

# The Courier

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



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"Where everybody is somebody and Jesus Christ Is Lord"

June, 2006

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## Roots, Wings, And Something Else

*"The greatest legacy we can leave our children is the gift of roots and wings."*

While I'm not sure who first said this, I do agree that giving our children roots and wings is critical. However, I would also add that children need a third element, a strong spiritual background.

If we give our children roots they know where they come from. If we give them wings they have confidence they can achieve their dreams. But if we fail to give them a spiritual foundation on which to build their lives, we haven't succeeded as Christian parents. Yes, I realize that there are no guarantees when it comes to raising children. Even though we may work hard to give them the things we consider valuable, things may not turn out as we planned.

Most of us are familiar with Proverbs 22:6: *"Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it."* Good parental advice, but do we take it to heart? What does it mean to train a child in the way he should go anyway? Deuteronomy 6:6-9 helps us define training our children this way: *"These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates."* Sound like God takes training our children very seriously, doesn't it? But do we?

No doubt many of us spend a great deal of time and money to train our children in today's world. But are we training them in things that really matter? How many hours do we spend at little league games, soccer, volleyball, football, gymnastics, band . . . compared to hours we spend studying the Bible with our families? How many "teachable moments" have we seized with our children this past week? And if children "learn what they live," then just what are they learning from us at home?

Hopefully they see mom and dad doing the following:

- Reading their Bibles daily
- Treating each other with kindness, respect, and consideration as people created in the image of God
- Praying together and separately
- Making God and church their number one priority
- Speaking to one another with courtesy and a desire for Christian encouragement

Raising kids to become strong Christians doesn't just happen. God has made us, as their parents, their greatest role models. If we want our children to be soldiers in the Lord's army, then we have to lead the way. Our lives and our values will make a lasting impact on our children, so let's live with Christian character. So often we concentrate on giving our children the material things and neglect the lasting things like faith, hope, and love. Leo Buscaglia once said, "The only thing of value we can give kids is what we are, not what we have." Well, like it or not, we will give our children "what we are." So let's make sure what they see in us, and what we truly value, are things that are spiritually lasting. Let's let them see a spiritual foundation so they can join us in building upon it.

Roots, wings, and a spiritual foundation to build upon . . . now that's a legacy in which any parent can be proud and a place for any child to build a life that matters!

—Teresa Kindred  
*Heartlight*



June 14th

June Missionary of the Month:  
Chile  
Steve & Shelia Heneise

Steve and Shelia serve as professors at the Baptist Theological Institute in Chillán, Chile to provide trained pastors and missionaries for the Convention of Baptist Churches of the Chilean Mission. Under their leadership, the Institute expanded its program to four regions of the country. Most recently, the Heneises have helped to plant new churches. They have worked closely with their local church, New Hope Baptist of Chillán, to start two new congregations. As the national Director of Evangelism and Missions, Steve provides leadership and encouragement for several other new church plants in various regions of the country.

## Bible Book For June . . . . . Numbers

*“The Lord bless you and keep you: The Lord make His face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you: The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace.”*

Numbers 6:24-26 (RSV)

Numbers is the fourth book of the Pentateuch. It is so named because the census it contains numbers people. The Hebrew title, “In the Wilderness,” is more appropriate, for it is an account of the forty years in the wilderness and embraces laws and regulations attributed to Moses. Although it covers a forty-year history, it actually deals with only nineteen days at the beginning and six months at the end of the period. It gives a valuable picture of the religious ideas of the fifth century B.C.

**PRAY** for the American Baptist Churches in their individual ministries and as they are related to other church bodies locally, nationally, and world-wide.

—Madge Walters

The next scheduled Work Day at Matthew 25 will be Thursday, June 15<sup>th</sup>. 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.

—Pastor Bill and Bert Brantingham

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## Five Couples Honored By Matthew 25: Ministries

A group of “KeenAgers” travel down to Matthew 25: Ministries every month assisting in the preparation of donated items to be sent to the “poorest of the poor” around the world. It is a very rewarding experience to all who participate and there is always room for more to serve. With the summer months approaching, many who can’t come in other parts of the year would be welcome to come and share the blessing!

The staff at Matthew 25 learned that several of us are celebrating over 50 years of marriage so they brought in hanging baskets of flowers to present to us. Those so honored were:

J.K. & Mary Walker	married 58 years
Paul & Evon Laubenstein	married 56 years
Walter & Mary Petry	married 56 years
Bill & Bert Brantingham	married 55 years
Paul & Margie Braun	married 53 years

They even commented on the fact that these 10 people have shared a total of 278 years - an awesome accomplishment! (One of the husbands was heard to say that he felt he and his wife had been married that long themselves!)

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## *To Be An Inviting People...* *A Summer of Invitation* (Vision Strategy # 2: Worship)

It may have been a day similar to this one—the sun bright; a breeze blowing; a day of promise and hope; a day of beginnings. Jesus may have stood on the deck outside the place where he was staying, coffee cup in hand, anticipating what the day might bring.

His cousin, John, had been preaching in near the Jordan where people responded to his challenge to get their hearts right with God. They followed their confession and repentance with baptism—a public symbol of the spiritual cleansing that had taken place deep in their hearts. But the fiery preaching of the prophet had another effect as well—hearts were becoming prepared for the arrival of God’s Messiah, the “lamb of God who would take away the sins of the world.”

As Jesus left that day, once again seeking the growing crowds of the curious, things would never be the same. His ministry was about to be launched in earnest, and people would be changed. It all began with an invitation. You know the familiar text in John:

*“...the two disciples (John and Andrew) followed Jesus. Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, “What do you want?” They said, “Rabbi, where are you staying?” “Come,” he replied, “and you will see.” So they went and saw where he was staying, and spent that day with him. It was about the tenth hour” (John 1:37-39).*

In the verses that follow, the operational word is “invite”—one man discovering the wonder of Jesus, inviting another to experience the same joy. And one by one they came: John and James; Andrew bringing Peter; Philip bringing Nathanael (Bartholomew). Then, added to their numbers were the names we all know—Matthew; Thomas; James, son of Alphaeus; Simon the zealot; Judas, son of James; and Judas Iscariot.

Shift scenes. And chapters (John 4). Jesus takes His men into new territory, literally, and into an old prejudice among a people to be shunned. There, in this despised Samaritan place, Jesus sends His men into town to buy

lunch (in itself a soul-stretching experience). While He waits for their return, He meets her—a Samaritan; a woman; an outcast, trying her best just to get by, tarnished by a morally-challenged lifestyle. In the encounter, she comes to know the Messiah deep in her heart. For the first time in years, she found someone who accepted and loved her for herself—no other strings attached. Again the text:

*Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, “Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Christ?” They came out of the town and made their way toward him” (John 4:28-30).*

Before the night was over, John offers this report:

*Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony...” (John 4:39).*

A changed life. A testimony. A willingness to share the truth of a heart melted by understanding and love. And an invitation: “Come meet the man who changed my life.”

Please read on...

(From the Pastor's Heart, continued)

**I**t is important that we not underestimate the power of the invitation. **Vision Strategy #2 of our January Vision Conference identifies the area of worship as an area for improvement for First Baptist Church. Specifically, we have indicated that we wanted to do a better job in attracting, retaining, and assimilating people to our worship services and ministries.**

Church growth studies have something to say about this issue. Statistics and the things behind them are the kind of subjects that excite some people. Here is what I discovered. Peter Wagner comments that in a survey of twenty-two congregations in three major cities, newcomers were asked, "What brought you to this church?" Here are the results:

- 2% indicated an advertisement;
- 6% indicated an invitation by the pastor;
- 6% indicated an organized evangelistic program;
- 86% stated an invitation by a friend or family member.

Think of that! **The most effective method of reaching out to the unchurched is a simple invitation born out of love and friendship.**

Interesting enough, in another series of studies, it was discovered that people are *more responsive* to invitations from church members than they were ten years ago. Today, 63% of Americans feel positive about receiving an invitation to church, compared to only 52% in the early 1980s.

In another study, it was discovered that for people in our culture to "buy" anything, **they had to be exposed to a product at least seven times.** Gone are the days when a single contact by a pastor/evangelist can grow a church. Today in the church, people need approximately *five significant encounters* with the Gospel before accepting Jesus as Savior.

Setting statistical details aside, it takes more than creative advertising, a pastor, a good reputation, or a great facility to expose people to the encouragement of the Gospel. **It takes a caring friend who is willing to simply say, "Would you like to join us for worship this Sunday? This is what is going on..."** Two thirds of those who are invited will respond with a "yes!" Most will not seek out a church on their own initiative.

**T**his is a great time of year to be thinking about people who might be open to such an invitation. The weather is wonderful, and the sunshine warms the spirit to the invitation. But the summer is

also the time of year when people are looking for a church to attend. Whether there is a lurking "oughtness" from childhood that they should be in church, a seeking of answers from the *Da Vinci Code* book and film, or a genuine desire to establish some spiritual roots, *people are amazingly open to our invitations.* Think of how wonderful it would be to have played a significant role in exposing your friends to the wonder of the Gospel message! We have the opportunity. We have family and friends whom we love. In the face of that love, what will we do?

**May I suggest that this summer you create a "hit list" of those you might invite to join you.** Pray about the opportunity. Plan how you might make the day a little more special than usual. Ask the Lord to enable you to be bold as you offer your invitation. You may be surprised what God could do with that simple, but caring effort.

From the first hours in the Garden when God invited Adam and Eve to walk with Him in the cool of the evening, through the final pages of Scripture, **God has always had an invitation on His heart.** Listen to this wonderful and final invitation:

*The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life" (Rev. 22:17).*

**Whom can you invite to join us on this journey of serving and blessing our Lord?** Our task, as the people of God, is to continue to act on the Father's behalf to become "an inviting people." It is an exciting challenge and an awesome privilege. It is also a way that we can play a part in helping First Baptist grow. I hope you will join me as we take the task seriously.

Because of your invitation, I share in your love,  
Pastor

*I*  *Dad*

**Donuts for Dad**

June 18, 2006  
8:45 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.

Donuts, coffee, juice or milk will be available to "Dad" and their families before the Sunday School hour to honor you on this special day. Happy Father's Day!!

—Family Life Committee



## Summer Missions '06 Update

First Baptist has an opportunity to assist in the clean-up and restoration of Bayou LaBatre, Alabama. This fishing port is about 30 miles south of Mobile. Plans are to leave Hamilton on Saturday, July 15<sup>th</sup>, stay north of Birmingham that evening and complete the journey the next day. Work will be done Monday through Thursday returning to Hamilton Friday, July 21<sup>st</sup>. We will be staying at a church between Mobile and Bayou LaBatre with beds, showers, and air conditioning. Please see Laurin Sprague or Mike Braun if you are interested in participating.

–Laurin Sprague & Mike Braun

## Budget Status Report

### The Month of April, 2006

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$54,834
Offerings	<u>53,607</u>
Over (Under) Budget	(\$ 1,227)
Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$58,271
Offerings	<u>53,607</u>
Over (Under) Actual	(\$ 4,664)

### The Year Through April, 2006

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$247,117
Offerings	<u>206,112</u>
Over (Under) Budget	(\$41,005)
Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$236,877
Offerings	<u>206,112</u>
Over (Under) Actual	(\$30,765)

–The Board Of Trustees

On Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, during the morning worship service, it will be our joy to honor those in the church family who are graduating this spring or have recently graduated. A special recognition has been planned with Jeremy Spence, as guest speaker. We trust that you will be present to encourage these who have completed an important part of their lives. A luncheon to honor our graduates catered by Lisa Dulli will be held immediately following the morning worship for the graduates and their families in the Family Center. Please join us as we encourage and challenge our grads.

The following is a list of all those who are graduating from high school, college, or graduate school from our church family. If your name is not on this list, please contact the church office so we know and may recognize you at our Baccalaureate Sunday Service.

#### LeTourneau University

Doug Moorehead . . . . . B.S. in Finance

#### Northern Baptist Theological Seminary

Adam Metzger . . . . . Master of Divinity

#### Hamilton High School

Jennifer McKee

#### Edgewood High School

Mark Braun  
Martha Helton  
Jared Morris  
Ben Shalloe

#### Fairfield

Sarah Keith

#### Lakota East

Chad Andrews

#### Ross

Rachael Davis  
Catherine Henrie

#### Talawanda

Mara Krall



**WORK DAY**  
at the  
**CHURCH**

## A Big Thanks!!

The trustees would like to thank everyone who helped the board spruce up the church grounds during the annual clean-up day on May 6<sup>th</sup>. Your assistance was invaluable and your reward is forthcoming because, as Hebrews chapter 6 promises, "God will not forget your work."



## Awana Club

The **Awana Fair** on May 3<sup>rd</sup> was a big success! Thank you to all our Awana leaders, helpers, volunteers from Crew, and anyone else who stepped in to help. I tried to get an attendance count, and with everyone moving around, my best guess was 103 kids, parents, leaders, etc...

We closed our year with **Awards Night** on May 10<sup>th</sup>. Awards for finishing handbooks were given out. 18 Cubbies, 16 Sparks and 2 T&T clubbers finished handbooks. Congratulations!

We finished the 2005-2006 year with:

- 21 Cubbies (3 & 4 year olds) and 8 Cubbies leaders & helpers
- 28 Sparks (K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade) and 15 Sparks leaders & helpers
- 15 T&T (3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grade) and 10 T&T leaders & helpers.
- 5 other leaders/helpers filling various positions

Awana is introducing a **new, improved Basic Training** for leaders this summer. Anyone who has previously passed an Awana leader training course is still qualified to serve as a leader. However, anyone who has never officially become an Awana leader (ask me if you're unsure) needs to take a training course and simple test. I also strongly encourage all current Awana leaders to take this as a refresher course and get yourself energized for the new club year. I'm excited about the improvements and additions to Awana Basic Training!

There are 3 dates available for Basic Training in our area—August 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, & 19<sup>th</sup>. Choose one and mark your calendar now. I will attend any and all dates that we have leaders attending (I just want an excuse to go all 3 times—I have Awana fever—don't call the doctor because I don't want to get well). Let me know which date you plan to attend.

Also mark your calendar for the **fall leadership conference**, now called the **Ohio Childrens Ministry Conference**. In addition to sessions pertaining to Awana, there will also be sessions for workers serving in other areas of children's ministry as well. This conference will be on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. I will be attending this conference and I hope that you will too.

–Emily Metzger  
Awana Commander



## From The Heart Of Marilyn

### College Corner

### E-Mail From God

### Have I Got A Plan For You!

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."* –Jeremiah 29:11

Dear Child,

Sometimes it seems like everyone, including your friends, your parents, and maybe even yourself, has a plan for you. Well, I have a plan for you, too. I created you with a plan in mind. It is your destiny—the reason you exist.

We have adventures to go on, you and I. There are new friends for you to meet and new places for you to explore. There will be tough times, but I'll give you strength; and when you're lost, I'll show you the way back home.

So when you need to make a decision, pray first and then listen. You will hear a whisper inside yourself. Trust me. I only want to bless you!

Your Trail Guide,  
God

–Serving in His name,  
Marilyn Bowling  
College Coordinator





## Summer Opportunities For Children!

There was a huge decline in the people going to the movie theaters a few years ago. This was solved by cinemas improving seating, offering more refreshments, etc. and generally cleaning the business up. The Bible is the best message ever to have been communicated. It is better and bigger than even the latest blockbuster "Mission Impossible III". People, however, do not seem to be as interested in the Bible's life saving message. They would rather go see the latest flick. This is because the audience has changed, our methods for communicating with one another has changed also. We need to get children interested to communicate God's message to them.

The biblical saving message has not, and does not need to be changed. We just need to think about our approach to this latest generation of children. If we are prepared to make an investment now, the return will be enormous and we can leave our children a big legacy. It was said recently that one adult can change a child's life, but a personal relationship with Jesus can change them from now through to eternity.

This is what we are trying to do with our children here at church. We're very excited about VBS "*Trading Places*". The preparation is going well, we have a kickoff planned for June 14<sup>th</sup>, 6:40-8:00 p.m., and we're thinking about the follow ups and "after" planning that we need to do. The summer material really is unique and promises to be an eye opener for everyone!

We have planned activities for Wednesday nights that are designed to catch children's attention and allow us to teach them about God in a relevant and inventive way. Using our children's language and ideas we can communicate to them, without losing the main points of Jesus' teaching. We are using the "*Road Rally for Jesus*" material and expect to teach the children many things about God's promises for us and how they are relevant now.

Our Summer Son Club is also in the process of being organized; we are planning trips to parks and pools, (outies) among other things, with fun days planned at

the church (innies) also. Please remember to pray for us, the volunteers and the staff who are dedicating their time to serve God. If you want to offer help, we will be glad to have it. Just remember the reason we have children is to instruct them in the truth and love of God.

—In His Work,  
Claire Metzger & Brandi Emenaker  
Co-Directors of Children's Ministries

## VBS Craft Donations Needed!

Once again we are asking for your help with the Vacation Bible School Crafts. It helped us out so much last year with all of your generous contributions. If you could donate any of these items, please place them in the box marked Trading Places in the connector. Your help is greatly appreciated!

- \* Crayola Crayons
- \* Card Stock paper ( White) - 300 sheets
- \* Pony Beads - (assorted colors)
- \* Satin Cord (enough for 80 22" strands)
- \* Tacky Glue (15 - 20 large bottles)
- \* Aquarium Gravel
- \* Florists Flower Keepers (plastic tubes for single stem)
- \* Double Sided Tape
- \* Color Crape Paper Streamers (6 rolls)
- \* 25 Red, 25 Green, 25 Yellow Foam Craft Sheets
- \* Medium Side Wiggle eyes 8mm (400)
- \* Spring Clothes pins
- \* Green, Black, and Red Markers
- \* 160 Paint Stir Sticks
- \* Colorful Craft Feathers
- \* 80 Solid Color Pencils
- \* Water Color Paints (14 Sets)

—Linda (Gabbard) Arnold

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## Preregistration For VBS

Sign up at the "*Trading Places!*" registration table in the connector beginning Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>. Registrations will also be taken on Wednesday evenings, June 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget to take home registration forms for your friends also. Transportation will be arranged if needed. Contact Marsha Helton or Linda Gibbs for further information or questions.

## Donations For VBS Teachers' Snack Room

We need food for the teacher's snack room - baked things, fruit, cheese - anything - we love our 15 minute refreshment break! This can be brought in each day during Vacation Bible School and left in the kitchen marked Teachers' Snack Room. Thanks!!

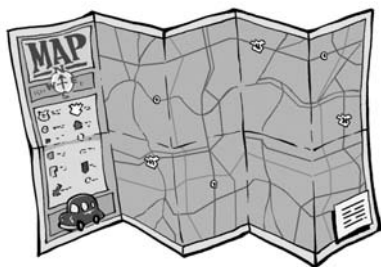
—Linda Hoover  
VBS Snack Room Coordinator

## Can You Help Us?



In our efforts to authentically decorate for our international theme for VBS, we would like to borrow some travel items from our congregation. If you would like to loan some old suitcases

that we could use in the sanctuary and in some of our classrooms, that would be great! Also, the countries that we will be "traveling" to include Mexico, Kenya, Brazil, Poland, and China. If you have souvenirs from any of these countries that you would like to let us borrow, that would be wonderful as well! We promise to take good care of these items! Please see Claire or Brandi if you have any questions!



## VBS Kick-Off

Our VBS Kickoff will be Wednesday, June 14<sup>th</sup> from 6:40 to 8:00 p.m., tentatively scheduled to be held at Holloway Park. Please join us for games, food, fellowship, and fun! Bring your friends, and register for VBS. When you register, receive a FREE VBS music CD, and enter your name for some fabulous door prizes! Parents encouraged to attend! Please call the church if you are able to attend so that we can get a food count! Thanks so much, and we hope to see everyone there!



## Prayer Needed!



Last, but not least, we need prayer warriors to be praying for those who will be serving and those who will be attending. May the love of God be lifted up in our VBS ministry.



## Planning Meeting

We will meet immediately following morning worship Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>. Lunch will be provided by the catering team of Brandi and Claire. Chris Metzger cheerfully volunteers his babysitting services.

## Closing Program

We will be inviting families to our closing ceremony on Friday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, at about 11:30 a.m. followed by a light lunch.

—Brandi Emenaker & Claire Metzger  
Co-Directors of Vacation Bible School

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## Totally Terrific Tuesday

Please join us for our first TOTALLY TERRIFIC TUESDAY, which will be on Tuesday, June 27<sup>th</sup>. This will be an "innie" with "Make It and Take It" activities held in the Family Center! This is a perfect opportunity to invite your friends to join us and to meet new people! Goodies will be given to those that bring a new friend to our events! Activities will be appropriate for kids going to kindergarten through going to sixth grade. Please call Brandi @ 738-2439 or email at br9teacher@msn.com if you will be attending and how many of your wonderful friends you will be bringing! :) If you are unable to RSVP, please come any way!

—Brandi Emenaker & Claire Metzger  
Co-Directors of Children's Ministries



## Handbell Choir Opportunities

### Attention Teens

We need teens (9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grades) involved in handbells. Yes, we have Chad Allen and that is a great start! This summer could be a time to learn to ring. I'm willing to teach you. All we need is a time. So, if you want to be a part of a teen handbell ministry this summer, just call me and we will work together on a rehearsal time. I am willing to teach on an individual basis or as a group. Wouldn't it be great to have a group ready to ring for a service before September? Deadline for enrollment is Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup>. Just see me at church or give me a call - 863-5018.

### Youth Summer Handbell Choir

If there is enough interest, there will be an opportunity for youth (6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grades) to participate in a summer handbell experience. If you are within this age group and if you are learning to read musical notation (the notes, flats, sharps, etc.), you are eligible to be a participant in this choir. Younger youths will be considered based on their musical knowledge. A schedule for rehearsals will be released after we have enrollment. Participation is limited to 10 youths. Contact Elaine Tragger - 863-8018. Deadline for enrollment is Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup>.

### Bell Maintenance

Yes, it is that time again—time to clean those beautiful handbells. Once a year we take these expensive musical instruments apart in order to keep them maintained. Pianos are tuned—handbells are polished. There is an oxidation that forms on the bronze casting and also sometimes pits occur. If we do not remove the oxidation and pits, the castings not only become no longer brilliant but the pits can become permanent. While the bells are disassembled we also check for spring replacement, etc.

These are God's instruments, so the task becomes a labor of love. We welcome your helpful hands. You don't have to play bells to be part of the bell ministry. Disassembly and cleaning is scheduled for Wednesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m. and Wednesday, June 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00 p.m.

## The Wesley Bell Ringers From Salt Lake City

Our church has the opportunity to witness a truly professional bell choir on Wednesday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, at the Mt. Washington Presbyterian Church at 7:30 p.m. A transportation sheet for persons interested in going to the concert will be on the bulletin board. We should leave the church no later than 6:00 p.m.

The choir organized in 1963 with nine young people from Christ United Methodist Church in Salt Lake City playing 25 bells they purchased through the sale of hoagie sandwiches. Since that time 407 young people have played in the choir. The choir now plays a six octave and a four octave set of handbells, two four octave sets of handchimes, melody bells and carillon. Combined with orchestral chimes, cymbals, metallophones, steel drum and an assortment of rhythm instruments, the ensemble has become a Handbell Orchestra.

Besides their forty summer tours the choir has had several performances with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and have performed as guest artists with the Utah Symphony Orchestra and was privileged to perform as part of the Salt Lake City Winter Olympics. The choir is under the direction of Terry Waite.

—Elaine Tragger  
Director of Handbell Choir



### Piano Dedication Recital June 24<sup>th</sup>

Set aside this date! This is going to be a great dedication recital! Guess who is coming back to his home church to treat us to his artistry! Bryan Wallick! So set aside June 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. for a momentous event. There will be a reception following the piano dedication.

—Elaine Tragger  
Music and Worship Committee



## Carpenter's Hands Signs Of Love



### Silent Dinner

The **Silent Dinner** for **June** will be Friday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, at Northgate Mall. See you there!

### Interpreter Schedule for June

<b>June 4</b>	Jo Manson	Maria Miller
<b>June 11</b>	Jo Manson	Maria Miller
<b>June 18</b>	Jo Manson	Maria Miller
<b>June 25</b>	Jo Manson	Maria Miller

### Happy Birthday



June 4	Robin Chamberlain
June 30	Chad Metcalf

—Maria Miller  
Director of Deaf Ministries



### KeenAger June Meeting

For the KeenAgers' **June** meeting we will be joined by our teenagers (CREW members) for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Picnic of the KeenAgers/Teenagers at Harbin Park, Monday, June 12<sup>th</sup>. The KeenAgers will provide the food and the teenagers will provide the games and entertainment. Jeremy will bless us with a short devotional. We will meet at the church at 11:00 a.m. **KeenAgers and Teenagers, please sign the list on the bulletin board.**

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



Because you have shared in their lives  
by your friendship  
we invite you to join  
in the celebration of the  
50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary  
of our parents

*Thelma and Bob Stanger*

at an Open House  
on Sunday, the twenty-fifth of June  
Two thousand and six  
two o'clock until four-thirty o'clock in the  
afternoon  
First Baptist Church  
1501 Hamilton Cleves Road  
Hamilton, Ohio

Valerie, Bob, Susan, Leigh and Mike

Your presence is a treasured gift;  
we request no other.





## Child Care Schedule

### Nursery (Morning)

June 4 - Lori Hamblin & Teen Helper  
June 11 -  
June 18 -  
June 25 - Wayne, Debbie & Megan Miller

### One & Two Year Olds

June 4 - Debbie Allen  
June 11 - Emily Metzger & Teen Helper  
June 18 - Emily Metzger & Teen Helper  
June 25 -

### Kinderchurch

June 4 - Nick & Brandi Emenaker  
June 11 - Brian & Barb Begley  
June 18 - Kim Schuermann & Teen Helper  
June 25 -

## 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)  
Claire Metzger - (642-0434)

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



## Wednesday Family Dinners

### June 7

Menu: Grilled Ham and Cheese Sandwiches, Macaroni and Cheese, Baked Beans, Potato Chips, Tossed Salad, Dessert  
Hosts: TNT

### June 14

Menu: Chicken Fingers with Honey or Honey Mustard, French Fried Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Cole Slaw, Rolls, Dessert  
Hosts: FOCUS

### June 21

Menu: Meat Loaf, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Green Beans, Tossed Salad, Rolls, Dessert  
Hosts: Family Life/Missions/Homebuilders

### June 28

Menu: Beef and Noodles, Peas and Carrots, Tossed Salad, Rolls, Dessert  
Hosts: Keystone I

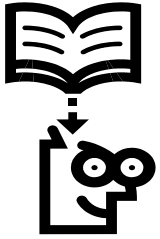
Reminder: Adults should contribute \$4.00 per person for the meal; \$12.00 for a family. The cost for children under 12 years old who eat at the "Hot Dog" table is \$1.25. If they chose to eat from the main table, the cost is \$2.00. Be sure to make your reservation on the Friendship Folder each Sunday.

Reminder: Anyone desiring to borrow items, such as, chairs, tables, coffee pots, etc. are **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.

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## June Greeters

June 4 - Janet Day, Flo Gill, & Kathie Inloes  
June 11 - Brian Begley, Brad Begley, & Nancy Follmer  
June 18 - Teri Horsley, Ken & Barb Hendricks  
June 25 - Brad Gerth, John Riczko, & John Wallace



Pastor Jeremy's  
Think Tank  
*Busy as a Bee*

What follows is just the tip of the iceberg at the many different things the CREW will be doing for the summer months. Some of the things you see are “new” and others are just old favorites that seem to work time and time again. However, our goal is not to just be “busy” doing things for the sake of it but instead being “busy” in helping teens connect with God in many different ways and forms. I fear that sometimes in life, especially mine, we get so busy doing “stuff” that we forget who we are to do the “stuff” for; namely God. Is that true for you?

I recently read an article in the Enquire about the manager of the Red's and he quoted Paul from Colossians 3.23, “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men.” What a great reminder as we start the summer that whatever we do we should do it for the Lord. That is my goal and prayer for my life as well as the CREW.

With that in mind, please pray with me over this summer's CREW programs that we would be faithful to God in bringing teens to Him.

Be God's,  
Jeremy

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Wednesday Nights:** You won't want to miss the things we are doing on Wednesday nights for the summer. There is bound to be loads of fun with activities ranging from “Wet N Wild” nights, to Parent/Teen Nights and much, much more. Plan on enjoying your summer break with the CREW on Wednesday nights. Fun always begins around 6:30pm in the CREW Room. See you there.

**June 2nd-3rd:** First annual “Formal Night” for all CREW members and the new 6<sup>th</sup> graders moving up. You won't want to miss this evening of fun and food. Things will start at 5pm at the Moorehead's for the ladies, and 5pm for the guys at the church. Ladies, you will get ready together and guys, we will start the dinner at that time. Following dinner we will watch the movie *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, Witch, and the Wardrobe* on the big screen. Once the movie is over ladies will head back to the Moorehead's and the guys will stay at church for the evening.

Saturday morning the ladies will make breakfast. We will be finished at 11am. Buy your tickets now, only \$10 for this great evening of fun.

- June 4<sup>th</sup>:** CREW Flub's outing and devotional in the evening. Please bring money for Flub's.
- June 7<sup>th</sup>:** Parent/Teen Night during Lifeline. Parents please join your teen for our Lifeline program as we go over summer activities and spend some time “together”. Hope you will plan on joining us for that evening. See you in the CREW room at 6:30pm.
- June 11<sup>th</sup>:** Baccalaureate Service during the morning worship. It will be a great time as we honor our graduates and talk about whether or not we “Got Faith?” and how it is shown in our life. Immediately following the service there will be a luncheon for the graduates and their families.
- June 11<sup>th</sup>:** For evening CREW, we will be going on a DU (Destination Unknown). I will tell you what you need to bring and the proper attire. Be sure to listen for this interesting time together.
- June 12<sup>th</sup>:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual KeenAger/Teenager Picnic will take place at Harbin Park in Fairfield. You don't want to miss this time of getting to know our KeenAgers and having a blast with them. The fun begins at 11am and we will return around 2pm. Please **sign up** for this event so we know how much food to provide.
- June 18<sup>th</sup>:** No Evening CREW
- June 19th-23rd:** VBS “Trading Spaces” at church. If interesting in helping, please see Claire Metzger or Brandi Emenaker to sign up.
- June 18th-23rd:** Jr/Sr High Extreme Camp at Camp Kirkwood. This is going to be a week of camp like none other with things like Extreme Serving, Extreme Community, Extreme Fun, and Extreme times with God you won't want to miss this great week of Camp. See Jeremy, Loretta Hampton, or [www.campkirkwood.net](http://www.campkirkwood.net) for more the forms necessary for this camp.
- June 25th-30th:** Junior High Camp with Linda Miller. This is always a great camp with loads of fun for those of you in the Junior High age range. See Loretta or [www.campkirkwood.net](http://www.campkirkwood.net) for more information and forms. Hurry the deadline to register is fast approaching.
- June 25<sup>th</sup>:** Piano Recital by Bryan Wallick at 5pm in the Sanctuary. We will go on an aftermeet following the recital. More details to come.
- July 7th-8th:** Bob Evan's Farm Trip. Details are not finalized yet but you won't want to miss this change to go “down on the farm” with your friends in the CREW.



## Rediscover Camping at Camp Kirkwood 2006

- June 16-17 - Beginner #1 (K-2 grades w/parent)  
Director: Barbara Cook
- June 18-23 - Junior #1 (4-6 grades)  
Director: Kerry Kane
- June 18-23 - Jr./Sr. High Xtreme (7-12 grades)  
Director: Jeremy Spence
- June 25-28 - New Adventure #1 (3-4 grades)  
Director: Tim Lee
- June 25-30 - Jr. High (7-9 grades)  
Director: Linda Miller
- July 9-14 - Sr. High (9-12 grades)  
Director: Neal Hitch
- July 23-26 - College Camp (18-25 Singles)  
Director:
- July 24- 26 - New Adventure #2 (3-4 grades)  
Director: Jevon Monaghan
- July 28-29 - Beginners #2 (K-2 grades w/parent)  
Director: Barbara Cook
- July 30-Aug 4 - Junior #2 (4-6 grades)  
Director: Becky Kelly
- September 1-4 - Remember Bible & Missions  
Conference!

If anyone is interested in attending any of these camps this year, please contact Loretta Hampton at 844-1967 to get a registration form.

—Loretta Hampton  
Camp Coordinator



## Congratulations To Some Of Our Youth!

### Scholarship Winner

Our own Mark Braun was a recipient of a \$1,000 scholarship from the Butler County Retired Teachers Association on May 16<sup>th</sup> at the Hamiltonian. Mark was one of four graduating seniors to receive one of these out of 39 applicants. Jack Young, a member of the scholarship committee, presented the check to Mark.

Mark will be graduating from Edgewood High School. He plans to attend the University of Toledo in the fall. Mark played basketball and baseball all four years and was a three year member of the Edgewood Choraliars. Mark was in the National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, and Senior Class Vice-President.

Mark's parents are Mike and Dale Braun; grandparents, Bud and Margie Braun and Don Anderson. Congratulations, Mark!!

—Jack Young  
Retired Teachers Scholarship Committee

### Edgewood Winterguard

Congratulations to **Rachel Harris**, a member of Edgewood High School's Winterguard, which received a first-place in their division on March 26, in competition at Elizabethtown, Kentucky. Rachel also played the role of a "dreamer" in Edgewood's spring musical, *"The Secret Garden"* in May. (Sorry, the complete cast list wasn't posted in time to make the deadline for the May Courier)

—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!



The Butler County Retired Teachers Scholarship Committee of five would like to thank the staff of First Baptist Church for allowing them to use the library to conduct interviews of 10 students, four of whom receive scholarships. Our own Emma LeRoy, who recently passed away, was former chairperson of the scholarship committee.

—Jack Young

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

# June 2006

## VBS June 19 - 23

**4**

9:15 Sunday School Promotion  
10:30 Worship  
12:00 VBS Planning Mtg.  
4:00 CE Board  
4:30 Family Life  
5:00 Youth Choir  
6:00 Evening Celebration  
CREW Flub's Outing

**11**

9:15 Sunday School  
10:30 Worship  
Baccalaureate  
12:00 Graduates Luncheon  
4:30 Board of Missions  
5:15 Youth Choir  
6:00 KingsKids  
6:00 Evening Celebration  
CREW DU

**18**

8:45 Donuts For Dad  
9:15 Sunday School  
10:30 Worship  
4:30 Diaconate  
5:00 Youth Choir  
6:00 KingsKids  
6:00 Evening Celebration

**25**

9:15 Sunday School  
10:30 Worship  
2:00 50<sup>th</sup> Open House  
Thelma & Bob Stanger  
5:00 Piano Dedication  
Recital w/ Bryan Wallick

**5**

6:15 Men's Softball Blue

**12**

11:00 KeenAger/Teenager Picnic at Harbin Park  
7:15 Men's Softball Blue

**19**

9:00 VBS  
7:15 Men's Softball Blue

**26**

8:15 Men's Softball Blue

**6**

9:30 MOPS Steering  
7:15 Men's Softball Gray

**13**

10:00 Holloway Circle  
7:00 Abell Circle  
7:00 Smith Circle  
9:15 Men's Softball Gray

**20**

9:00 VBS  
8:15 Men's Softball Grey

**27**

10:00 Totally Terrific  
Tuesday  
7:15 Men's Softball Grey

**7**

5:00 ABW Meeting  
6:00 Family Dinner  
6:30 Lifeline Parent/Teen  
6:30 Bell Maintenance  
6:45 *Road Rally For Jesus*  
6:45 Bible Study & Prayer  
6:45 Carpenter's Hands  
8:00 Chancel Choir

**14**

6:00 Family Dinner  
6:30 Lifeline  
6:30 Bell Maintenance  
6:40 VBS Kick-Off  
6:45 Bible Study & Prayer  
6:45 Carpenter's Hands  
8:00 Chancel Choir

**21**

9:00 VBS  
1:00 Bell Maintenance  
6:00 Family Dinner  
6:30 Lifeline  
6:30 Children's Programs  
6:45 Bible Study & Prayer  
6:45 Carpenter's Hands

**28**

1:00 Bell Maintenance  
6:00 Family Dinner  
6:30 Lifeline  
6:30 *Road Rally For Jesus*  
6:45 Bible Study & Prayer  
6:45 Carpenter's Hands  
8:00 Chancel Choir

**1**

8:00 One Small Group

**8**

5:30 Board of Trustees  
6:30 Music & Worship  
8:00 One Small Group

**15**

8:30 Matthew 25  
8:00 One Small Group

**22**

9:00 VBS  
8:00 One Small Group

**29**

8:00 One Small Group

**2**

5:00 CREW "*Night In The Garden Of Eden*"  
5:30 Small Group Picnic @ Brantingham's

**9**

**16**

**23**

9:00 VBS  
11:30 VBS Closing Program

**30**

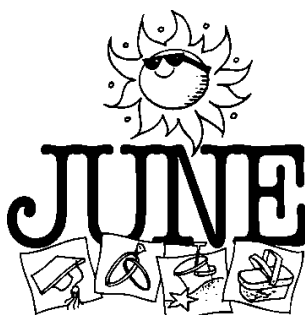
**3**

8:00 Men's Prayer Gathering

**10**

**17**

**24**



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| 1 - Ken Dulli<br>Evon Laubenstein   | 17 - Dale McAllister   | 28 - Harold Lainhart<br>Lauren Schwartz  |
| 3 - John Rish<br>Janice Rupp<br>Karen Schumm                                  | 18 - Tom Avance<br>Mary Walker   | 29 - Maxine Hillman<br>Sam Murrell   |
| 4 - Trevor Allen<br>Robin Chamberlain   | 19 - Branan Becknell<br>Philip Dudley<br>Mark Whipple  | 30 - Blair Hampton   |
| 6 - Lois Ross<br>Betty Schwab<br>Dorothy Withrow                              | 20 - Joe Ford<br>Johnnie Wallace   | <b>Note:</b> 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. |
| 7 - Andy Braun<br>Matthew Riczko<br>Rob VanMeter                              | 21 - Bill Brown<br>Gery David Huelseman III<br>Dick Inloes<br>Rachel Keller<br>Lillie Senior |  |
| 8 - Sallie Minnich  | 22 - Oliver Davis<br>Guy Gessendorf  |  |
| 9 - Katie Buchanan  | 24 - Michelle Hampton<br>Josh Young  |  |
| 12 - Amber Allen<br>Marlene Collins<br>Jim Davis                              | 25 - Molly Day<br>Stanley Pugh<br>Dale Young   |  |
| 13 - Duke Baker<br>Dan Brandenburg<br>Audrey Wallace<br>Alexandra West        | 26 - Katie Riczko  |  |
| 15 - Lona Davidson<br>Marilyn McAllister<br>Alex Thiel<br>Mandy Wilson Snader | 27 - Mary Law<br>Fred Schilling  |  |
| 16 - Sue Gambrell Peace   |  |  |

## Personal Notes



### From Brent & Kristen Bowling

Thanks so much for all the love, prayers, cards, and support that you have given to all of us, my parents, and my grandparents, during the time of the early arrival of our twin sons, Connor and Wade. We know that prayer works and we appreciate every one of them.

### From Ken & Barb Hendricks

Thanks so much for all the prayers, cards, and words of encouragement in the loss of our loved one. Thanks to Pastors Den and Bill for their visit and to the group that made the long trip to Georgetown for visitation. We can't tell you how much that meant to our daughter and to us. We are so thankful to be a part of the family at First Baptist.

### From Kathy Reynolds

I have been overwhelmed by the evidences of your love in this past month. My entire world has been turned upside down and put together in a way I could not have imagined when the month of April began. Thank you for the many, many cards and notes of encouragement I received. Thank you for flowers and gifts which I have and will view with you in mind. I appreciate the many visits to the hospital, Berkeley and after I arrived here. Thank you to all of my family for dismantling my home, storing many of my possessions and giving a semblance of order to my new place of residence before I ever saw it. Thank you to the strong backs and willing hands and arms of the men who moved my furnishings down to Woodridge. And a special thank you to Larry Bowling who paved the way and made arrangements for me to have this new nest. God bless you all!

### From Oakley Wardlow

I want to thank Pastor Bill and Pastor Den for all their

visits and encouragements throughout my recover from a Heart Attack in December. I also want to express my thanks to all of you for the lovely cards, flowers, gifts and numerous visits to whatever facility I was residing at that time. During some of my lowest times I truly believe that all of your prayers and encouragements brought me back to the recovery that I am experiencing today. To my brother and sister-in-law, Earl and Carolyn Gabbard, I would like to express how much their love and prayers meant to me. I am truly blessed to also have a family that has seen to my every need. My daughters, son, grandchildren and great grandchildren have been such a blessing to me. I hope to see all of you at church soon and once again thank you all for being the spiritual guidance that helped me through it all.

### From Kathy Weaver & family of Emma LeRoy

During the last few weeks, our family has been touched by the outpouring of love shown. The visits, flowers, cards, calls, and many other things so many have done has meant more than you can know. Above all we have coveted your prayers for Dad. He misses mother so much, but is comforted by the knowledge that she is waiting for each of us with our heavenly Father. May God bless each of you. Psalm 4:8.

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## 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.

**Stanger, Bo** (through December)  
3700 E. Deerfield Road  
Apt. D 1  
Mt. Pleasant, Michigan 48858

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The Courier is a monthly publication of The First Baptist Church of Hamilton, Ohio. Deadline for articles to be submitted is the fifteenth day of each month. The pastor: Dr. Dennis M. Metzger; Editor: Ellie Dinger. Our purpose statement: *We are believers in Jesus Christ, called of God, Gathering for Worship; Instruction and Fellowship...Scattering for Care, Evangelism and Transformation of the World for His Kingdom.*

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