

The Courier

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



"Where everybody is somebody and Jesus Christ Is Lord"

September, 2006

Forks In The Road

One of the apocryphal sayings sometimes attributed to ex-New York Yankees player and manager Yogi Berra is, "When you come to a fork in the road, take it!" The absurdity of the idea is matched by the frustration we feel at those times when we wish we did not have to make choices—particularly either/or choices that will have major implications for our lives.

Our experiences teach us that when we come to such "forks in the road" of life, decisions are inevitable and often painful, no matter what choice is made. Sometimes in retrospect our expectations may have been worse than the outcome; at other times the choice now seems to be of little consequence. Some circumstances are difficult because we know it is not just our own personal future at stake but the future of family and friends as well. Life never will be the same, whatever choice we make.

I confess that I often would prefer to "take it"—to embrace both options instead of one, or at least hold on to the security of the other option if the first choice doesn't work out.

Christian people sometimes end up extremely frustrated because we want God to always provide obvious clues that point us in one direction and block the other path altogether. All decisions ought to be clearly good or bad; all choices narrowly and specifically defined. The reality of life—at least my life—is that forks in the road are seldom that distinctive. The conscious decision to take the "road less traveled," as suggested by the poet (perhaps even supported by Scripture if you pick the right verses) is seldom a clearly marked alternative when we are staring at the fork of the road in front of us.

Sometimes all of the options look apparently good and beneficial. At other times we seem to be staring at a choice between "bad and worse." There even are times when we are supposed to "take it"—when both/and is actually possible and choosing either/or would be a mistake.

Perhaps the best thing about the apocryphal slogan is that it makes us laugh and stop just long enough to remember that human decisions and the directions our lives take are not always as serious or monumental as we would make them. Granted, some choices are

critical and can neither be ignored or handed off to others. But we live with a faith conviction that beyond human agendas and decisions there is a divine agenda, a master road builder, and a road that will lead home, whatever meandering and fork-taking we may indulge, if our eyes are ultimately set on Him.

God's "strait and narrow" may not always be as obvious to our blurred vision as we might like, and it may take us to surprising forks in the road at times. But God's road map is not like Mapquest with the shortest route already determined for us to read and follow. His map overlays our lives and constantly re-charts the course of the road that leads home. We know the end of the journey—and there's a different map for each one of us!

So next time you come to a fork in the road . . .

—John O. York

LoveLines

ABC/OHIO Bible & Missions Conference September 1 - 4, 2006

Kirkwood Camp & Conference Center

**Transformed
By God's Hand . . .**

***Faithful
to the
Journey***

Philippians 1:3-6

Rev. Charles Jones, Inspirational Speaker

Dr. David May, Bible Study Leader

Revs. Jim & Debbie Kelsey, Missionaries

Mr. Bob Beals, Worship Leader

Heartstrings

Claire Dent & Duane Flesher, Music Guests



American Baptist Women's Ministries



It's that time of year again! Last year, ABW along with members of the congregation, worked together to fill 100+ shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child.

Operation Christmas Child, a unique project of Christian relief and evangelism organization, Samaritan's Purse, delivers gifts to hurting children while also telling them about God's greatest gift—His Son, Jesus Christ.

We are asking you, every member of the congregation, to join with us again to make this exciting project a success again this year. With your help we can bring joy and hope to millions of children again this Christmas.

Please bring in your filled box by Wednesday, November 8th. Here is a list of suggested gifts you can use in your box.

Toys: small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, plastic kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, small Etch A Sketch, toys that light up or make noise (with extra batteries), Slinky, etc.

School Supplies: pens, pencils and sharpener, crayons or markers, stamps and ink pad sets, coloring books, writing pads or paper, solare calculators, etc.

Hygiene Items: toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, comb, washcloth, etc.

Other: hard candy, lollipops, mints, gum, sunglasses, flashlights (with extra batteries), ball caps, socks, T-shirts, toy jewelry, hair-clips, watches, small picture books, etc.

Do NOT include the following:

Used Items

War-related Items

Chocolate or Perishable Food Items

Liquids

Medicines: vitamins, cough drops, ointment, etc.

Breakable Items: mirrors, china dolls, snowglobes, etc.

Brochures are available for anyone who would like to fill a shoebox to contribute to this project. Any one needing a shoebox, please see Lil Wilson or Ellie in the church office.

Missionaries for the Month of **September:**

- Thailand
- Kit Ripley
- Democratic Republic of Congo
- William and Ann Clemmer

Bible Book of the Month Amos

"But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an everflowing stream"

Amos 5:24 (RSV)

Amos is a small book, but the oldest in the canon and of enormous influence. The convictions Amos expresses were unique in his time, rejecting the whole society. Amos' religion is in large measure still far ahead of the usual ideas, embodying a passionate love of justice and a hatred of sham piety and useless luxury. Righteousness to Amos meant loyalty to God and moral obligation to people.

PRAY

For the supportive work of the Ministers and missionaries Benefit Board.

—Madge Walters

AB Girls Of Faith Young Women of Hope

Leadership training is an important focus of the AB Girls group this year. The officers of Young Women of hope and their mentors met in August to discuss responsibilities and upcoming activities.

Service is also an important focus of this group. Six girls participated in the Matthew 25: Ministries workday on August 17th. Then on August 18th, the girls and leaders took part in the evening worship service at Tri-County Extended Care Center. The girls sand several songs, fellowshiped with residents, and gave them a handmade gift.

The next regular meeting of AB Girls is Sunday September 10th, from noon until 2:00. The girls will be bringing in items for the Operation Christmas Child shoebox project.

—Karen Schumm, Marilyn Bowling, Mindy Hazelwood, & Nancy Whipple

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“Surprised By Prayer” **Strategy #7 “We Are a People of Prayer”**

In his 2005 article entitled, *“Whatever Happened to Kneeling?”* printed in **Pray Magazine**, Dean Merrill, tells this story:

On a January day a few years back, in the main ballroom of the Washington Hilton, 2,000 politicians, captains of industry, and other notables gathered for their annual leadership luncheon. Republicans and Democrats eyed each other under the chandeliers, their animosities put on hold for a couple of hours. They looked to the dais, where the main speaker, Atlanta pastor and television luminary, Charles Stanley, announced his text *“The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.”* (James 5:16).

Stanley preached eloquently and fervently about the need for America to humble itself before God—as Elijah had done; and as David, Solomon, Paul and others had done. Near the end of his message, without raising his voice, he mused, *“What would happen today if 2,000 people got on their knees, humbled themselves before God, and cried out for forgiveness?”*

Stanley had to drop a few more hints before the crowd realized he was actually talking about them getting down on their knees to pray at that very moment—in their Brooks Brothers suits. He allowed that some might not be physically able, but for the rest he said, *“Unless God does something in this nation, we are going to be humiliated in some fashion, at some time...I want to ask if you’ll join me on my knees...and pray until whenever the moderator thinks the time is over.”*

The ballroom went quiet. Gradually, there was a shuffle of chairs as most of the crowd self-consciously followed the speaker’s lead. A sober, reverent mood filled the ballroom.

What Charles Stanley had the courage to ask that day of 2000 of our national leaders begs several questions of us as we continue to evaluate our church ministry in our Design for Ministry process (remember our seven strategies?):

1. In spite of their early resistance, these national leaders had a sense that *prayer might just be a legitimate response to the needs of our nation*. Where did that thought come from? **Can intercessory prayer for a concern much greater than ourselves really make a difference?** Or were these national leaders just kneeling because of some momentary peer-pressure in a religious setting?

2. What is prayer actually? Is it just a grocery list of concerns shot heavenward toward the Sovereign of the Universe with a pleading, whining, hope-so attitude? Or is prayer something more than that?

Several days ago, one of our deacons and I shared breakfast together. He had been in the evening worship service several days before and had been contemplating several of our ministry strategies—*Worship*, (Strategy #2);

and *Prayer* (Strategy #7). His question about prayer was simple in its asking, but deep in its implications. After referring to the Wednesday night prayer sheet (covered on both sides by the names of those desperately in need of the touch of God upon their lives), his question ran something like this: *“As important as praying for these people is, do we ever pray about things that touch more deeply into the life our faith community than just physical health?”* What he really wanted to know was **“How seriously are we going to take Strategy #7: “First Baptist Church is a people of prayer?”**

On several occasions, we have had the opportunity to view the video presentation by Jim Cymbala entitled, *“My House Shall Be Called a House of Prayer.”* Cymbala is the pastor of the Brooklyn Tabernacle; his wife, Carol, leads the Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir, whose music of worship so many enjoy. Nearly all of those coming away from Cymbala’s presentation found themselves desiring a

(From the Pastor's Heart, cont.)

deeper and more genuine prayer life. It was Jesus' great desire that His people would become a people of prayer. He taught about prayer. He Himself spent hours with the Father seeking His guidance and instruction. Jesus, the eternal Son, believed in the importance and value of prayer!

During our Wednesday evening Bible studies last spring we spent some time exploring the practice of prayer. We have all wondered what actually happens when we pray: Does God change His mind? Does prayer change God's plans? If God is sovereign and knows all things, why should we pray?

Scripture tells us that God has invited us to come to His throne and present our requests to Him. We must take His invitation seriously—God really does want us to come. In our Wednesday study we learned that **for reasons known only to God Himself, He has hard-wired this universe to respond to the prayers that His people bring before Him.** Imagine a God who is genuinely interested in hearing from a people who are weakened by sin, fickle in our commitment, often overwhelmed by doubt and discouragement, and who cannot seem to help fretting about every issue that comes along. And yet, we are the people God loves, and it is His desire to hear and to answer the prayers on our hearts.

At the ABC Missions Conference in West Virginia in April, and at Green Lake this August, we were challenged to offer “God-sized” prayers to the Father. And in doing so, God will often move on our behalf, **surprising** us by His grace and His answers, according to His sovereign plan.

First Baptist has said that we deeply desire to be a people of prayer. **What about Strategy #7?** While the committee's work is not yet completed, they are currently giving attention to several key areas:

- The reorganization of the prayer chain. Currently, there are 12-15 more individuals involved in the prayer chain ministry than in the past. There are six different chains with 10 people per chain. They believe, however, that further refinement will provide for 12 chains with fewer people in each so that the prayer chain is not so easily broken. Accurate information for this ministry is critical. And those on the chain are asked to be genuinely committed to the prayer ministry.
- Prayer before and following the worship services in response to the invitation. The committee believes that “The ‘altar’ should not be a lonely place.” When people have a need, there should be someone available to pray with them and for them, should they so desire.

- The committee has a hope that all of our board meetings, leadership gatherings, planning sessions, and study and work sessions would be saturated with prayer. This is the Lord's work, and we want to know His wisdom about how we should address what He has called us to accomplish in His name. We desire to practice Jesus' intention that “His house should be a house of prayer.”
- The committee would also like to encourage specific prayer for the families of our congregation; prayer needs for the many neighborhoods of our church family are also a target for our prayer ministry.

These ideas are under development, and the prayer committee is interested in receiving your ideas and input. (Please contact Carol Howard or Ruth Metzger). **The key thing to remember is that God is genuinely interested in hearing and responding to the prayers of our hearts.** Take some time to bring your needs and concerns to the Lord. It is His joy to act on our behalf.

Strategically yours in genuine prayer,
Pastor

PS. Just as a reminder, here are the seven strategies in our Designed for Ministry Strategic Planning Process:

Strategy #1

We have, use, and are motivated by a vision for ministry in our current context.

Strategy #2: Worship

We will form a task force to develop, attract, retain, and assimilate people for our worship services.

Strategy #3: Community

We will develop a more loving, welcoming, and encouraging faith community.

Strategy #4: Outreach

We will form a task force to expand and publicize our outreach efforts.

Strategy #5: Leadership Development

We will develop leaders and communicate more effectively.

Strategy #6: Stewardship

We will educate and develop generous Christians.

Strategy #7: Prayer

We are a people of personal and corporate prayer.



Mission 2006: Alabama Report

During the week of July 17th twenty-two members and friends of First Baptist served as short-term missionaries to the people of Bayou La Batre, Alabama. Bayou La Batre is south of Mobile and is predominately tied to the fishing and shrimping industry. The people in this community suffered destruction from Hurricane Ivan in 2005 and Hurricane Katrina last year.

Our group was fortunate to be able to assist with four different projects. The first was to reconstruct the interior of a home for a family that is still living in FEMA trailers. This included roof repair, wiring, plumbing, replacing flooring and doing interior work for their bathrooms and a new bedroom. Other work included assisting with a community clothing give-away, installing a trailer skirt and painting a home.

We were thankful to be able to call Mobile's Grace Presbyterian Church our temporary home. The church is about 20 miles from Bayou La Batre. Members of Grace's 38-member congregation joined with us in a communion service and provided delicious meals, including breakfasts and lunches, for us. We are truly thankful for their service and commitment to the numerous mission teams that visit their church.

We wish to thank everyone who prayed for us and contributed to this mission trip through individual donations, the Easter offering and Vacation Bible School.

Mission team members included Amber Allen, Dale, Joey, Mark & Mike Braun, Dwain & Sharon Brewer, Mike Click, Sharon French, Todd Keith, Jené & Mara Krall, Andrea & Lynette Moorehead, Jared Morris, Ray Sizemore, Laurin & Lisa Sprague, Cathi Thomas, Doug Wallace, Jennifer Weisbecker, and Lil Wilson.

Faithfully submitted by Laurin Sprague



Prayer In The Chapel

I would like to call to the attention of all the women of the church that we have a prayer group that meets, and has for many years going back to Court Street. We meet every Sunday morning in the chapel at 10:00 a.m. right before the Sunday morning worship service. Our main prayer is for the service, our pastor, and all who take part in the service, in the pulpit, or in the pew. If the Lord lays it on your heart to come and join us we would just praise the Lord. We should be able to pack that little chapel and I pray it will be so.

We have a committee out of the Strategic Planning Session we had that is meeting to discover new ways to interest the church in prayer. We believe that prayer changes things. The fervent prayer of a righteous man or woman availeth much and time is running out. We have so little time with which to get our loved ones in. Jim Cymbala in his little book "Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire" gives all credit for their growth at the Brooklyn Tabernacle on a little band of insignificant people that started to pray. He also said "sin grieves the Holy Spirit and quenches His power among us." Think about it!! Let's start out this fall with a packed chapel of praying women for a lost and dying world without God and our Jerusalem(the city of Hamilton) will wonder what's happening up here on this hill.

—Jewell Bowling





Celebration Ringers In His Service

- September 23 - Taste of Gospel - Court House Square - 3 or 4:00 p.m. TBA
- October Program at the Fairfield Pavilion for the residents
- December 3 Pre-service - Christmas carols played from the balcony
- December 10 Pre-service - Christmas presentation - Guest Choir "The Blessings" under the direction of Dick Eckert, former minister of music at Montgomery community Church and our "Celebration Ringers", under the direction of Elaine Tragesser, will combine for this morning service.

2007

- March 25 The first Hamilton City Handbell Ringing Event will be presented at First Baptist church. Eight church choirs have been extended an invitation. Each choir will present a musical selection plus there will be three combined choir selections. The mass choir selections will be under the direction of David Finkham of Dayton who is a AGEHR certified director.

Celebration Ringers welcome old and new bell ringers. We are currently assigning positions for the above events. If you wish to be a part of our ministry, please contact director, Elaine Tragesser @ 863-5018.

A Taste of Gospel Music

Saturday, September 23rd
Noon - 8:00 p.m.
Butler County Courthouse Square
Free Admission to the best outdoor
Gospel Music Festival in SW Ohio

For information contact: Henry Sester @ 659-3499.
(Our Celebration Ringers will perform!)



Attention! All Old and Potentially New Choir Members!

It is hard to believe that summer is flying by so fast and fall will soon be upon us. With the coming of fall also comes the beginning of a new Chancel Choir season. All persons who may be interested in becoming a new member of the choir are asked to attend our first rehearsal, September 6th, at 8:00 p.m., after the Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting. No advanced reservations are necessary. However, if you mention to me or any other present member of the choir that you will be attending our first rehearsal, we will have ready for you your very own personalized imitation leather (plastic) choir folder just bursting with new anthems! Did I say we try to have a good time in choir also? This may be an opportunity for you to share your musical gifts with the church and in the process have some fun doing it! I hope to see some new faces in the choir loft on September 6th.

In Our Savior's Love,
Mike Wallick
Chancel Choir Director



Youth of Praise Choir Begins September 17th

Any interested 7th through 12th grader is invited to join the Youth of Praise Choir. We will meet in the choir room from 5:15 to 5:50 on Sundays beginning Sunday, September 17th. If you have any questions please see or call Laurin Sprague, 896-7911

Have A Nice Day!

Presented by Middletown Lyric Theatre
1530 Central Avenue
Middletown, Ohio

Friday & Saturday October 13 & 14 - 8:00 p.m.

Friday & Saturday October 20 & 21 - 8:00 p.m.

Cast of 12 includes Molly Bowen, Kim Bryant, Jeff Christian, Scott Christian, Megan Demoret, Heather Evans, **Drew Helton**, Paul Jutte, Sarah Oliver, Chris Rosenberry, Brett Sandlin, and Beth Vance.

Have A Nice Day! follows a traveling youth group as they share in song and dance over forty familiar songs from the 1960's and 70's. This musical revue features songs originally recorded by such groups as The Mamas and The Papas, Cher, The Brady Bunch, and many more, including songs such as "Everything Is Beautiful", "I Believe In Music", and "American Pie". The **Have A Nice Day!** cast promises a performance you won't soon forget.

Tickets: \$12 - Adults; \$10 - Children under 12
Call MLT ticket line at (513) 425-7140 or contact Drew Helton. Seating is limited.

Final Softball Standings

Divisions 1 & 2 (Combined)

Greenhills Baptist (Green)	10-4
Hamilton Christian Center	10-4
Full Gospel	9-5
Berean Baptist	7-7
First Church of God (Blue)	6-8
First Baptist (Blue)	1-13

Division 7

First Church of God (Gray)	12-2
Immanuel Lutheran	11-3
First Baptist (Gray)	10-4
Field of Grace	8-6
Fairfield Missionary	6-8
Walden Ponds Nazarene	6-8
St. Clair Baptist	4-10
Fairfield West Baptist	4-10
Park Ave United Methodist	2-12

-Josh Metzger

Reflections On Life And Death

Today I walked the Stone Church graveyard
And met my Maker face to face -
Dear Souls whom I have known and loved,
Resting now 'neath Queen Ann's Lace.

"What is man that Thou art mindful?" Psalm 8:4

"His days are like the grass - " Psalm 103:15

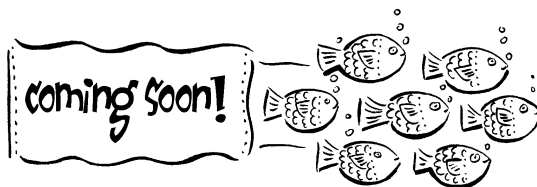
A lifetime etched in granite
Between two dates - the dash.

Our lives are but a vapor -
Ephemeral - a blip.

We leave just footprints and memories
As souvenirs of our trip.

So it behooves us to walk well,
And let the future show
Our footprints led to higher ground
While we lived here below.

-by Florence Jones



New Believer's Class

Watch for a letter to be mailed to the homes of those who made new commitments to Christ during VBS; schedule still being decided for classes this fall; this will also be open to other youth in the church who would like to participate.

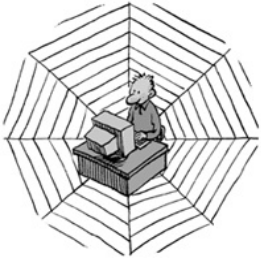
Children's Library Grand Opening

Krys Schramm has been working hard to organize the library, and it will soon be ready for the great reveal! Thanks to the wonderful men of the church who painted the library for us!

Fall Harvest Party

Watch for more info about a fun, fall day at church!

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



Great Online Web Links For Christians

By Molly Gambrell

I love to surf the internet when I don't have much to do. Looking for interesting Christian websites? Check out what I found:

www.ccmcom.com

The Community of Christian Music's magazine goes online to give visitors the best information on our favorite Christian musicians, bands, tours and blogs. The site features music that you can stream (listen to on your computer). This month you can check out a story about why Audio Adrenaline is bidding farewell to touring as a band. Visitors can also get into Six Pence None the Richer's new solo album "Blue on Blue."

www.biblegateway.com

Want to quickly reference a Bible verse? Biblegateway.com is just the site. Use the quick-search section to look up keywords and then select any version of the Bible that you want. There are several versions to choose from. This web site also contains a reading plan to get you through the Bible in three different plans. A Bible verse of the day is also available.

www.habitat.org

Habitat for Humanity's website is for many purposes, but the biggest is to involve anyone who would like to volunteer. Upon entering the website you can get information on how to volunteer. Currently, the site features articles on HFH's efforts to rebuild after Hurricane Katrina. Upon exploring this site visitors will see how different Christian denominations, such as Catholics and Lutherans, are doing different projects through HFH.

www.firstbaptisthamilton.org

Our own church website allows visitors to browse The Courier, member profiles, schedules and discussion boards. There are many members using the boards (and as a regular user I think we would all like to see more members become active in the discussions.)

If you are an avid Internet surfer and have found great Christian websites, please e-mail me the information at mgambrell1@aol.com.

For now, keep on surfin'...web-surfin'!



KingsKids Presentation



If you are in Grades 1-6 and love to sing, move around to music, eat snacks, have fun with friends and light your world with the love of Jesus, we'd love to have you join us this year in KingsKids for:

Miracle on Main Street, The Little Pageant That Wouldn't Give Up!

Singing new songs and traditional carols we'll act out the dilemma of a group of children who want to celebrate Christmas in public, but face opposition from the politically correct local townsfolk. Despite the challenges, the children stand up for their beliefs and joyfully proclaim their faith. After all, a Christmas without Jesus is like giving a present with no gift inside!



Watch the bulletin for the actual kick off date which will, hopefully, be Sunday, September 17th, from 6 - 7:00 p.m. in the gym and in Room 200. The date in the bulletin will be the correct one. In the mean time, CD's are available now for you to listen to ahead of time. See me at church for your copy. I'm so excited to get started on another musical and to work with the talented and precious group of children we have here. Bring a friend with you. We'd love for them to join us!

—Ruth Metzger
Director of KingsKids

Apologetics Club

“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear.” 1 Peter 3:15 NKJV

You may be confused right now, and that is fine. When most people hear the word apologetics they have no idea what that word means. Most people think of the words *apology* or *apologize* when someone mentions apologetics: that idea could not be further from the truth. The word apologetics is derived from the Greek word *apologia* which translated to English means: “to give a defense”. So when Peter wrote *always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you*, this means as Christians we are commanded to be ready to defend our faith.

Have you ever met someone who told you they did not believe in God? You obviously thought they were wrong but you just did not know how to tell them in a rational way? Maybe this person you met was well trained in philosophy and was using a lot of words you have never heard before so you just got tired of the conversation and dropped out. Throughout these past two centuries the Christian faith has produced many mighty apologists from the Apostle Paul to St. Thomas Aquinas, to C.S. Lewis and now someone like Ravi Zacharias, who is an internationally known contemporary apologist. These are just four of the many thousands of men and women who have used their minds in philosophy, literature and theology to defend the Christian faith against those who question the validity and truthfulness of the Christian message.

What I, Ben Kelly, want to do is to create an “apologetics club” where people would come together to read, think, and learn about these great apologists and their ideas on how to defend the faith. We will look through history and learn the many arguments through philosophy and literature on how we should be defending our faith. We will start with something easy and not too hard to read like *Mere Christianity* by C.S. Lewis, *A Case for A Creator* by Lee Stroble or *The New Evidence that Demands Verdict* by Josh McDowell. My hope is that we can create a community of believers at First Baptist who are intellectually ready to defend the faith from anyone we meet out in the world. This group would meet once a week and discuss the chapter(s) we read for the past week. If you are interested in joining a group like this, please email me, Ben Kelly, at spidermonkeyben@yahoo.com. When you send your

email please give your name and a time in the week that you think you would be able to meet with this group so I can get an idea when our group should meet.

–Ben Kelly

Totally Terrific Tuesdays

What a summer! What fun, what adventure, what fellowship! Let me tell you why we are so exhausted (us adults, anyway): we have created our own toys and made our own lunch on "Make It and Take It Day", putted around in the glow in the dark Lunar Golf, bowled and played in the hot, hot sun, learned about the church with our scavenger hunt, had a blast with the Motzer's carnival games, created our own pottery masterpieces, toured the ever-popular Rumpke Landfill (my apologies to all the dads who wanted to go and couldn't!), and topped it off with a cookout and pool party at the home of Ruthie and John Wallace. WHEW! We got to play with a total of 162 kids, and a total of 55 teens and adults helped with this ministry.

I can't say "thank you" enough to the following teens who faithfully helped this summer: Katie Ford, Emily Cain, Lauren Keith, Heather Keith, Alex Wallace, Amy Wallace, Samantha Hampton, Brittney Hall, and Taylor Young. These are great young adults who are going to make fabulous leaders in the church in the near future!

Thanks also to the wonderful parents/grandparents who helped (and often times, saved me!): Chris Metzger, Sandra Imhoff, Judy Wallace, Claire Metzger, Rick Baker, Kim Schuermann, Jerri Begley, Angie Inloes, Loretta Hampton, Lisa Witmer, Barb Begley, John and Cheryl Motzer, Jill O'Hara, Jeremy Spence, Jerry and Johnnie Wallace, Ruthie Wallace, and Ines Frost, as well as all the families who shared their children with us. It was a real blessing to interact with all of the kids and have fun with them.

Thanks also to the church for their support of this ministry, and for the use of the church van and bus. We had a great time and we are looking forward to next year!

–Brandi Emenaker
Co-Director of Children's Ministries

Faith Works Conference
Taking it Back: Radical Redemption of our
Community
October 13-14
Redeemer Church

Friday Night Revival!

Songs of praise!

Pastor Josh Colon. Princeton Pike Church of God
West

Reverend Vaughn Lewis, Director of Human
Resources, City of Hamilton

Pastor Kenn Barton, First United Methodist Church

Saturday Morning:

Pastor Kim Katterheinrich, Redeemer Church

Praise Bands: Jericho and New Life Vineyard

Saturday Afternoon Workshops:

Responding to Community Issues

Ministering through Faith Based Nonprofits

Helping the Hurting

Reaching Our Youth

Prayer of Unity service at 4p.m. on Saturday – Prayer
for our Community

Cost: Friday night – no charge – freewill offering
Saturday - \$10 in advance; \$15 at the door– includes
lunch and workshops

Come join fellow Christians as we reclaim
our community for Christ!



Free Midday Music
In Oxford Concert



September 20th marks the beginning of the 18th
season of free Midday Music concerts at 12:10 p.m. at
the Oxford Presbyterian Church, 101 N. Main Street
in Oxford with lively, toe-tapping music by the
Cincinnati Klezmer Trio. Michele Gingras, clarinet,
guitarist/vocalist Steve Stuhlbarg and Irina Bernadsky,
Ukrainian mandolin, will include selections from the
Broadway musical “Fiddler On The Roof”. For
information or a season brochure, call 523-6969.



We will be making our monthly trip down to
Matthew 25: Ministries for a wonderful day of
fellowship, fun, and WORKING FOR THE LORD
Thursday, September 21st. We will leave the church
at 8:30 a.m. returning at about 3:00 p.m. Come
dressed to WORK - bring your own sack lunch and
beverage. Remember - this is NOT just for the
KeenAgers. Everyone is welcome to be a part of this
ministry.

–Pastor Bill and Bert Brantingham

KeenAger September Meeting

The KeenAgers will be going to the Annie Oakley
Museum in Greenville, Ohio, Thursday, September
12th. The cost is \$3.00 per person and will be
collected Sunday, September 10th. We will leave the
church at 10:00 a.m. We will be having lunch in at a
place yet to be determined. Please sign the list on the
bulletin board.

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

Budget Status Report

The Month of July, 2006

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$56,627
Offerings	<u>56,584</u>
Over (Under) Budget	(\$ 43)

Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$51,782
Offerings	<u>56,584</u>
Over (Under) Actual	\$ 4,802

The Year Through July, 2006

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$417,792
Offerings	<u>364,914</u>
Over (Under) Budget	(\$52,878)

Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$393,088
Offerings	<u>364,914</u>
Over (Under) Actual	(\$28,174)

–The Board Of Trustees



Congratulations To Some Of Our Youth!

Little League Success

Congratulations to **Logan Stanger**, member of the Hamilton West side Little League team, which reached the semifinals of the Great Lakes Regional in Indianapolis. Great job, Logan! We're proud of you!

Are You Ready To "Throw In The Towel"?

If your answer is yes, then "**Throw in the towel, T-shirt, and/or pillowcase**" to help the Edgewood Choralier Show Choir with a special project this year. Edgewood Choralier members **Drew Helton** and **Joey Braun** are collecting dingy, white kitchen towels, pillowcases, and adult T-shirts. Please use/wear them in the NORMAL WAY and DO NOT LAUNDRER THEM! Bring them to church and place them in the box marked "Edgewood Choraliers". Here's what we are collecting:

Dingy white kitchen towel - the kind you dry dishes with from your kitchen (NO RAGS), it was white when new and isn't white anymore, some print is OK: white background with stripe is OK; print on one side and white on the other is OK.

Dingy ADULT -SIZE white T-shirts - it was white when new but isn't white anymore, some print is OK so long as MOST of the t-shirt is white.

Dingy white pillowcases - it was white when new but isn't as white anymore, some print is OK as long as the background is mostly white.

Thanks for your help with this special project.

—Drew Helton and Joey Braun

—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!

Butler County Fair Results!

Jeff Hazelwood

- 6th - Swine Showmanship - Age 15
- 4th - Pair of Barrows - Class 2
- 6th - Jr. Barrows - Division 3 - Class 10
- 4th - Swine - Market Barrow
- 8th - Swine - Market Barrow
- 2nd - Swine - Pair of Barrows

Noah Krall

- 8th - Swine - Market Barrow

Alyson Rothenbusch

- 6th - Dogs Grooming & Handling B
- 2nd - Senior Dog Care Novice A

Lauren Schwab

- 4th - Jr. Swine Carcass on Foot - Class 3
- 3rd - Jr. Barrows - Division 4 - Class 17
- 4th - Swine - Market Barrow
- 5th - Swine - Market Barrow
- 3rd - Swine Carcass Standing
- 3rd - Swine Carcass Cut Out

Ryan Schwab

- 4th - Jr. Swine Carcass on Foot - Class 2
- 6th - Jr. Swine Showmanship - 14 yr. old class
- 8th - Jr. Barrows - Division 3 - Class 12
- 4th - Jr. Barrows - Division 4 - Class 20
- 7th - Swine - Market Barrow
- 4th - Swine Carcass Standing
- 5th - Swine Carcass Cut Out

Toni Schwab

- 3rd - Best 3 Long Green Cucumbers
- 2nd - Best 3 Red Pontiac Potatoes
- 1st - Best 3 Idaho Potatoes
- 1st - Best 3 White Onions
- 3rd - Best 3 Red Onions
- 2nd - Best 5 Gourds, any variety
- 2nd - Swine Carcass Standing

Mary Brown

- 4th - Small Quilt
- 2nd - Shawl
- 4th - Ornaments
- 3rd - Adult Costume
- 1st - Women's Sweatshirt
- 1st - Your Favorite Pie
- 1st - Cinnamon Rolls
- 1st - Biscuits
- 2nd - Jelly Roll
- 4th - Ginger Cookie



Fall 2006 Ohio Children's Ministry Conferences—Sponsored by Awana

This year's theme: *It Takes A Shepherd*

September 23rd at Calvary Baptist Church, 1920 West US Highway 22, Wilmington, Ohio (driving time is about 1 hr). Transportation will be provided, or you can carpool and be reimbursed for gas.

Anyone involved in Children's Ministry here at First Baptist Church-Awana, Sunday School, Youth, etc...is invited to come to this conference.



Four things that will be emphasized this fall:

- Evangelism and discipleship of children and youth
- Equipping parents to model, teach, and train their children
- Encouraging and training new and veteran church workers
- Edifying Christians in their personal walk with the Lord

The day starts at 8:00 am with refreshments, followed by an opening session at 9:00 for encouragement and inspiration. A full day of training is available, with lunch provided. The closing session at 3:00 pm will be a time of prayer for our children and the adults who minister to them.

I would like every Awana leader, helper, listener and game leader to attend! The cost will be covered for you! Anyone else involved in Children's Ministries at First Baptist is also invited, and your costs will be covered also. FREE light breakfast, FREE children's ministry training sessions, FREE lunch. **Please let me know ASAP that you plan to attend so I can prepare our registration!**

Awana Kick-off Picnic

Join us at Holloway Park on Wednesday, August 30th at 6:30 p.m. for lots of fun! We will serve hot dogs, chips, and punch, and other goodies. Kids and parents need to be there to fill-out/update registration forms and emergency contact forms.

Every Awana-age child who attends and checks-in at the picnic will receive a \$3-off coupon that can be used toward a handbook or uniform, plus they'll receive a free gift!

We'll also have games and a dunking booth! See you there!

First Official Club Night

Our first night of Awana club will be Wednesday, September 6th. Sparks and T&T will meet together for Opening in Room 200 at 6:30 p.m. It is very important that clubbers and leaders be prompt! After opening, Sparks will go directly to their handbook rooms, and T&T will go to Game Time.

Wednesday Night Toddler Class

We will be starting a Wednesday night toddler class for 2 year olds, beginning September 6th. Boys and girls who will be 2 years old by September 30, 2006 are eligible to attend. Younger children will be cared for in the infant nursery.

The class will be called **Honeybees**, and Debbie Allen will be the lead teacher. She'll be using Group's Hands-on-Bible Toddlers & 2s curriculum. Children attending this class will be given a yellow vest to wear (just like the big kids in Cubbies & Sparks!). There is no cost for this class.

New Adult Sunday School Class

There will be a new adult Sunday School Class for Awana leaders & helpers (and anyone else interested in children's ministry). It will be called **Awana Basics & Beyond**. This is a topical Bible study relating to children's ministry with a focus on ongoing Awana leadership training. Some of the topics include: evangelism & discipleship; knowing, loving & serving Christ; sharing the gospel with a child; the importance of children's ministry; the importance of scripture memorization; character qualities of a children's worker; etc... This class will begin on September 6 and will be taught by Emily Metzger in room 115.

—Emily Metzger
Awana Commander



From The Heart Of Marilyn

College Corner

E-Mail From God

I'll Get Your Back

"The remnant of Israel . . . will eat and lie down and no one will make them afraid."

—Zephaniah 3:13

Dear Child of Mine,

In Heaven, nobody's afraid. No one will shoot at you there, because your body will be spiritual, not physical. No one will put you down, because in Heaven, we don't do that. No one will harm you in any way.

On earth, you sometimes need to be on your guard. There are some people you can't trust. But in Heaven, you could take a nap right out in the middle of the street, and no one would even bother you. The reason is, I control what goes on in Heaven, and I keep evil out.

I want to do the same thing here on earth. I want to protect you and guard you. Let Me take the controls of your life now. Trust Me to keep you safe.

Your Bodyguard,
God

Important!! We need all college students addresses as soon as possible. Please call Marilyn Bowling 863-2435 or the church office 868-1412.

—Marilyn Bowling
College Coordinator



It's hard to believe that the summer is gone and the busyness of fall is fast approaching. Between school, extra circular activities and taking care of the family a mom finds very little time for herself. That's where MOPS comes in. First Baptist is fortunate enough to be the sponsoring church for the Hamilton area MOPS organization. Many of you have probably heard of MOPS but aren't quiet sure what it is or what we do. MOPS International exists to meet the needs of every mom whom all share a similar desire to be the very best moms they can be! MOPS realize that the years from infancy through kindergarten are foundational in a mother-child relationship and are filled with unique needs. MOPS exist to encourage, equip and develop every mother of preschoolers to realize her potential as a woman, mother and leader in the name of Jesus Christ. FBC MOPS sees approximately 38 mothers every month. There are over eight churches represented in our MOPS group. Thirty to forty children enjoy the twenty five + ladies (and gents) from FBC that volunteer their time monthly to nurture, teach and care for them as their mothers enjoy some "mommy time". MOPS International chooses a yearly theme, which we adapt, our monthly meetings too. This year the theme is "Fresh Air....What Every Mom Needs" and is based on John 10:10, *I have come that they may have life and have it to the full.*

All meetings this year are based on an essential "need". We will kick off the new year on Tuesday, September 19th at 9:45; with registration beginning at 9:20. September's meeting topic will be *I Need....to feel connected.*

If you know someone who has a child between the ages of birth and completed kindergarten (ages 5 or 6) please tell them about MOPS. They can be a neighbor, friend or a mom you have met at the grocery store. All moms' are accepted! It is our goal that every mom not only finds a friendly face at our meetings but ultimately a relationship with Jesus Christ, for that is the only way we can have life and have it to the full!

Living a life for Jesus-
Elise Martin, Co-Coordinator



You Are All Invited To My House For Dinner!

Welcome Back! Hopefully a good summer vacation has been enjoyed by all...visiting friends and family, traveling, and generally enjoying the season to slow down from the ordinary work-a-day routine. But the fall is quickly approaching and it's time to get re-acquainted with friends, re-organized into a new routine, and re-energized to face the challenges ahead.

To help bring all of the Sunday school classes back together after a summer of scattering, I am inviting each class individually to my home for a carry in dinner this fall. This will be a time to catch up on news with old friends, a time to share tales of summer adventures, and a time to look ahead to happenings this fall and winter.

I want to extend a special invitation to those in church that are not regular participants in Sunday School. Everyone from First Baptist is invited to each of the six (6) planned dinners. Please come to meet with the members of the classes at an informal gathering to become acquainted. Sunday School classes help form bonds to hold each of us close to our church family. Let this be an opportunity to find a new place for you to fit in. Make Sunday School a part of your regular routine this fall.

To those of you that are already members of a Sunday School class, please feel welcome to attend a different class party to make connections with others that you may not have regular contact with. Make this your easy Saturday dinner: no real plans to make, always something different to eat!

I will provide meat, drinks, and table settings. Please bring a side dish or dessert.

Schedule

September 9	FOCUS
September 16	Parenting
September 23	TNT/College & Careers
September 30	Carpenter's Hands
October 7	Keystone
October 14	Homebuilders

Barb and Bob Arnold
1317 Dalton Ct.
Fairfield, Ohio 45014
829-9001

Directions

South on River Rd.
Right onto East Miami River Road (toward One Way Farm)
Left on Talawanda (1st left)
Left on Dalton Ct.
4th house on right

—Barbara Arnold
Sunday School Assistant Superintendent



Sunday School Promotion Day for those completing Kindergarten through 5th grade will be September 4th. Children under Kindergarten age are permitted to advance to the next age level on their birthday if the parents and teachers feel they are developmentally ready for the next class. Children must be 3 by September 30, 2005 in order to attend Awana this fall.

—Linda Gibbs
Assistant Sunday School Superintendent



Carpenter's Hands Signs Of Love



Silent Dinners

The **Silent Dinner** for **September** will be held on Friday evening, September 1st, at Eastgate Mall. See you there!

Interpreter Schedule For September

September 3	Jo Manson	Maria Miller
September 10	Jo Manson	Maria Miller
September 17	Jo Manson	Maria Miller
September 24	Jo Manson	Maria Miller

—Maria Miller
Director of Deaf Ministries



Child Care Schedule

Nursery (Morning)

September 3 - Linda Cain, Sarah & Emily
September 10 - Wayne, Debbie, & Megan Miller
September 17 - Teri Collier, Aly, & Cat
September 24 -

One & Two Year Olds

September 3 - Debbie Allen & Lauren
September 10 - Debbie Allen & Lauren
September 17 - Debbie Allen & Lauren
September 24 - Debbie Allen & Lauren

Kinderchurch

September 3 - Claire Metzger
September 10 - Brandi Emenaker
September 17 - Brandi Emenaker
September 24 - Brad & Barb Begley



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 with, 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

September 6

Menu: Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Green Beans, Tossed Salad, Dessert
Hosts: Trustees

September 13

Menu: Baked Chicken Breast, Macaroni and Cheese, Peas and Carrots, Tossed Salad, Rolls, Dessert
Hosts: Chancel Choir

September 20

Menu: Lasagna, Tossed Salad, Bread Sticks, Dessert
Hosts: Parenting Class/CREW

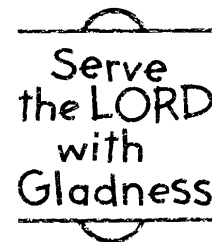
September 27

Menu: Ham, Au Gratin Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Applesauce, Rolls, Dessert
Hosts: Deacons

Reminder: Adults should contribute \$4.00 per person for the meal; \$12.00 for **immediate family living in the same household**. 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.

September Greeters

September 3 - Jerry Wallace, Kathy Inloes, & J.K. Walker
September 10 - Brad Gerth, Brad Begley, & Wayne Miller
September 17 - Mary Petry, Connie Taylor, & Helen Mullen
September 24 - Ken & Barb Hendricks, & Bob Braun





Pastor Jeremy's Think Tank
Early Morning Gatherings

Imagine with me a morning in late September with the air still cool and maybe even a little damp. It is early in the morning when few people are out and about but yet a group of people have come to school for just a time as this. It takes place early in the morning before the bells have rung and the books opened, any clue yet? No, I am not talking about the usual gathering at the doors with friends talking about what they hope will or will not happen or the scuffles that may also take place but something greater still.

In fact, compared to the other gatherings you may find this one, at some schools, is much quieter but more powerful. I challenge you to look around the flag pole and see who may be there. Got that image yet in your mind? What do you see there? Do you hear this group of students saying anything? Who is leading this gathering of people? Why are they there, especially at this time in the morning?

Let me give you some insight to the scene that has unfolded before you this day. This group of students willingly woke up and arrived at school 30 minutes before the start of school for one purpose, prayer. This morning they have decided to take a stand for Christ, with Christ, and with others to reclaim their school for God. This group of students have decided that no longer will prayer be taken out of school and today they show themselves to all who will come by that they are Christians and proud of it.

This group is strictly student lead, neither administrator, youth pastor, parent or other adults lead anything, instead it is a time for our students to join together and lead each other in prayer. Each gathering of students across our county, state, and country is different as different students lead in different ways. Yet, with all these different gatherings they are united in one purpose; praying that God would move on their campuses in great and mighty ways.

Each year as I have either been a part, watched from the sidelines or taken pictures, it always moves my heart to see students taking a stand for Christ at their school. Taking a stand to show others that God is real. Pleading for God to show up and claim their school for him. Truly it is one of the days of each year I don't mind getting up around 5 a.m. to get ready and witness what students can and will do together.

This year, this gathering of students, known as See You At The Pole, will take place on September 27th in the morning at each of the area schools. The students will take a special stand on that morning to pray for their schools, teachers, friends, that people would come

to know Christ, and a whole host of other things. Some schools will have many, 100+, others will have few, only 1-5, but all united together. What a scene!!!!

Here is my question: What would it look like if we "pre-prayed" for this event for a month? What if instead of just "preparing" for See You At The Pole we would "pre-pray" for See You At The Pole? I am not exactly sure what would happen if we did this but I know a couple things: God would be honored and we would be standing on the front lines with our students in this battle. I believe this is a call and a duty we all as Christians can and must do, but the choice is ours individually.

Starting very soon Mike Braun will be sitting in the connector waiting for you to take this call of "pre-praying" for See You At The Pole and the whole year for just one of our students. It is a task that asks all of us at First Baptist whether we are willing and believe just praying for someone makes a difference. Let me tell you, it does. What better way to show our students we love them than to pray for them each and every day. I hope you will start praying now for See You At The Pole and our students here that they will take their campus by prayer on September 27th.

Your "pre-praying" youth pastor,
Jeremy

UPCOMING EVENTS:

September 10th: Small groups will start back up for the fall. John and Ruthie Wallace will be leading the 11-12 grade small group, Mike and Dale Braun the 9-10 grade group and Linda Davis and Jeremy Spence the 7-8 grade group. Studies have yet to be picked so if you have any suggestions please let your leader know.

September 20th: See You At The Pole Rally with area churches starting around 6:30pm. We will not be having normal Lifeline this evening instead we will get you, as students, geared up, charged up, prayed up, for See You At The Pole next week. Be watching for more details.

September 26th: There will be a National Christian College Fair from 6:30pm-8:00pm at Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy on 11525 Snider Road in Cincinnati. Admission is **free** and you will be able to get information about a wide variety of Christian Colleges and Universities. This is a great thing for any Junior or Senior but anyone is welcome to attend. It is never too early to start looking at your college choice and what God may have in store for you. For more information please visit www.naccap.org for details on this evening and other Christian college fairs in the area.

September 27th: See You At The Pole at your school. This is your time to stand up with Christ and pray over your school that God would move and continue to move. It will be time you will unite with other Christians so you know who you can turn to in times of trouble. Things start roughly 30 minutes before the first bell.

Personal Notes



From Larry & Marilyn Bowling

Thank you to our church family for your overwhelming love and support during the past five months. Your prayers for Brent, Kristen, Conner and Wade were so very powerful. We want to express how much your cards, and loving notes, have meant to all of us. The distance between Hamilton and Houston is long, but we certainly felt your support. Pastor Den was so wonderful to call Brent and Kristen, as well as us, to share words of encouragement, heartfelt prayers, and offer support during this emotional roller coaster. Also, a special thanks to Ruth and Lois for establishing a continuous prayer time. That was very uplifting.

God makes no mistakes and everything that happens has a purpose. Today, we do not know why God chose to take Wade to be with Him, but we are comforted by the thought that Wade has a new body with no pain or sickness. Someday, we will ask God face to face.

Brent and Kristen asked Larry to speak at Wade's memorial service. This was very difficult for Larry, but he was able to describe Wade's character that showed through in those eleven short weeks; determination, will to live, love of family, and love for life. Larry also used this opportunity to witness to many nonbelievers in the audience. Larry's talk touched the hearts of those who were present.

Please keep Brent and Kristen in your prayers as they begin to heal. It is a very tough time for them. On the bright side, Conner is doing great and is a blessing to us. In Sincere Appreciation. John 16:33.

From Zeke & Jewell Bowling

We would like to thank all of our church family for the kindnesses shown to us in the birth and death of Wade and for our pastor who stood with us and beside us through it all. We really appreciated all the cards and every kind word of encouragement given to us. Most of all we thank you for praying. We know without a shadow of doubt that it was in God's will to take Wade to Himself. He's in His arms waiting for us to come which I believe is soon. The trumpet will sound and we will be caught up and we will know Wade and he will know us and forever together we will be. What a day that will be. We love you all and know that through all of this you love us. Thank you. Let's just keep on keeping on. In Him.

From Sharon French

I would like to thank our church family for allowing us to have the opportunity to serve in the area of mission trips. I participated in my first mission trip this summer. It was an awesome experience for me and I am so glad that I listened to the call of God to go and serve. It was a "mountain top" experience for me that I will treasure always. It was great to get to know the rest of the team and to make new friends among our own people and also fellow Christians in Bayou La Batre, Alabama. I hope to be able to participate for years to come. As the song says, "I want to be your hands, I want to be your feet, I'll go where you send me." That is what I want to do. Thanks again for being a people who believe in missions. It not only touches the lives of those we serve, but more so, the lives of those who go!

From Carolyn & Earl Gabbard

Thank you to so many who sent beautiful cards and remembered us on our 50th wedding anniversary. We enjoyed a lovely celebration with our family. The Lord has blessed our lives in many ways and we're looking forward to many more happy years together.

From Jean Grimes

Thank you all so much for the prayers and concern for Paul when he had surgery recently, also for my brother, Bill, who had bypass surgery and so many prayers were answered. Both are doing well. God bless you all.

From Glendene Hall

Thank you for the prayers, cards, and phone calls I received after my three operations. I do not have as much pain in legs now. I have to go back to the doctor in three months for my final check up. Both Jeff and Greg Sexton are well on the way to recovery. Greg still has one more mass to be removed, from his other arm. Jeff is still on a cane, back to work part time.

From Paul Hampton

Thank you for the many prayers you sent to our Father on my behalf. I was comforted in knowing you were there with me in my time of need. May God's light continue to shine on each of you, my prayers are with you. I feel as if I am a part of your church since I hear so much about you. God bless.

From Walter & Maxine Hillman

We would like to thank Pastor Bill, Ellie, the Wednesday Night Bible study group and the entire church family of 1st Baptist of Hamilton, for their prayers and the lovely card (signed by all) in regards to my eye surgery, August 2. Your prayers were answered and the surgery went perfectly. It went so well that I will

have the other eye taken care of on Tuesday, August 15. Please continue to pray for us and with us. It is truly a blessing to be a part of such a caring family in Christ.

From Fred & Lil Lakes

We would like to thank everyone for their prayers, phone calls, cards, and visits during Fred's 2 recent hospitalizations. Thanks Pastor Den and Pastor Bill for their visits. God bless our church and church family.

The family of Stan Pugh

The entire Pugh family wishes to thank you and the church congregation for all they have done for dad. Dad will be missed from this family for a long time to come. He was a remarkable individual from another time. Thank you for your help and kindness.

From John & Edith Rish

Thank you **all** for your concern, many prayers, cards, calls & visits during this past 14 months of sickness but God has continually blessed us. (Romans 8:28-29) We've had so many opportunities to share God's word through New testaments and tracts and our testimony. God is so good! Several friends and relatives helped in many ways; Belva & Bud Barnhouse, Jane Follmer, Pat Nesbitt, Janet Messer and others. Then since May 19 through July 22, many of God's precious servants and friends from First Baptist have provided delicious meals when the need was so great. A special thanks to Janet Lewis who not only co-ordinated all this, but supplied many meals, too. Those providing meals: Rick & Vicky Baker, Zeke & Jewell Bowling, Dwain & Sharon Brewer, Eris Cappelli, Ron & LaVerne Gerth, Don & Pat Gingrich, Ken & Barb Hendricks, Gene & Carol Howard, Steve & Janet Lewis, Helen Mullen, Walter & Mary Petry, Jim & Betty Powell, Jan Smith, Bob &

Thelma Stanger, Jack & Judy Young. Special thanks to Ellie for her help and Bob Arnold for his faithfulness in bringing videos of the Sunday services. Hebrews 13:5,8. God bless you all.

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.

Guynes, Dale & Ter
10 Pond Ridge Circle
Hamilton, Ohio 45013
Phone # 737-1075

Hartley, Doris
206 Boymel Pavilion
6898 Hamilton-Middletown Road
Middletown, Ohio 45044
Phone # (513) 420-5453

Manson, Jo
483 Wood Duck Drive
Cincinnati, Ohio 45246
Phone # cell 709-6921
email: mnsnjmn@aol.com

Wallick, Madeline
207 Boymel Pavilion
6898 Hamilton-Middletown Road
Middletown, Ohio 45044
Phone # (513) 420-5410

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.

First Baptist Church
1501 Pyramid Hill Blvd.
Hamilton, Ohio 45013
Phone: 513-868-1412

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| 1 - Linda Dunaway | 14 - Jim Bell
Teene Campbell
Erin Roberts
Ian Irwin
Iris Patton
Bonnie Hanna | 24 - Bob Eicher
Lee Roco Jenkins
Siera Jordon
Lillian Ruth Wallace |
| 2 - Jenny VanMeter | | |
| 3 - Claire Metzger
Ben Morris
Cleta Paragin
Mike Wallick | 15 - Linda Cain
Walter Petry | 25 - Colleen Hefner
Guy Hefner
Donald Hines
Sandra Imhoff
Bill Merz |
| 4 - Grady Rector | 16 - Martha Helton
Barb Keith | 26 - Nancy Follmer
Mandy Gambrell
Molly Gambrell |
| 5 - Richard Law | 17 - Alivia Ankrum
Brent Bowling
Earl Cotton
Carlie Lin Day
Ines Frost
Kevin Geiss | 27 - Dana Diedrichs
Andrew Geyer
Jené Krall
Evelyn Mesler |
| 6 - Michael Krall
Myron Mesler | 18 - Herb Cox
Jack Young | 29 - Blake Hendrickson
Carolyn McAllister
Megan Miller |
| 7 - Kaitlyn Begley
Deron Bowling
Bud Conrad
Sandra McCartney | 20 - Karen Buchanan
Carm Glover
Ashley Adams | 30 - Angie Inloes |
| 8 - Makayla Witmer
Dave Hurst | 21 - Bob Braun
Hunter Michael Day
Lisa Hampton | <p>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.</p> |
| 9 - Carla Metzler
Lisa Sprague
Jenny VanMeter | 22 - Barbara Lakes
Jan Smith
Al Schumm | |
| 10 - Carolyn Gabbard
Mikayla Laney | 23 - Rex Collier
Phyllis Cotton
Conner Gleason
Judy Swicegood
Cyndi Young | |
| 11 - Jim Krall
Merle Wilson | | |
| 12 - Evelyn Allen
Rosella Dawson
Emily Metzger
Samuel Wallace | | |
| 13 - Brian Chamberlain
Steve Gabbard
Sarah Keith | | |

Fall Trip To Oneida, KY

Jack Young and Fred Isaacs will be making their spring pilgrimage to Oneida Baptist Institute on Tuesday, October 11th. The campus has approximately 450 teens grades 6 through 12 and are in need of all help possible. Please bring any good used clothing, coats, shoes, toys, etc. that you would like to donate to the building and place them in the coat room after October 2nd. Please put the items in plastic trash bags and mark them for Oneida. For more information, call Jack young - 726-6132 or Fred Isaacs - 863-8657. (Please, because of storage problems - NO donations after Sunday, October 9th.)

Help needed! We are in need of some early retired people who have a heart for this worthwhile mission to go along and drive on these trips. Anyone is welcome to ride along with them on October 11th.



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

September 2006

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9:15 Sunday School-
Promotion Day K-5
10:30 Worship

Bible & Mission Conference

10

9:15 Sunday School
10:30 Worship
12:00 AB Girls
4:30 Mission Board
5:15 Youth Choir
6:00 KingsKids Kick-off
6:00 Cherub Choir
6:00 Evening Celebration

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9:15 Sunday School
10:30 Worship
4:30 Diaconate
5:15 Youth Choir
6:00 KingsKids Kick-Off
6:00 Cherub Choir
6:00 Evening Celebration

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

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Labor Day!
Church Offices Closed

Bible & Mission Conference
@ Camp Kirkwood

11

18

25

5

9:30 MOPS Steering
Committee

12

10:00 KeenAger Trip to
Annie Oakley
Museum in
Greenville
7:00 Abell Circle
7:00 Smith Circle

19

9:20 MOPS

26

6:30 National Christian
College Fair @
Cincinnati Hills
Christian Academy
Ringers

6

6:00 Family Dinner
6:30 Awana-1st Club Night
6:30 Celebration Ringers
6:30 Lifeline
6:45 Bible Study & Prayer
6:45 Carpenter's Hands
8:00 Chancel Choir

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

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6:00 Family Dinner
6:30 Awana Club-B.A.R.F.
Night (Bring a real
friend)
6:30 Celebration Ringers
6:30 Lifeline-See You At
The Pole
6:45 Bible Study & Prayer
6:45 Carpenter's Hands
8:00 Chancel Choir

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See You At The Pole
6:00 Family Dinner
6:30 Awana Club
6:30 Celebration Ringers
6:30 Lifeline
6:45 Bible Study & Prayer
6:45 Carpenter's Hands
8:00 Chancel Choir

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9:30 Ladies Bible Study
6:00 Music & Worship
Committee

14

9:30 Ladies Bible Study
5:30 Board of Trustees

21

8:30 Matthew 25
9:30 Ladies Bible Study
6:30 Ladies Bible Study

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9:30 Ladies Bible Study
6:30 Ladies Bible Study

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Bible & Mission Conference
@ Camp Kirkwood

8

15

22

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2

8:00 Men's Prayer Gathering

Bible & Mission Conference
@ Camp Kirkwood

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6:00 FOCUS Dinner @
Arnold's

16

6:00 Parenting Dinner @
Arnold's

23

8:00 Children's Ministry
Conference in
Wilmington
12:00 Taste of Gospel
Music @ Butler Co.
Courthouse
6:00 TNT/College &
Careers Dinner @
Arnold's

30 6:00 Carpenter's Hands
Dinner @ Arnold's