

The Courier

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



"Where everybody is somebody and Jesus Christ Is Lord"

April, 2007

The Walk

The greatest walk in history
took place so long ago.
There was no joy, no glory seen,
just One we did not know.
His screams and cries brought people out
to watch Him in His need.
Some laughed, some cried, some spit on Him
Some begged to have Him freed.
Who was this Man, what had He done?
Why were they so unjust?
He claimed His love had brought Him there.
If so, what did it cost?
They nailed Him to a cross that day.
They gambled for his clothes.
They cried "All Hail you King of Jews."
They were the fate He chose.
At last, He died that fateful day.
He asked for their relief.
The sky turned black, the curtains tore.
But few were left to grieve.
Those who loved Him ran and hid.
They feared they'd lose their heads.

They were too blind to see that day
that He would not stay dead.
Day three came, the sun shone bright.
They cried, "He's left His grave!"
For Jesus Christ in one long walk
our souls that day He saved!

—Teri Horsley



Don't Miss These Important Events!

April 1st - Palm Sunday Morning - Chancel Choir and Orchestra Cantata *God So Loved The World*
Palm Sunday Evening - KingsKids production, *King Of The Jungle*
April 5th - Maundy Thursday Communion Service
April 8th - Resurrection Sunday Morning Worship Service





American Baptist Women's Ministries

Upcoming Activities for ABW

April is Love Gift month.

The Spring Rally is May 5th.

Our circles will meet together for dinner on May 8th.

The state convention is June 13-15.

–Nancy Whipple

April Missionaries of the Month:

Mexico

Timothy & Patricia Long

Bible Book of the Month . . . Nehemiah

“We are your servants, the people you rescued by your power”

Nehemiah 1:10 (LB)

Nehemiah continues the story begun by the book of Ezra and deals with life in the restored community. The major point is the rebuilding of the city walls of Jerusalem. The main theme is the sad fact that people are slow to learn the lessons God want to teach them. The Israelites had been carried into captivity because of their sins, but now the very same sins that caused the downfall of their nation were being repeated. Nehemiah, a man of piety, prayer, and great faith, disciplined the people and encouraged them to be faithful.

PRAY for those missionaries whose lives touch the lives of children and young people in loving concern through the work in our Christian Centers.

–Madge Walters

AB Girls Of Faith

The AB Girls met on March 18th. Thank you to Katie Ford and her family for a delicious lunch. Also, thank you to Maria Miller for speaking about her career and ministry with the deaf. What she shared was very interesting and informative. Then the girls assembled 2 layette sets and made spring wreaths for several of our shut-ins. The next meeting of AB Girls will be on April 22nd, and Amy Wallace will be our hostess for lunch.

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

★ Thank You! ★
★ THANK YOU! ★

“Overwhelmed” is the word that comes to mind as we view the huge stack of Greeting Cards we will take time to re-VIEW in the near future! We have many cards wishing us well in our new home; for which I have replied to several, “We still have the SAME HOME; we’re just enjoying it at a new location!”

We have been at Berkeley Square for a little over two months, and it feels like HOME more every day. I especially enjoyed it when I looked out and saw one man snow-blowing our sidewalk, and another plowing out the driveway! And - it appears that our house on Oakmont will have a SOLD sign in front of it soon! Then we will really be HOME here!

Then, for the past two weeks we have had the double celebration of my 80th Birthday and the 50th Anniversary of OUR Ordination, which took place on my 30th birthday! It was great celebrating with the 15 members of our family on March 3rd and then with the whole Church Family at the Watch-Care Dinner on March 11th. For this double-decked occasion, we have tons of Birthday and Anniversary Cards, also.

What made all of these cards so special were the personal notes you added to the greetings. A personal message ADDED to the Greeting Card MORE THAN DOUBLES IT VALUE - and most of the cards we received had the added remarks. Thank you so much - we appreciated every one of them.

If I had known GETTING OLD was so enjoyable, I would have done it a lot sooner! Thank you, EACH AND EVERY ONE - we love you all, and we love having this delightful ministry at First Baptist Church; which I hope to continue for as long as health and ability permit.

Your Brother & Sister in Christ,
Pastor Bill and Bert Brantingham

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The words came from Jesus' own lips. The disciples were still stunned by the amazing resurrection of their Lord and friend. Jesus had appeared in those pre-dawn moments to the women at the tomb. Hearing their report of the empty tomb, Peter and John ran to the garden, and had seen the place where He had been buried, but Jesus was not there. Mary Magdalene spoke with the resurrected Lord on that bright resurrection morning. In the evening, the living Lord had shown Himself alive to the disciples, to the Emmaus disciples, to five hundred brothers at one time, and to James, Jesus' half-brother. The disciples were overjoyed when they once again heard His voice and saw those eyes of compassion. Seven days passed. Thomas had heard stories of Jesus' several encounters with His followers, but declared he would not believe until he placed his hands in the Savior's wounds. Then the moment arrived. Face to face with the beloved friend, Jesus whispered: *"Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe"* (John 20:27).

For many of us, these accounts of Jesus' resurrection are the last thoughts we have about Jesus. We know that He came from the Father; was born in Bethlehem; lived, taught, and ministered among God's people for 33 years; suffered on a criminal's cross and died; was gloriously raised from the cold tomb by the power of God; and returned to the Father in Heaven. But now a question—What is He doing now? If we saw the living and resurrected Christ, would we know our Lord?

In our study of the early chapters of Revelation, we have observed Jesus' concern for His church—those early believers for whom He gave His life. We also have before us a glimpse of what God has in store for His creation in the near future. But if we pay close attention, we can discover some of those phrases that reveal the wonder of Jesus' present identity and work. One must almost hold his/her breath as these phrases flow from John's pen. Take a moment to read Rev. 1:10-20; Rev. 5. In these texts Jesus is described:

- He is one "like the Son of Man" (a human being, but also Jesus' favorite description of Himself as the Messiah);
- He is dressed in a robe (the attire of a priest);
- He is wearing a sash (symbol of a king);
- His eyes are like a blazing fire;
- His feet are glowing bronze;
- His voice is like rushing waters;
- In His hand are the seven stars—the churches (a symbol of authority and power);
- In His mouth is a double-edged sword (a symbol of judgment);
- His face is like the sun in its brilliance;

- He is identified as the First and the Last, the Sovereign One with all authority;
- He is the Living One—made alive through the power of God's resurrection;
- He holds the keys of death and hades (total control over every dominion and power);
- He is worthy to receive from the Father the title deed to earth, where all things will be submitted to Him;
- He is a Lamb (having the marks of one crucified); perfect in power, full of the Holy Spirit;
- He is the Redeemer: *"With your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation...Worthy is the lamb who was slain"* (5:9).
- He is the One who is Faithful and True;
- *"On His robe...He has a name written—King of Kings and Lord of Lords"* (19:16).

The true accounts of Jesus' miraculous birth, life and ministry, passion and sacrifice, and glorious resurrection and ascension are all preludes to the final episode—Jesus the Conquering One who makes all things new. After Jesus wins total and final victory over sin and death, He will be able to say, *"It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life. He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son"* (21:6-7). From the very beginning, that has been the purpose of the "Jesus event"—**God-incarnate reigning for eternity.**

Longing to share that sure and future time with you...Pastor



Coming Soon!

Have you heard? There is something new coming to our church! Over the last few months, a playground committee has been diligently working on a design for our children. Inspired by Peggy Chamberlain's vision for a safe play area for our children, the committee has finally reached a decision.

Through COUNTLESS hours of pouring over playground catalogs, visiting playgrounds, emails, meetings, and phone calls with sales reps, measuring and re-measuring, we searched for equipment that would have several activities for the kids to do, but also have the best value. We chose one, and it was approved by the trustees. It was even on sale! Who doesn't love a sale?! We are so excited by this project, not only because Peggy's vision has finally come to fruition, but also because of what it could do for our church. What can a playground do for a church, you ask? As one member of our church mentioned, it shows visitors that we have a commitment to families and their children.

Check around the building for drawings and plans of the playground! We hope you will be as excited as we are! Thanks again for your support!

–Playground Committee
Bill and Sandra Imhoff,
Brandi Ememaker, & Claire Metzger



An Opportunity To Serve

The Christian Ed Board would like to invite our neighborhood children to be a part of our children's programs - both Sunday morning and Wednesday evening. We would like to make bus service available. If you would be interested in driving the bus, please let us know. No special license is required. Please contact Linda Hoover, Brandi Ememaker, or Claire Metzger.

Budget Status Report

The Month of February, 2007

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$57,409
Offerings	<u>42,131</u>
Over (Under) Budget	(\$15,278)

Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$47,055
Offerings	<u>42,131</u>
Over (Under) Actual	(\$ 4,924)

The Year Through February, 2007

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$121,710
Offerings	<u>80,152</u>
Over (Under) Budget	(\$41,558)

Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$110,434
Offerings	<u>80,152</u>
Over (Under) Actual	(\$30,282)

–The Board Of Trustees

First Quarter Business Meetings

The Advisory Board will meet on Sunday, April 15th, at 5:30 p.m. All elected officers of the church are members of the Advisory board and are urged to be in attendance at this meeting. In addition to items of business on which recommendations will be made to the church, reports will be heard from the boards and staff.

The First Quarter Business Meeting will be Wednesday, April 18th at 6:45 p.m. Reports will be heard from the boards and staff.



The next scheduled Work Day at Matthew 25 will be Tuesday, April 24th. As usual, we would like to have a good working group to go. We will leave the church at the usual time, 8:30 a.m. Bring your sack lunch and beverage and be prepared for a good day of work and fellowship. Your reward for this ministry will be recorded in heaven. Thank you.

–Pastor Bill and Bert Brantingham

Vacation Bible School 2007

This summer we are taking a trip to the water park! So grab your flippers, swim suit and goggles and join us June 18th.

Our theme this year will be water. We have five fantastic features about Obedience, Worship, Courage, Faith, and Service. JP is a fun-loving penguin who will help us Plunge into God's Word and learn about life with Jesus.

Our children will pick up our P.A.S.S (Personal Assignments for Special Servants) and be challenged to live life as Jesus would have us.

We have already had many lovely people offer help as class teachers and tour guides, but we do need more support. This can be from committing to pray for a class before, during and after VBS, to taking flyers out to local people, to working with a group of children.

If you are helping out at VBS this year and you want to pick up your materials then drop by our office and you can get the curriculum. We are starting to make a list of things that we need, so let us know what you want. We are planning to use the same format as last year, as this was successful and we think everyone enjoyed it.

Decorating-wise we are looking for summer themes, so if you have any of the following you would like to let us borrow, please let us know:

- Beach towels
- Beach balls
- Inflatables
- Inner tubes
- Buckets and spades
- Ice chests
- Umbrellas
- Wading pools

Our music this year is spectacular! We will be passing out CDs to the children closer to registration. If any teacher would like the interactive CD or clipart CD please see Cheryl Motzer – our interactive communicator.

Watch for our flyers and registration details.
Thanks!

–Claire and Brandi,
Children's Directors

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LADIES TEA

11 a.m. Saturday, April 28

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The day before Good Friday is called Maundy Thursday. The word "maundy" comes from the Latin word *mandatum*, which means "commandment." In the gospel of John, Jesus makes this statement during the Last Supper: "I am with you only a little longer. . . I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:33-35, NRSV).

Maundy Thursday should always be a time of sharing with others, showing loving concern for one another, and partaking of Holy Communion in remembrance of Him.





Awana Club

Awana April Calendar

- 4th - NO CLUB (Maundy Thursday Communion Service)
- 11th - NO CLUB (Spring Break)
- 18th - M&Ms Night (Movies & Munchies) Sparks & T&T
- 25th - Regular Club Night

Awana Grand Prix

We had a great time at the 2007 Awana Grand Prix! We had 14 cars race. All clubbers also received a Grand Prix participation pin to wear on their uniforms. 6 Trophies were awarded, 3 for Speed and 3 for Design.

- 1st Place Speed: Cory Gabbard
- 2nd Place Speed: Justin VanMeter
- 3rd Place Speed: Christopher Arnold
- 1st Place Design: Emily Miller
- 2nd Place Design: Taylor Schuermann
- 3rd Place Design: Will George

Certificates were also awarded for specific Design categories:

- Tidiest Paint Job: Cory Gabbard
- Strangest Shape: Blake Hendrickson
- Shiniest Paint Job: Adam Begley
- Pure and Natural: Darin Chamberlain
- Most Polka-Dotty: Anna Wallace
- Most Humorous: Alexander Sprague
- Most Feminine: Joey Sackenheim
- Most Colorful: Stephanie Mullins
- Most Abundant Use of Paint: Justin VanMeter
- Most Artistic: Kate McDonald
- Fastest-Looking Car: Will George
- Best Driver in the Car: Taylor Schuermann
- Looks Most Like a Car: Christopher Arnold
- Best Detail: Emily Miller

Look for pictures posted on the Awana bulletin board, located near the Ladies Lounge.

M&Ms Night (Movies & Munchies)

We will be having one more M&Ms night this year. This gives some of our Awana Leaders to opportunity to attend the quarterly church business meeting on April 18th.

Game Show Night

You don't want to miss this theme night! Game Show Night will be May 2nd. This will be a regular club night (Handbook Time, Game Time, Council/Green Meadow Time), but with a Game Show theme! All contestants (that's you, Sparks and T&T) need to arrive to Opening on time (6:30 p.m.).

–Emily Metzger
Awana Commander



It's hard to believe that our 2006-07 MOPS year is coming to an end. You would think that in these last few months we would be winding things down but on the contrary we are as busy as ever! We have many activities in the works. Some include the finalization of the last two monthly meetings, the final details on our summer programs – mom's only activities and mother/child events and hosting our annual Moppet appreciation salad luncheon. We have also just learned the new theme for the 2007-08 MOPS year and have our wheels spinning as to all the possibilities of sharing Gods word! So needless to say we are busy!

If you haven't already you'll want to make sure to join us for the few remaining meetings. We have two excellent speakers planned. The authors from the book Kids Love Ohio have tentatively be scheduled to join us at our April meeting to share with us some fun, educational and exciting day trips to take our children on this coming summer. If you're like me it's never too early to plan! We will wrap up the year with some expert gardening advice from Master Gardner and Mentor Marilyn Bowling. Marilyn is always such a joy to have at our meetings and brings such warmth and hospitality to all the moms. We will also have one mother/child and mom's only event for the months of April and May, plus an extra craft night of homemade candle making. If you would like anymore details regarding any of these events please let me know.

We hope to see you there!

Living a Life for Him-
Elise Martin, Coordinator



**From The Heart Of
Marilyn**

College Corner

E-Mail From God

The Lamb That Was A Lion

“He was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.”

–Isaiah 53:7

Dear Child,

Jesus lived a perfect life as a human being. Before He left Heaven, I gave Him a job to do on earth, and He did it exactly like I told Him.

After He was tortured and handed over to be crucified, Jesus had a chance to defend Himself. After all, He was perfectly innocent. And He was so powerful, He could have destroyed all of His accusers by just waving His hand . . . but He didn't. Jesus obeyed Me and kept His mouth shut so that He would die on the cross, taking all your mistakes and wrongdoing with Him. His sacrificial death earned you the chance to know My forgiveness . . . and Me.

So understand, the strongest person isn't the one who blows up everything or yells the loudest about how unfair life is. The strongest person is the one who silently obeys Me, even in the face of false accusations. Be strong by being humble.

The Father of Jesus,
God

–Serving in His name,
Marilyn Bowling
College Coordinator



**BEHOLD,
CHRIST HAS RISEN!**

**The KeenAgers
(Our Senior Adult Ministry)**

We have been reviewing the participation in planned events for the KeenAgers, and must conclude that there is an obvious lack of interest on the part of many of our Senior Adults. While some are physically not able to participate as they once did, there are SCORES of others in the congregation who are 55+ in age, and qualified to participate, and have never joined in.

As a result, we have decided to plan events every other month, rather than every month. We will review the response to these trips, and decide if further alterations need to be made. We continually ask for suggestions, and try to accommodate ideas that we receive.

For the year 2007, we have the following schedule planned. Some of the events and dates are indefinite at this time, but we are working on them. We are very interested in your suggestions, as well.

February - We traveled to Cedarville University for dinner and the program “*You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*”, presented by the College Theater Group.

March - We took in the Rotary Revels' Annual Production at the Hamilton Campus Theater of Miami University. This year, we enjoyed the musical: "Oklahoma".

April - We will be going on April 30th to the Museum to share in the current review of the loss of The Titanic. The reservation list is currently on the KeenAger Bulletin Board.

July - We will be going to the La Comedia Dinner Theater in Springboro to enjoy “*The Wizard of Oz*”.

September- Plans are to make a return trip to the Newport Aquarium. (We went there several years ago & thought it was time to go again.)

November - We have not been to Little Nashville in Indiana for a number of years, and plan to go again. At the same time we will enjoy the fall colors as the leaves begin to fall.

December - Our annual Christmas Lights Trip will take us to Sharon Woods in Cincinnati. (We were going to do this last December but changed our route, which was a disappointment to many. WE WON'T LET YOU DOWN THIS YEAR!)

–Pastor Bill and your KeenAger Committee;
Bertha Campbell, Betty Powell, & Lil Senior



Carpenter's Hands Signs Of Love



The next **Silent Dinner** will be held on Friday evening, April 6th, at Tri County Mall. See you there!

Interpreter Schedule for April

April 1	Robin Chamberlain	Jo Manson
April 8	Maria Miller	Jo Manson
April 15	Maria Miller	Robin Chamberlain
April 22	Maria Miller	Jo Manson
April 29	Robin Chamberlain	Jo Manson

Happy Birthday



April 7 Nicole Taylor Monhollen

Deaf/Hard of Hearing Health Fair

(A free event for those that attend.)

May 5, 2007

8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Location: Landmark Baptist

Workshops topics will include issues such as cancer, diabetes, heart disease & high blood pressure, cholesterol, mental health issues, faith, rights, dental care, and communications technology. There will also be booths and items for sale. Hope to see you there!

—Maria Miller
Director of Deaf Ministries

Upcoming Women's Ministry Opportunities

April 17th: Chonda Pierce concert. Join us for an evening of food and fun in Mason. Pierce is a popular Christian comedienne who is sure to tickle your funny bone. The group will meet at church at 4:30, and travel to MiMi's Café in Deerfield Township for dinner, with the concert at Mason's Christ Church at 7:00. Anyone interested in joining the group should call Lois Anderson at 894-1216 or e-mail her at randerson26@cinci.rr.com. The cost is \$15 for the concert plus dinner. Deadline is April 1st.

April 27th & 28th: Women of Faith Conference Amazing Freedom—Two day event at Nationwide Arena, in Columbus. Cost for both days is \$65. Featured Speakers include: Max Lucado, Sandi Patti, Luci Swindoll, Anita Renfroe, and others. For more information: www.womenoffaith.com

The Women's Ministry Council will be hosting a Movie Night at Debbie Miller's in May. Details on date and time to follow. Watch the Courier for upcoming summer opportunities including a Bunco night, and more.

—The Women's Ministry Council



Free Midday Music In Oxford Concerts



The following April concerts are scheduled at the Oxford Presbyterian Church, 101 N. Main Street in Oxford. For information call Jack Daugherty - 523-6969.

April 11: The Columbus-based "High Street A Cappella" male vocal octet. 12:10 p.m.

April 25th: Classical Jazz II (rescheduled from February cancellation). Included two-piano version of George Gershwin's "America In Paris". 12:05 p.m.





Easter Flowers 2007

In Loving Memory Of

By

Bob Belew Nancy Follmer
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert P. Borden Bob Borden
 Wade Ezekiel Bowling . Marilyn & Larry Bowling
 Wade Ezekiel Bowling . . . Jewell & Zeke Bowling
 Violet Buck Pat & Don Gingrich
 Ed Cappelli Eris Cappelli
 Ed Cappelli Juli, Joe & Katie Ford
 Vola Coate Paul & Margie VonStein
 Rick Coltharp Myron & Evelyn Mesler
 Roger Day Janet & Josh Day
 Amy Edgerton Charles & Madge Walters
 Alan Flegal Barb & Todd Keith
 Jon Follmer Nancy Follmer
 Pinia & Bob Gabbard Carolyn & Earl Gabbard
 Pinia & Bob Gabbard Oakley Wardlow
 Our Grandparents Barb & Todd Keith
 Charles & Phillip Hampton
 Jerry & Loretta Hampton
 Mark Hornung Maxine Hornung
 Mary Lou Hoskins Everett Hoskins
 Lillian & Kenneth Jackson
 Carolyn & Earl Gabbard
 Donna Jarrett Mary Walker
 Nellie Johnson Mary & Mollie Johnson
 Rosemary Merz Don & Pat Gingrich
 Oscar & Jill Messer Janet Messer & Family
 Donald Metzger Pastor Den & Ruth Metzger
 Eric Pals Pastor Den & Ruth Metzger
 Our Parents John & Jean Riczko
 Our Parents Pastor Bill & Bert Brantingham
 Our Parents Bob & Betty Eicher
 Geneva Perry Oakley Wardlow & Earl Gabbard
 Albert & Flo Potter Marilyn & Larry Bowling
 Courtney C. Profitt Anna Profitt
 Courtney C. Profitt Lois & Rod Anderson
 Wayne & Ruby Reynolds . . Bob & Thelma Stanger
 Herman & Eunice Simpson
 Simpson & Winkler Families
 Linda Simpson Simpson & Winkler Families
 Earle & Esther Stanger Bob & Thelma Stanger
 Kelly Stanger Bob & Thelma Stanger
 Adrian & Henrietta Stricker
 Eris Cappelli & Family
 Adrian & Henrietta Stricker
 Juli, Joe & Katie Ford

John & Jane Tyra Jerry & Loretta Hampton
 Paul Wardlow Oakley Wardlow

In Honor Of

By

Jane & Elden Anderson Lois & Rod Anderson
 Bob & Barb Arnold Ben & Betsey Kelly
 Jewell & Zeke Bowling . Marilyn & Larry Bowling
 Brent, Kristen, Conner Bowling
 Marilyn & Larry Bowling
 Deron Bowling & Monica McConaughy
 Marilyn & Larry Bowling
 Glenna Corbin Eris Cappelli
 Beulah Hampton Jerry & Loretta Hampton
 Jesus Bill & Barb Burton
 Ruth Pals Pastor Den & Ruth Metzger
 Our Parents Barb & Todd Keith
 Anna Profitt Lois & Rod Anderson
 Bernice & John Raber Pastor Den & Ruth Metzger
 Kathy Reynolds Bob & Thelma Stanger



Did you know...

The church softball league at North End where our Blue & Gray teams play is one of the largest church softball leagues in the state of Ohio. The 2007 season begins on Monday, April 16th, for the Blue team, and Tuesday, April 17th, for the Gray team. Anyone 16 & over interested in playing should sign up in the Connector. Look for game times listed in the bulletin . . . come support our teams!

–Josh Metzger
 Director of Sports and Recreation



Nancy McAllister, a 2004 graduate of Badin High School was inducted into **Psi Chi**, The National Honor society in Psychology, on November 27th, 2006. She is a member of **Sigma Alpha Pi**, the National society of Leadership and Success, and was again named to the dean's list for the fall semester at Miami University. Nancy, a junior Psychology Major at Miami University, is the daughter of Carolyn and Dale McAllister.



Child Care Schedule

Nursery (Morning)

April 1 - Brandi Emenaker & Teen Helper
 April 8 - Emily Metzger & Teen Helper
 April 15 - Teri Collier & Aly
 April 22 - Kristy & Steve Harden
 April 29 - Sandra & Bill Imhoff

One & Two Year Olds

April 1 - Debbie Allen & Lauren
 April 8 - Debbie Allen & Lauren
 April 15 - Debbie Allen & Lauren
 April 22 - Debbie Allen & Lauren
 April 29 - Debbie Allen & Lauren

Kinderchurch

April 1 - Rob & Anne Ruwe
 April 8 - Brandi Emenaker & Teen Helper
 April 15 - Claire Metzger & Teen Helper
 April 22 - Brian & Barb Begley
 April 29 - Brandi Emenaker & Teen Helper



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:

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

April 4

No Wednesday Dinner - No Evening Programs

April 11

No Wednesday Dinner - No Evening Programs

April 18

Menu: Spaghetti with Meat Balls, Tossed Salad, Bread Sticks, Dessert
 Hosts: TNT (Seekers)

April 25

Menu: Chicken and Dumplings, Glazed Carrots, Tossed Salad, Rolls, Dessert
 Hosts: Parenting Class/Missions/Homebuilders

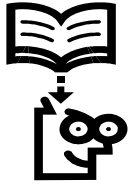
Reminder: Adults should contribute \$4.00 per person for the meal; the cost for children under 12 years old who eat at the "Hot Dog" table is \$1.25. If they chose to eat from the main table, the cost is \$2.00. Be sure to make your reservation on the Friendship Folder each Sunday.

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

April Greeters

Don Gingrich, Jerry Hampton and Nancy Follmer





Pastor Jeremy's Think Tank

People Pleasing vs. People Loving

I was sitting across a table from one of my leaders when this article came to my mind. Actually, it came as I was thinking through the meeting and seeing what God was doing in their life and likewise in mine. Unfortunately, by the time I am actually writing this article it has been a couple weeks, but the conversation is as fresh as it was then.

The conversation was about how I could help them as they minister to teens here at church. They are a tremendous gift to the CREW and I am so very grateful to them. However, they were going through a situation I have been through and believe others have also. The issue was trying to please others and then the feelings of failure when that wasn't the case.

If you know teenagers, or really just humans, we don't always like it when someone tells us what we need to hear and we can make others feel crummy because of it. This was partly the case.

I was able to share with them the struggles I have had for year, and still do. I am a person that loves to make people happy and at times in my life have been a people pleaser. I don't enjoy conflict and normally will back away from it whenever possible. Does that sound like you?

Do you withhold words or actions because you are afraid of what others will think? Does pleasing people mean more to you than saying what you think? If so you are like me, or I hope like I was.

Then one day something great happened to me. I decided to look at how Christ did things. I figured, "Christ did everything perfectly so was He about pleasing people?" I quickly found out this wasn't always the case, and then God convicted me.

See I was trying to love people by pleasing them. But, that is not how Christ did it, at least not always. Yes, there were times when Christ pleased people, just read the feeding of the 5,000 and healing of people, but in all those cases Christ did it for another reason. He did those things because He loved them.

Christ's love for people also caused him to make enemies at times and confront others. He would not allow the reactions of others dictate what He did or what He said. Instead He would confidently and lovingly tell them how it is. I marvel at how Christ lovingly was able to tell the Pharisee's they had it all wrong and were "whitewashed tombs". Amazing, don't you think?

For me this time of examining the life of Christ was

life changing. I realized for the first time I wasn't called to please people because Christ didn't always do that. If you think I am wrong just think of why He was crucified. Instead, the greatest command for me was to love God first and then love others.

This means at times I will not please people but I can always love them. Love means I say what Christ wants me to say, do what Christ wants me to do, and do it in a way pleasing to God. I am not allowed to trample people and have disregard for others, but I must love them and take into account their needs but ultimately I must obey God and not man.

What about you? Are you a people pleaser or a people lover? Check and see, then compare your life to Christ's. How does it compare? Mine wasn't looking too well in comparison and I am changing. Are you willing? Pleasing people is a whole lot easier and less painful than loving them but I know in the end love wins. I know this because that is exactly what happened in Christ's life. Love prevailed.

Striving to love others,

Jeremy

UPCOMING EVENTS:

April 1st and 8th: There will be **no** small groups during the evening service. We will enjoy the KingsKids production on the 1st. On April 8th - no evening services due to Easter. Please spend time with your family reflecting on the hope and glory of Easter.

April 4th: No Lifeline this evening

April 5th: Maundy Thursday service at church at 7:00pm. Please come as we reflect of the meaning of Easter.

April 6th: Hamilton Christian Center is having a special cross experience from 11am-7pm called "Via Dolorosa Experience." This will be a time when you can experience what it could have been like to carry the cross of Christ, see a whip similar to what Jesus may have been beaten with, and more. More information should be available soon. If you are curious what Jesus may have gone through, this could be a great experience for you.

April 14th: We will be going to Union Terminal to see the Titanic Exhibit. Please see Jeremy or Mandy Gambrell if you are interested in going. Cost is yet to be decided.

Church Softball: It is the season to begin softball and this year we would like a coed team to go along our guys teams. If you are interested please see Josh Metzger or Jeremy to sign up. Sign up now.

Smoky Mountain Senior Adult Conference

We have received information on a Conference to take place in the Gatlinburg, TN area which sounds very interesting. I have posted the information on the KeenAger Bulletin Board, and have several other copies of literature in my office which I will pass on to anyone who may be interested.

This is a Spiritual Conference which includes speakers such as Art Linkletter, Tony Evans, and others; and the musical talent of The Squire Parsons Trio and Larnelle Harris. The Conference is entitled "*The Power Of One*" and will be held at the new Sevierville Event Center in Sevierville, TN from Sept. 25th - 28th. Details of the costs and activities are on the Bulletin Board Announcement, as well as in the packet I will give to anyone who may be interested in going.

I will be willing to lead such a journey to Tennessee if there is enough interest. Please review the Bulletin Board Announcement; or speak to me about it. Put your name on the list posted if you think you might like to go. When we have sufficient interest, we will plan to get together and discuss all of the details.

There is a discount if registration is made by July 25th - so you need to look it over now. Let me know!

-Pastor Bill

There is no
Holy One like
the LORD,
there is no
ROCK
like our God.



1 Samuel 2:2

Congratulations To Some Of Our Youth!

Edgewood Dinner Theater

"*Malt Shoppe Memories*" will be the theme for Edgewood High School's annual dinner theater on **Friday, April 27th, and Saturday, April 28th**, at Edgewood High School, featuring the Edgewood High School **Choraliers** with their award-winning "*Strange*" Twilight Tour competition show. Dinner will be served each evening at 6:00 p.m., followed by the show at 7:30 p.m.

This year the Choraliers were awarded numerous trophies in their class and Over-All Finals' Trophies including **First-Runner-Up** at both **St. Clairsville, Ohio and Grove City, Ohio**, **Second-Runner-Up** at Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, **Fourth-Runner-Up** at Poca, West Virginia, **Sixth-Runner-Up** at Hanover, Indiana, and ninth place at Marysville, Ohio.

Tickets may be reserved by contacting Mike & Dale Braun @ 726-4000, Bruce & Marsha Helton @ 988-6814, or Linda Gibbs @ 894-2476. Show only tickets will also be available at the door. Prices are:

\$17 - Adult Dinner & Show

\$12 - Sr. Citizens over 60/Students Dinner & Show

\$10 - Adult Show Only

\$ 5 - Sr. Citizens over 60/Students Show Only

\$ 2 - Printed Program

The Friday evening entree is a choice of roast beef or roast pork, and on Saturday evening the choice is ham or turkey. All dinners include mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, garden salad & dressing, rolls, and a dessert choice of apple or cherry cobbler or cake. Drinks available at the malt shoppe fountain are coffee, soft drinks, root beer floats, and cherry Coke.

Choraliers from First Baptist include **Drew Helton, Junior**, and **Joey Braun, Sophomore**. **Sue Combs** is the director, with choreography by **Chris Beiser**.

-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!

**Chancel Choir And Orchestra
Easter Cantata Presentation
Palm Sunday, April 1st
10:30 a.m.**

**LOVE ...
MERCY ...
HOPE ...
GRACE ...
ANGUISH ...
JOY ...
VICTORY ...
HONOR ...**

... all are depicted in the life, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. He was the Word sent from the Father, declaring ever so clearly that

**God
So Loved
The
World**

Camp Kirkland and Tom Fettke offer this musical account of the ministry of Jesus Christ. Thoughtful lyrics and stirring music, featuring a moving narrative of the trial and crucifixion of Jesus, combine to declare that Jesus Christ is the embodiment of God the Father's love for humanity.

Hallelujah!

--Mike Wallick
Chancel Choir and Orchestra Director

**VICTORY
over
DEATH**



The God of Creation Is Lord of My Heart

**created by
CELESTE CLYDESDALE**

**arranged by
DAVID T. CLYDESDALE**



Bring your family and friends to this children's musical performed by our KingsKids and witness wonderful truths tucked in this work about God while looking at His handiwork in creation. We'll also learn some lessons in trust, faith, and obedience from Daniel and Noah. If you know someone who needs to hear in a fun and entertaining way, how a life can be transformed by Christ, this would be it! Sunday, April 1st, 6:00 p.m. in the Family Center.

—Ruth Metzger
Director of KingsKids



Mark Braun who is a freshman at the University of Toledo has been chosen as a Young Life leader in Toledo and has been assigned a placement at Sylvania Northview High School. Mark follows in the footsteps of our own Joe Arnold who has been a Young Life leader at Hilliard Darby High School in Columbus while he attends The Ohio State University.

Young Life is a non-denominational Christian organization that reaches out to adolescents by building meaningful relationships with kids and through those friendships introduce them to the Gospel and encourage all kids to “go deep” in their relationship with the Lord. Contacts are made through local schools, high energy young Life “Club” meetings, school activities, and any other places where kids gather. Young Life emphasizes evangelism as well as discipleship through contacts with both church and unchurched kids. “Every Kid . . .” is part of their mission.

Our Mission Board has supported this outreach ministry for several years in the Hamilton, Fairfield, Talawanda, Edgewood and Ross schools. To find out more about Young Life, they have a great website at www.younglife.org. Continue to pray for the college kids all over who have committed to this difficult but rewarding ministry. Congratulations, Mark!! We are proud of you!



April

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- | | | | | | |
|------|--|------|---|------|---|
| 1 - | Donald Anderson
Nancy Brown
Dorothy Glynn
Rosemary Thompson | 11 - | Mark Braun
Drew Schramm | 25 - | Gerry Davis
Allen Hampton
Kathy Inloes
Jon Whipple |
| 2 - | Beulah Benzing
Eris Cappelli
Carolyn Dudley
Katie Scott
Ruth Turner
Jake Yates
John Paul Young | 12 - | Craig Rosenbaum | 26 - | Becky Blanchard
Josh Farmer
Brittany Rogers
Alyson Rothenbusch |
| 3 - | Bo Stanger | 14 - | Diana Bueker
Katie Rankey
Krys Schramm | 27 - | Carol Rose |
| 4 - | Joey Fryer
Karen King
Savannah Yates | 15 - | Ashley Inloes
Marcella Walter | 28 - | Chris Campbell
Dale Thomas Dawson
Brad Gerth
Don Kellum |
| 5 - | Marian Allen
Marie Sparks | 16 - | David Gabbard
Jack Rupp | 29 - | Linda Arnold |
| 6 - | Valerie Ashcraft
Don Grimes | 18 - | Michelle Owen
Libby Thomas | 30 - | Nick Emenaker
Margie Mayes
Anna Wallace |
| 7 - | Beth Hanna | 19 - | Maxine Hornung | | |
| 9 - | Kim Gingrich
David Hollowell
Dorothy Jackson
Merle Kimble
Jim Powell | 20 - | Dean Minnich
Jean Riczko | | |
| 10 - | Irene Schilling | 21 - | Pauline Diesbach
Virginia Grollmus | | |
| | | 22 - | Stan Brown | | |
| | | 23 - | Linda Hoover | | |
| | | 24 - | Kim Chow
Sharon Click
Ruth Metzger
Michael Titus | | |

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.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>April 2007</h1>						
1 Palm Sunday 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Chancel Choir & Orchestra Cantata <i>God So Loved The World</i> 6:00 KingsKids <i>King Of The Jungle</i>	2	3 9:30 MOPS Steering	4 5:15 Board of Trustees No Dinner/No Evening Programs	5 6:15 Chancel Choir 7:00 Maundy Thursday	6 11:00 - 7:00 Via Dolorosa Experience @ Hamilton Christian Center	7 8:00 Men's Prayer Gathering
8 Resurrection Sunday! 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	9	10 10:00 Holloway Circle 7:00 Abell Circle 7:00 Smith Circle	11 No Dinner/No Evening Programs	12	13	14 CREW to Union Terminal to see Titanic Exhibit
15 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 5:00 Board of Missions 5:15 Youth Choir 5:30 1 st Qtr. Advisory Bd. 6:00 KingsKids 6:00 Cherub Choir 6:00 Evening Celebration	16	17 9:30 MOPS 4:30 Women to Chonda Pierce @ Mason's Christ Church	18 5:30 Youth Ministry Team 6:00 Family Dinner 6:30 Awana Club-M&Ms 6:30 Lifeline 6:30 Celebration Ringers 6:45 1 st Qtr. Business Mtg. 6:45 Carpenter's Hands 8:00 Chancel Choir	19 9:30 Ladies Bible Study 6:30 Ladies Bible Study 8:00 ONE Bible Study	20	21
22 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 12:00 AB Girls of Faith 4:00 CE Board 4:30 Diaconate 5:15 Youth Choir 6:00 KingsKids 6:00 Cherub Choir 6:00 Evening Celebration	23	24 8:30 Matthew 25 7:00 Hamilton City Schools Fine Arts Recital	25 6:00 Family Dinner 6:30 Awana Club 6:30 Lifeline 6:30 Celebration Ringers 6:45 Bible Study & Prayer 6:45 Carpenter's Hands 8:00 Chancel Choir	26 9:30 Ladies Bible Study 6:30 Ladies Bible Study 8:00 ONE Bible Study	27 Women of Faith in Columbus	28 11:00 Ladies Tea Women of Faith in Columbus
29 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 5:15 Youth Choir 6:00 KingsKids 6:00 Cherub Choir 6:00 Evening Celebration	30 10:30 KeenAgers to Union Terminal to see Titanic Exhibit					



Personal Notes

From Peggy Avance

I would like to thank my church family for the loving concerns which were extended to me during my broken hip surgery in December. The prayers, cards, flowers, and visits were so appreciated. Tom and I want to thank you for the delicious food you brought to our home. Many thanks to Pastors Den and Bill for their many encouraging visits. You are all special people and I love you all.

From the Grollmus Family

The family of Robert Dale Grollmus would like to thank you with all of our heart for your prayers, cards, and condolences. We had a mountain we could not climb. Six months - one step forward and two steps back. God finally gave him peace. Thank you all for being there for us. Pastor Denny and Pastor Bill were faithful and it meant so much—your Christian love was with all of us. Thank you for the food and graciousness and love. We appreciated everything you did for us. God bless!!

From Janet Hazelwood

Thank you for all of the cards, visits, and prayers during my extended hospital stay and the loss of my mother. It is such a comfort to belong to a church with so many loving and caring people. A special thanks to Pastors Bill, Den and Ruth for the many visits. Love in Christ.

From Walter & Maxine Hillman

Maxine & I as well as Grace Chisholm, would like to, once again, express our thanks and gratitude to the "Extreme Love In Action," mission, for helping with the loading of the truck to move Grace Chisholm back to the New Orleans area. Even though the work was done in the snow and cold, the men worked smilingly and with care and the love we have come to expect from such Christian men. A special thanks to Dwain Brewer, Rod Anderson, John Riczko, Ken Hendricks and Dwain's son, Jordan Allen. May GOD hold a special place in heaven for such men and such acts.

From Carol Howard

Gene has met the Lord face to face! I have that blessed assurance, but the tears still come. Your kindness to me has helped a great deal in bearing my loss. My family and I want to thank you for the many, many expressions of sympathy sent through cards,

phone calls, and visits made by dear friends. It has meant so much to have a loving spiritual family surround me with prayer. I have felt the Lord's comforting arms. Thanks to Pastor Dennis and Pastor Bill for their part in conducting Gene's funeral service, and for the home visit that was made. I appreciate and thank Jewell Bowling and her committee, and all the "great cooks" who prepared and served lunch following the service. We are very blessed to have a compassionate, caring church family. With love.

From Gerry Retherford

I would like to thank everyone for the many cards, calls, and prayers I received when I recently had back surgery. It is very comforting to know we have so many caring people in our congregation. Thank you again!

From Betty Schwab

Just a note of thanks for the many cards, phone calls, visits from Pastor Bill, Pastor Den, and many friends, but most of all for your prayers. I know they were heard and answered as they meant so much to me. I am doing fine, still in therapy. Thank you to my family for their love and support. It is wonderful to be in a church of so many caring friends who serves and loves the God I do. Thank you.

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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