lifeline
 6:30 Celebration Ringers
 6:45 Men's Bible Study
 6:45 Bible Study & Prayer
 6:45 Carpenter's Hands
 8:00 Chancel Choir

8

6:00 Family Dinner
 6:30 Awana Club
 6:30 Lifeline
 6:30 Celebration Ringers
 6:45 Men's Bible Study
 6:45 Bible Study & Prayer
 6:45 Carpenter's Hands
 8:00 Chancel Choir

15

6:00 Family Dinner
 6:30 Awana teeny, tiny night
 6:30 Lifeline
 6:30 Celebration Ringers
 6:45 Men's Bible Study
 6:45 Bible Study & Prayer
 6:45 Carpenter's Hands
 8:00 Chancel Choir

22

6:00 Family Dinner
 6:30 Awana Club
 6:30 Lifeline
 6:30 Celebration Ringers
 6:45 Men's Bible Study
 6:45 Bible Study & Prayer
 6:45 Carpenter's Hands
 8:00 Chancel Choir

2

10:00 Ladies Bible Study
 6:30 Music & Worship
 6:30 Ladies Bible Study

9

10:00 Ladies Bible Study
 5:30 Board of Trustees
 6:30 Ladies Bible Study

16

8:30 Matthew 25
 10:00 Ladies Bible Study
 6:30 Ladies Bible Study

23

10:00 Ladies Bible Study
 6:30 Ladies Bible Study

3

10

17

24

9:30 Sr. High CREW to
 Perfect North

4

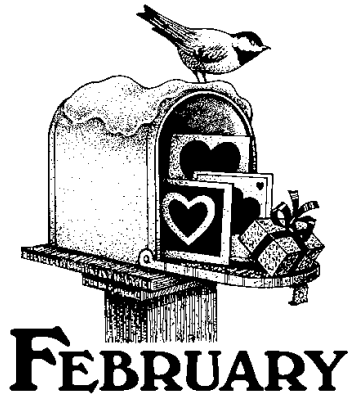
8:00 Men's Prayer
 Gathering

11

18

25

5:00 Jr. High CREW to
 Perfect North



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- | | | | | | |
|------|---|------|---|------|--|
| 1 - | Sophie Wallace
Geneda Cox | 12 - | Carol Dawson
Adam Davidson
Ken Hendricks
Richard Law | 25 - | Chris Forrest |
| 2 - | Mike O'Hara | | | 26 - | Rosemarie Emrick
Amie Gard
Allyson Payne |
| 3 - | SharonAllen Brewer
LeiLing Brown
Mary Brown
Pastor Metzger | 13 - | Chelsea Bowman
Kaye Haberthier
Beulah Hampton
Lauren Keith
Cynthia Nabors | 27 - | Nikolas Acus
Betsey Arnold Kelley
Flo Gill
Helen Mullen |
| 4 - | Jacob Metzler | | | 28 - | Gerry Retherford |
| 5 - | Garry Day
Stephanie Mullins
Jeremy Spence | 14 - | Noah Hampton
Sandy Morris
Nellie Wardlow | | |
| 6 - | Reva Hensley | 16 - | Debbie Hall Gibson | | |
| 7 - | Betty Powell
Kasey Jenkins | 17 - | Daniel Gabbard
Rachel Harris
Everett Hoskins | | |
| 8 - | Chrissy Apgar
Betty Emenaker
Lainey Hanna | 18 - | Jonathan Bell
Eric Dietrich | | |
| 9 - | Rosie Smith
Cleo Tiernan | 19 - | Emily Miller | | |
| 10 - | Matthew Farris | 20 - | Cledith Humbach
Cathi Thomas | | |
| 11 - | Gene Campbell
Suzanne Garver
Richard Jackson | 22 - | Rodney Anderson
Steve Cain | | |
| | | 23 - | Bettie Carmack
Miyoshie Jenkins
Jill O'Hara | | |

Note: Please call the church office if you notice that one of your family members has been inadvertently overlooked on the birthday calendar. We do not intend to overlook anyone but do not realize it unless you inform us.

Personal Notes



From Norb & Helen Baker

We really appreciated the group who came to sing Christmas carols for us. We know it was a real effort for some of you. We loved seeing the young people, old friends, Pastor and Ruth. You made great memories for 2005. Blessings to you all.

From Bill Chamberlain

I would like to thank the so many of you for your wonderful prayers. The cancer has been stopped and I no longer am on chemotherapy. I thank our Lord every day for His wonderful blessings and also for answering our prayers. What an amazing grace. I'll always remember your kindness in my time of need.

From Shirley Henson

My nephew, Timothy Lunsford, asked me to express his appreciation for the prayers for him during his hospitalization in December. He's much better now. Many, many thanks.

From Cleo Imhoff (aunt of Bill Imhoff)

To all the members of the First Baptist church that prayed for my recovery from cancer surgery—Thank you! God has listened to your prayers and I am on the road to recovery. May God bless all of you.

From Priscilla Keller Reynolds

Thank you for all the prayers during my recent illness. They have been answered. Also thanks to the choir for loaning the white robes to Lindenwald Baptist Church.

From Jack Rupp

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to our church family for your support during the illness and passing of my sister, Janice. She loved her church and

church family. A special thanks to Pastors Den and Bill for their home and hospice visits and for the beautiful funeral service that they provided. Thanks also to the funeral committee for the delicious food provided after the funeral. I cannot leave out the Thursday Morning Bible Study Class. You were wonderful. May God bless you all.

From Betty Schwab

Thank to each of you for your love and support, for the many cards in the passing of my sister and best friend. Sharing many good years together, she is now at peace with our God. Thanks to Pastor Bill and Bert, also to Tom Avance. Thanks again.

From Judy & Jack Young

We want to thank you for the many kindnesses and cards you showered us with on mother's passing. The kind words and hugs, the many cards were a great blessing. Thank you for just being you.

Corrections and Additions To The Directory

We will be using this spot each month to update the directory. Please call the church office with additions or changes to your address, phone number, or e-mail address.

Jones, Ralph & Florence (1/10-3/10)
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Ft. Myers, Florida 33901
Phone # 1-239-332-7486

Dulli, Ken
E-mail: kdulli@cinci.rr.com

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