

The Courier

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



"Where everybody is somebody and Jesus Christ Is Lord"

May, 2007

Mother's Day–May13th

A Mother's Love

If I live in a house of spotless beauty with
everything in it's place,
but have not love, I am a "housekeeper"
not a homemaker.

If I have time for waxing, polishing,
and decorative achievements,
but have not love, my children learn of
cleanliness—not godliness.

Loves leaves the dust and goes in search
of a child's laugh.
Loves smiles at the tiny fingerprints on a newly
cleaned window.

Love wipes away the tears before it wipes up
the spilled milk.
Love picks up the child before it picks up the toys.
Love is present through trials.

Love reprimands, reproved, and is responsive.
Love crawls with the baby, walks with toddler,
runs with the child,
then stands aside to let the youth walk into
adulthood.

Love is the key that opens salvation's message
to a child's heart.
Before I became a mother, I took glory in my house
of perfection.

Now I glory in God's perfection of my child.
As a mother, there is MUCH I must teach my child,
But the greatest of these is LOVE.

–Author Unknown

A Mother's Day Surprise

Two children ordered their mother to stay in bed one
Mother's Day morning. As she lay there looking
forward to being brought breakfast in bed, the smell of
bacon floated up from the kitchen.

Finally, the children called her to come downstairs.
She found them both sitting at the table eating bacon
and eggs. "As a surprise for Mother's Day," one
explained, "we decided to cook our own breakfast."

I don't know what you're planning for Mother's Day,
but I do hope you're planning to something special to
honor her.

Abraham Lincoln once said, "All that I am, or can be,
I owe to my angel mother." John Gray said, "The
hand that rocks the cradle rules the world." Napoleon
Bonaparte said, "Let France have good mothers, and
she will have good sons." And how about this
Spanish proverb—"An ounce of mother is worth a
pound of clergy."

All of those quotations have one thing in
common—they all emphasize the fact that mothers have
such a powerful influence, not only over their
children, but over the very course of history.

I don't think that's an exaggeration. Nobody—not
teachers, not preachers, not psychologists—gets the
same chance to mold human minds and nurture human
bodies and emotions like a mother does. The results
of competent mothering can truly be seen for
generations.

*Her children rise up and call her blessed;
Her husband also, and he praises her.* Proverbs 31:28

Moms, have a great day!

–Alan Smith
HeartLight



ABW Ministry Miami Association Spring Rally

The Spring Rally for the ABW's Ministry Miami Association will be Saturday, May 5th, from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at First Baptist. Adam Metzger, pastor of KingsWay Community Church in Mason, will be the featured speaker. Adam was the Scholarship Student for 2004-05. Special music will be presented by First Baptist's Youth of Praise directed by Laurin Sprague. The cost for lunch is \$7 for adults and \$5 for students. See Lil Wilson in the connector after worship to make your reservation. Reservation deadline is May 1st.

Joint Meeting For ABW Circles

On Tuesday, May 8, the American Baptist Women's circles of our church will meet together for dinner and fellowship. We will begin at 6:00 p.m. with a potluck dinner in the Family Center. Lil Wilson will be installing the officers for the upcoming year.

We are pleased to have as a guest speaker that night, Georgia Sawhook. Georgia is the wife of Pastor Tom Sawhook of Fellowship Bible Church in Hamilton. She is an inspirational speaker and the author of Potty Training to Puberty . . . The Pits (with Hugs Along the Way). Please take time to check out her "Pastor's Wife's Home Page" at www.geocities.com/Heartland/Pointe/5892. You can read her testimony, see the beautiful Ukrainian Eggs she makes, and enjoy her gardening and cooking tips. She will make copies of her book available to us at a discounted price of \$17.00.

Don't miss out on this wonderful evening. ABW circle members and other interested women of the church are invited. We would love to have you with us for the evening and also as members of a circle.

Serving in Christ,
Nancy Whipple

May Missionary of the Month:
Mexico
Richardo & Doris Mayol Garcia

Bible Book For May. Judges

"And the people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the Lord . . ."

Judges 2:11 (RSV)

Judges tells the story of the leaders who settled disputes for the people of Israel during the time before there was one ruler over Israel. Some had a great place in the development of the nation. Among these were Deborah, Gideon, and Samson. For a while each judge would be a deliverer, but after the judge died trouble would come again. Again and again throughout the book the explanation is given that "the people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the Lord." Then they cried to God in their distress, and God sent a leader to deliver them.

PRAY for campus ministries in colleges and universities around the country where American Baptists are touching the lives of students.

—Madge Walters

Matthew Ministries

The next scheduled Work Day at Matthew 25 will be Thursday, May 24th. We will leave the church at the usual time, 8:30 a.m. Bring your sack lunch and beverage and be prepared for a good day of work and fellowship.

—Pastor Bill and Bert Brantingham



Ordination Service For Adam Metzger

The KingsWay Community Church has invited members of the Miami Association to join them in a worship service on Sunday afternoon, May 6th at 4:00 to ordain Adam Metzger to the Christian Ministry. This is a wonderful milestone for Adam and Tonya as he serves the Lord as Pastor of the KingsWay church.

The Courier (ISSN 383367-29)
May 2007
Published monthly by:
First Baptist Church
1501 Pyramid Hill Boulevard
Hamilton, Ohio 45013
Volume 42, Number 5

The Beginning of Knowledge

The book of Proverbs begins with a statement you would expect in a resource famed for its wisdom. Consider these words from the opening lines:

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline (Proverbs 1:7).

As most know, the book of Proverbs was written by Solomon, reputed to be among the wisest man who ever lived. You likely remember a little about his history. He was the great king of Israel, son of the shepherd-king David. He was famous throughout the ancient world. He was powerful—he had ultimate authority and honor; people bowed in his presence, and did what he said. And he had a mother well-known throughout all the land.

You also remember Solomon's mom. She had married his father, David, under terrible circumstances. It was the prophet Nathan who brought God's word of judgment to David's sin against Uriah and his wife, Bathsheba. Yet, in the light of God's forgiveness, their son grew to become the greatest of Israel's kings.

How did Solomon treat his mother? There is an account in 1 Kings 2 that gives us a hint of their relationship. In the days immediately after David's death, Solomon sat on the throne. Adonijah, Solomon's brother through a different mother, came to Bathsheba with a request for the new king. It was really a disguised attempt to gain legitimacy for his bid for the throne. Bathsheba seemed unaware of the implications of his request.

As Bathsheba approached the throne, Solomon stood up to meet his mother, bowed down to her, and sat down on his throne. He had a throne brought in, and she sat down at his right hand (1 Kings 2:19). It was a gracious act of respect and appreciation.

Solomon was not a perfect king, nor was he a perfect man. But God gave him wisdom and guided his insights, preserved in the book of Proverbs. Here is what he wrote as he penned his opening words:

Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching. They will be a garland to grace your head and a chain to adorn your neck (Pr. 1:8-9).

John Piper, teaching pastor of the Bethlehem Baptist Church in Minneapolis, who has written such books as *Fifty Reasons*

Why Jesus Came to Die, and *Desiring God*, once wrote:

"Under God, both fathers and mothers share in the responsibility of this family instruction. The text does not say: 'Fathers instruct, and mothers change diapers.' It does not say, 'Fathers work at the office and so have no responsibility to teach their children.' Nor does it say, 'Mothers who work at the office can turn the responsibility of teaching over to a care-giver.' It says fathers instruct, and mothers teach. They share this responsibility."

A few years ago, this letter was written to Ann Landers:

"I'm so tired of all those ignorant people who come up to my husband and ask him if his wife has full-time job or if she's 'just a house-wife.' Here's my job description:

I'm a wife, mother, friend, confidant, personal advisor, lover, referee, peacemaker, housekeeper, laundress, chauffeur, interior decorator, gardener, painter, wall paperer, dog groomer, veterinarian, manicurist, barber, seamstress, appointment manager, financial planner, bookkeeper, money manager, personal secretary, teacher, disciplinarian, entertainer, psychoanalyst, nurse, diagnostician, public relations expert, dietitian and nutritionist, baker, chef, fashion coordinator and letter writer for both sides of the family. I am also a

travel agent, speech therapist, plumber and automobile maintenance and repair expert. From the studies done, it would cost more than \$75,000 a year to replace me. I took time out of my busy day to write this letter, Ann, because there are still ignorant people who believe a housewife is nothing more than a baby sitter who sits on her behind all day and looks at soap operas." (Ann Landers, May, 1988, quoted in *Mom, You're Incredible*, by Linda Weber, Focus on the Family, 1994, pp. 23-24)

God calls sons and daughters to be submissive to their mothers and fathers. Once again, Proverbs 1:8 "Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and do not forsake your mother's teaching."

I wish I could say that all of us who are parents and grandparents would never make a mistake in the teaching of our children and grandchildren. But there is not enough wisdom in the world to make up for our deficiencies, short-sighted viewpoints, selfishness, and (dare I say it?), blatant sin. But for some reason, God has called mothers and fathers to fill this essential role in the created order of things. The recognition of our inadequacies should bring us to where we should always find ourselves—on our knees, seeking His guidance and strength.

In the meantime, if you are still fortunate to have your mother and father still with you in this life, take a little extra time this month to express your appreciation and love to them. And if they are already with the Lord, thank Him for the gift He allowed you to enjoy for a time.

May God give you the love and wisdom of a godly parent as you share these days of spring. Pastor

Budget Status Report

The Month of March, 2007

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$69,275
Offerings	<u>49,630</u>
Over (Under) Budget	(\$19,645)
Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$67,230
Offerings	<u>49,630</u>
Over (Under) Actual	(\$17,600)

The Year Through March, 2007

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$190,985
Offerings	<u>129,782</u>
Over (Under) Budget	(\$61,203)
Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$177,664
Offerings	<u>129,782</u>
Over (Under) Actual	(\$47,882)

—The Board Of Trustees

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.

Blackwell, Samantha
348 Deerfield
Harrison, Ohio 45030
Phone # 202-0408

Buchanan, Katie
1065 Southern Hills Blvd.
Hamilton, Ohio 45013

Krastins, Erla
Fairfield Pavilion
5251 Dixie Highway Apt. # 1314
Fairfield, Ohio 45014

Manson, Jo
11835 Van Cleve Avenue
Springdale, Ohio 45246

McCartney, Sandra
1362 Carriage Hill Lane # 1
Hamilton, Ohio 45013



An Opportunity For All

WORK DAY
• at the •
CHURCH

Saturday morning, May 5th, at 8:30 a.m. we will gather at the church for our Annual Spring Clean-Up of our grounds. Weeds need to be pulled, shrubs, trimmed, flowers planted, mulch spread, litter picked up, etc., etc! There is a job for every one. Please bring hand spades, weedeaters, rakes, blowers, pruning loppers, shovels, pruning shears, etc. Come when you can, stay as long as your schedule will allow. We will be here from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Thank you for using your time and talents to beautify the Lord's house.

—The Trustees



Carpenter's Hands Signs Of Love



Silent Dinners

The Silent Dinner for May will be held on Friday evening, May 4th at Florence Mall. See you there!

Interpreter Schedule for May

May 6 Robin Chamberlain	Jo Manson
May 13 Jo Manson	Maria Miller
May 20 Robin Chamberlain	Maria Miller
May 27 Maria Miller	Jo Manson

Happy Birthday



May 9 Mary Ella Hudson

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



May 3, 2007



Memorial Day

*Remember Those Who
Gave Their Lives*

As we stand here looking
At the flags upon these graves
Know these flags represent
A few of the true American brave.

They fought for their country
As man has through all of time,
Except that these soldiers lying here
Fought for your country and mine.

As we all are gathered here
To pay them our respect,
Let's pass this word to others
It's what they would expect.

I'm sure that they would do it
If it were me or you.
To show we did not die in vane
But for the red, white and blue.

Let's pass on to our children
And to those who never knew
What these soldiers died for
It's the least we can do.

Let's not forget their families
Great pain they had to bear
Losing a son, father or husband
They need to know we still care.

No matter which war fought
On the day they died,
I stand here looking at these flags
Filled with American pride.

So as the bugler plays out Taps
with its sweet and eerie sound,
Pray for these soldiers lying here
In this sacred hallowed ground.

Take home with you a sense of pride
You were here Memorial Day.
Celebrating the way Americans should
On this solemnest of day.

—Michelle R. Christman



Awana Club

Awana May Calendar

- 2nd - Game Show Night
- 9th - Regular Club Night
- 16th - Last night to finish handbook sections
- 23rd - Awana Fair
- 30th - Awards Night

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.).

Super Section Saturday

For Sparks and T&T clubbers
Saturday, May 12th, 9:45 a.m.–1 p.m.

Here's a chance to get a few more handbook sections completed, earn more Awana Bucks, and have a lot of fun! We'll have 3 20-minute handbook times, play games, have snacks (and lunch), and do a craft. There will be prize drawings at 12:45 p.m.—the more handbook sections you complete, the more chances you have to win. If you have finished your handbook, you can either do coloring pages during handbook time, or extra credit verses. *Note to Awana Leaders: Please let me know as soon as possible if you will be able to attend.*

Awana Fair—May 23rd, 6:30 p.m.

All Awana clubbers are invited to the Awana Fair! We'll have games, prizes, Awana Store, and snacks!, plus an inflatable Moonwalk and inflatable "Circus Seals" game. Sparks and T&T will be able to spend the Awana bucks/points that they've earned. Cubbies will play games for free and will receive Awana bucks to spend at the Awana Store.

Awana Fair Set-Up Night—Tuesday, May 22, 6:00 p.m.

All available Awana leaders & helpers are needed to help set up for the Awana Fair. Please let me know ASAP if you will be able to help.

Awards Night—May 30th, 6:45 p.m. (clubbers, please arrive at 6:30, as usual)

We would like to invite our church family to our Awana Awards Ceremony. We will meet in the

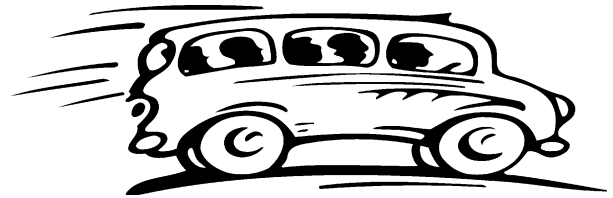
Sanctuary and will begin the ceremony with our pledges and Awana Theme Song at 6:45 p.m. The clubbers who have finished their handbooks will receive their "book awards". We will also be recognizing all the clubbers' hard work throughout the year, as well as giving out Awana Leader awards. Afterward, refreshments will be served in the Family Center.

—Emily Metzger
Awana Commander

Junior Jam 2007

Cheryl Motzger, Judy and Amy Wallace and myself were up very early on Saturday morning to take four children with us to Cedarville. I think everyone woke up on arrival, the music at Junior Jam certainly made sure of that! *The Mystery of the Sphinx* was an adventure through Egypt searching for the big secret of the Sphinx; we discovered that the biggest secret in life was FOUND WITHIN. This is that the only thing we need in life is Jesus with us, thus the biggest secret is found WITHIN US! The atmosphere was excellent with a great team of students who had volunteered to counsel all the 100's of children that attended. Everyone had a fantastic time and the food was also good (this is a big motivator for us!). We had hoped for more children to take with us, but due to the timing of Spring Break we didn't have as many as expected. Please ask those children who went to Junior Jam how they enjoyed it, and be encouraged that this is an excellent evangelistic event for all children that attend. We hope to return next year! ☺

—In His Work,
Claire Metzger
Co-Director of Children's Ministries



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 Emenaker, or Claire Metzger.



V.B.S. **(This does not stand for Very British Summer!!!)**

With all the fun things that are happening this summer we're finding it hard not to burst like a balloon when asked about VBS this year. Before "*Take the Plunge*" our VBS starts this year we have many things to prepare. The first thing is that we prepare ourselves to be vessels for God to use. Our theme this year is water and we're constantly reminded that as children's workers we need to constantly renew our relationships with Jesus the Living Water. Matthew 9:16, 17 talks about the need to be whole in our relationships with Jesus, like new wineskins for wine. As we ask for more support with helpers, teachers and prayers we ask that we all take time to think about Jesus as the source of our Living Water, because when we are with children talking and praying we often forget that the lessons we are talking about are just as relevant for us as adults!

This year before VBS we want to focus on reaching out to our local community and sharing the fantastic news about Jesus. To do this we are asking for a team of committed people (any age!) to come to the church to meet and prayer together, then to take leaflets out to the nearby streets and deliver them. You don't have to be an expert to do this, just have a pair of willing feet and a heart to want to tell others. We will organize people so that we are in pairs with a team going together so that no one feels alone. This really is an important part of our ministry so we will be walking with those that volunteer. This means even if you are working during VBS (June 18th – 22nd) then you can still take part as this could be arranged at the weekend, on a Sunday evening or any time that you are available. If you feel that you would like to a part of this team please let us know. We are also asking for people who want to dedicate time in prayer during VBS, we would like to give people a class/group to pray for. Prayer is one of the best weapons that we have and we want to utilize it!

Continuing with the theme of reaching out to our neighbors here in Hamilton, we are in need of some volunteers to drive the church mini bus to pick up children this year. You do not need any special driving license – anyone who has a license can drive our bus!

Take the Plunge is an excellent place to visit this summer, with the Snack Shack we promise you'll be Stirred up and enjoy the delicious summer food. The Ocean of Motion Game station will really move you around and make you wish you had taken seasickness pills! While you'll be able to relax, (and get sticky) in

our Craft-Away Cove there are so many fabulous crafts this year, that we know you'll want to make sure you won't miss a single sparkle or glue dot of creating! Bibleland Bay will be a great place for each weary traveler to refresh their knowledge and learn about how Jesus can reach out to us and pour His blessings over each child (the biblical definition of a child is anyone, of any age, who comes to Jesus and seeks Him).

So **TAKE THE PLUNGE** this summer and visit us at VBS ☺

VBS Meeting

We will be having a short VBS meeting for teachers, leaders, helpers, etc. straight after church on May 6th. We know that not everyone will be able to attend but we hope to have as many come as possible it will really be short we promise!

VBS TEACHERS – please make sure you have your curriculum from Brandi or Claire. We will try and pass them out to you, but if we miss you, please call by our office and we'll gladly give you everything you need! If you need to purchase anything for VBS or want to order any extra materials please let us know by April 30th. This is our DEADLINE for a discount, so please try and let us have your orders by then!

–In His Work,
Claire Metzger
Co-Director of Children's Ministries

Preregistration For VBS

Sign up at the "*Take The Plunge*" registration table in the connector beginning Sunday, June 3rd. Registrations will also be taken on Wednesday evenings, June 6th and 13th. Don't forget to take home registration forms for your friends also. Transportation will be arranged if needed. Contact Marsha Helton or Linda Gibbs for further information or questions.

Donations For VBS Teachers' Snack Room

Please mark you calendars now for VBS: June 18-22. We will once again be having a teacher's snack room for our hard working teachers! Please bring snacks - baked things, fruit, cheese, anything - to the kitchen on Sunday or anytime that week marked "Teachers Snack Room." Thanks!!

–Linda Hoover
VBS Snack Room Coordinator



We Are Looking For You In Sunday School!

"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord." Psalm 122:1

Congratulations to those who had perfect Sunday School attendance for January, February, and March, 2007.

Threes

Emma Imhoff

Beginner

Hannah Imhoff

Primary

Lauren Imhoff

Lauryn Emenaker

Senior High

Katie Ford

TNT

Chris Metzger

Homebuilders

Jerry Wallace

Nick Emenaker

Sandra Imhoff

Carpenter's Hands

Robert Williams

Office

Dennis Metzger

FOCUS

Eris Cappelli

Ruth Gaskins

Pat Gingrich

Beverly Haller

Don Perry

Keystone

Ron Gerth

Bettie Carmack

Bob Eicher

Betty Eicher

Evelyn Maddox

Jack Maddox

John Riczko

Jean Riczko

Harold Sapp

Lindel Sapp

Fred Schilling

Irene Schilling

Connie Taylor

Mary Walker

Parenting

Stan Brown

Mary Brown



Sunday School Promotion Day!

Sunday School Promotion Day will be during the last part of the Sunday School hour on May 27th for all children completing grades 6 through 12. On June 3rd, these students should report directly to their new class, either 7th/8th grade, Senior High, or College & Career. All other school age children will be promoted in September at the beginning of the new school year.

—Barb Arnold
Sunday School Superintendent



April 25th – Hamilton's Mike and Diane Wallick Day

Congratulations to Mike and Diane Wallick for being honored by Mayor Don Ryan and the Hamilton City Council for a combined 61 years of service to our Hamilton City Schools in the Fine Arts Department. Diane retired just before Christmas, and Mike will hang up his violin in June. They were recognized at the 22nd Annual Fine Arts Faculty Recital and Art Exhibit held in our church Tuesday evening, April 24th.

Edgewood Presents Spring Musical

“Fiddler On The Roof”

Thursday, May 17 - 7:30 PM

Friday, May 18 - 7:30 PM

Saturday, May 19 - 2:00 PM and 7:30 PM

Perchik - **Drew Helton**

Adults - \$9.00

Students and Seniors over 60 - \$7.00

Advance tickets - call 988-2460 or contact the Heltons or email edgewoodthespians@yahoo.com



Congratulations to **Drew Helton**, Edgewood High School Junior, who was the third-place award winner at the Opera Guild of Dayton's annual high school vocal competition in Dayton, Ohio, for high school juniors and seniors from all over the state of Ohio. Drew received a \$300 scholarship award and was honored at the Opera Guild's banquet along with his voice teacher, Bess-Arlene Camacho, where he sang one of his solos, accompanied by Tisha Patton, along with the first and second place winners in the competition.



★ Thank You! ★
★ Thank You! ★

It's hard to believe that our MOPS year will soon be over! What an awesome year we have had! We've learned about each other, breast cancer, HPV, how to deal with difficult people, how to get through the potty training stages with hugs, where we can go as a family on day trips. We have welcomed many new moms to MOPS this year and will see a few "graduate". We have been blessed with many Moppet workers that allow us to keep this ministry going and growing. Without your help ladies (and gents) we would not be able to function....you are a true blessing from God. We have enjoyed many moms' only activities, children outings and extra craft nights.

Our May meeting will wrap up the year with gardening advice from Master Gardner and mentor Marilyn Bowling. Make sure to mark your calendar for the "summer water-park tour" and the other events we have planned for moms, moms and children and the whole family!

Next year is sure to be just as exciting, educational and inspirational as this year was with our new theme "The Home Factor: begin here....go there." The heart of the HOME is a picture of God's desire to interact with us and deeply love us where we really live. He desires to make his home in our hearts. He expresses it this way in the theme verse: "...he lives with you and will be in you." John 14:17. More information about the 2007-08 MOPS year will be available in August.

Have a great summer!

Living a life for Him-
Elise Martin
Co-Coordinator

Memorial Day Weekend Picnic

Sunday
May 27th
5:00 - 6:30 p.m.
Holloway Park

Watch the weekly bulletin for details!

From Larry, Marilyn, Brent, Kristen, & Conner Bowling

A tremendous thank you to Dr. Glenn and Joelle Stitsinger and Judy Stitsinger for purchasing a rocking chair for our nursery in memory of Wade Ezekiel Bowling. Wade was born April 27, 2006 and died June 14, 2006. As the first anniversary of Wade's life approached, the Stitsinger wanted to pay tribute to Wade's short time on earth. The rocker is a very fitting tribute and looks beautiful in the nursery. Glenn, Joelle, and Judy are very close friends with Larry and Marilyn Bowling.



Rediscover Camping 2007

ABC/OHIO will have their summer camps at Heartland Conference Retreat Center located north of Columbus, Ohio. The camps will be:

- | | |
|---|----------|
| June 17-22 - Senior High (Gr. 9-12) | \$225.00 |
| July 15-20 - Junior High (Gr. 6-8) | \$255.00 |
| Director: Linda Miller | |
| Aug. 12-17 - Junior Camp (Gr. 4-6) | \$225.00 |
| Aug. 12-17 - Great Expectations (Gr. 4-6) | \$275.00 |
| Director: Kirby Francis | |
| Aug. 12-15 - New Adventures (Gr. 3-4) | \$150.00 |
| Director: Tim Lee | |

The Board of Christian Education decided last fall that the church would pay 1/2 of the fee to attend ABC camps. There is a \$50.00 scholarship provided by ABC/OHIO if registration is received 30 days prior to the scheduled camp attended. We want to be sure to take advantage of this scholarship.

If you are younger than the New Adventure camp and are interested in attending camp this summer, Westport Camp near Greensburg, Indiana will accept those wanting to attend camp. This is an ABC/Indiana camp. For additional information or registration forms, contact Loretta Hampton, 844-1976 or see her at church.

-Loretta Hampton
Camp Coordinator



From The Heart Of Marilyn

College Corner

E-Mail From God

Have I Got A Plan For You!

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

Dear Child,

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

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

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

Your Trail Guide,
God

—Serving in His name,
Marilyn Bowling
College Coordinator

Spring Trip To Oneida, KY

Ken Hendricks and Jerry Hampton will be making the spring pilgrimage to Oneida Baptist Institute on Monday, May 14th. 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 April 30th. Please put the items in plastic trash bags and mark them for Oneida. (Please, because of storage problems - NO donations after Sunday, May 13th.) **Anyone** is welcome to ride along with them on May 14th.



Soft Ball Schedules (First Half of Season)

Blue Team

April 16 # 1 @ 6:30 p.m.
April 23 # 4 @ 6:30 p.m.
April 30 # 3 @ 6:30 p.m.
May 7 # 5 @ 8:50 p.m.
May 14 # 1 @ 7:40 p.m.
May 21 # 4 @ 10:00 p.m.
June 4 # 3 @ 8:50 p.m.

Gray Team

April 17 # 1 @ 8:50 p.m.
April 24 # 5 @ 7:40 p.m.
May 1 # 3 @ 6:30 p.m.
May 8 # 4 @ 7:40 p.m.
May 15 # 1 @ 6:30 p.m.
May 22 # 5 @ 6:30 p.m.
May 29 # 3 @ 8:50 p.m.

Co-Ed White Team

April 20 # 1 @ 7:40 p.m.
April 27 # 3 @ 6:30 p.m.
May 4 # 4 @ 6:30 p.m.
May 11 # 1 @ 8:50 p.m.
May 18 # 3 @ 8:50 p.m.
May 25 # 4 @ 8:50 p.m.
June 1 # 1 @ 7:40 p.m.

—Josh Metzger
Sports and Recreation



**Memorial Day
May 30th**



Child Care Schedule

Nursery (Morning)

May 6 - Kristy & Steve Harden
 May 13 - Chris & Claire Metzger
 May 20 - Chris & Claire Metzger
 May 27 - Emily Metzger & Teen

One & Two Year Olds

May 6 - Debbie Allen & Lauren
 May 13 - Debbie Allen & Lauren
 May 20 - Debbie Allen & Lauren
 May 27 - Debbie Allen & Lauren

Kinderchurch

May 6 - Angie Inloes & Teen
 May 13 - Cheryl & John Motzer
 May 20 - Brandi Emenaker
 May 27 - Chris & Claire Metzger

Note: June Child Care Schedule is looking very sparse! So please sign up!!



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:

Claire Metzger - (642-0434)
 Brandi Emenaker - (738-2439)

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



Wednesday Family Dinners

May 2

Menu: Ham, Hash Brown Casserole, Green Beans, Applesauce, Rolls, Brownies
 Hosts: Keystone I

May 9

Menu: Barbecued Chicken, Baked Beans, Corn On The Cob, Cole Slaw, Corn Bread, Dessert
 Hosts: Trustees

May 16

Menu: Lasagna, Tossed Salad, Bread Sticks, Ice Cream and Cookies
 Hosts: Chancel Choir

May 23

Menu: Beef and Noodle, Honey Glazed Carrots, Tossed Salad, Rolls, Dessert
 Hosts: Parenting Class/CREW

May 30

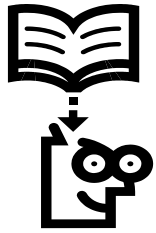
Menu: Pork Roast, Au Gratin Potatoes, Green Bean Casserole, Applesauce, Rolls, Dessert
 Hosts: Deacons

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.

May Greeters

Ken Hendricks, Nancy Follmer, and Jerry Hampton



Pastor Jeremy's Think Tank

Two Inches High

I am a person who works in piles, what about you? If you ever come into my office you will immediately see the truth of those open words. One stack is for Thursday evening, another stack for mail, a third stack for books to read, another stack for things to be filed, and then a stack of magazines to read. Now, sometimes these stacks get piled on top of each other but really, I do know where everything is. Believe it or not the stacks actually disappear, but I have digressed.

The stack from which my title is derived is the "magazines to read" stack. It actually does stand about two inches high, I measured it this morning. That means I am at least four issues behind on most of my subscriptions. When will I find the time to read all those magazines? That is always a struggle I have in ministry, finding time to read and glean insights from others.

There is always something "more urgent" to do or someone to talk with, isn't there? If you're like me, by the time you actually sit down to go through one of your stacks, you find something you wish you had known a couple weeks ago!! That has occurred many times to me. I mean after all I guess April 24th, 2007 isn't really when you are supposed to be reading something dated September/October 2006 is it?

Well my goal this week, okay so really this month, and if I am lucky it won't be this year, is to get back on track with my "magazine pile." I want to be up to date with each magazine I receive and read it before the date it was issued. If I am going to do that I must be intentional about setting aside the time to read.

What about you? What are you letting "pile" up in your life? You see, we as humans, and yes even Christians, will let things pile up and go by until we feel we "must" do something about it. However, when we do this we miss the joy of being able to use or learn something we could have used earlier.

As I look at the life of Christ he never just "let things pile up" but instead, lived an intentional life. Christ was deliberate about what he did and made sure that if something was going to happen he intentionally worked at it. Maybe that is my lesson to learn and maybe yours. We need to be intentional Christians. We can't just hope something will happen and go on saying, "maybe one of these days I will get around to it." We must every day be intentional about living and

loving God, otherwise, I am convinced it won't happen. Don't wait until your pile is two inches high, start now! Don't delay! Be intentional today!

Sifting through the piles of life,
Jeremy

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday Evenings 6:00 p.m.-Small groups are happening each week in May. You won't want to miss this time of connecting with your peers and learning about what the Bible has to say concerning life. See your small group leader for details. John and Ruthie Wallace are leading 11th-12th grade small group, Mike and Dale Braun are leading the 9th-10th grade small group, and Linda Davis and Jeremy Spence are leading the 7th and 9th grade small group.

Wednesday Evenings 6:30 p.m.-We are looking at the Bible and the Supernatural during Lifeline. Don't miss these times together as we discuss things from Harry Potter, Demons, Horoscopes and more. Come early and play "Guitar Hero" and "Dance Dance Revolution" on Playstation.

Wednesday Evenings 8:15 p.m.- For one more month we will be having Open Gym on Wednesday nights until about 9:15 p.m. We rotate between volleyball and basketball/football. Stay late and hang with us as we play some games.

May 16th 5:30 p.m.: Youth Ministry Team Meeting in the Board Room. The goal is to finalize the summer plans and be ready to go between June through possible September. Please be prayed up for this meeting as we start NOW to discern God's will for His ministry.

May 27th: All Church Picnic down at Holloway Park during the evening service. Small groups will be finished and take a break for summer.

Church Softball- Each Tuesday and Friday night members of the CREW play softball for the church at North End Diamonds. Please check online for a schedule, should be up soon, and come visit. For more information please see Jeremy Spence.

Attention All Graduates and Families- Plan now to attend the Baccalaureate Service and Luncheon on June 10th. You should be receiving some information by mail very soon. If you do not receive anything please let Jeremy Spence or Marilyn Bowling know. Anyone who has graduated from High School, College, or Graduate School anytime this past year will be recognized.

What If Your Mom Found Out?

Some research was published in *Psychological Science* that serves to affirm the obvious. Children who have the good fortune to interact with their mothers a lot develop healthier consciences.

The human *conscience* is part of the likeness to God that is built into us by our Creator. It is an internal monitor for behavior. It approves or disapproves our actions, gives us assurance to proceed or warns us about dangers ahead. But a person's conscience is like a thermostat. Someone has to choose its setting.

In the article cited above, toddlers were encouraged to imitate their mothers in such simple actions as playing tea party or tending to a stuffed animal. The researchers indexed the children in terms of their readiness to imitate what they observed. Then, in subsequent sessions, they evaluated those same young children as they were enticed with prizes for games they could win only by cheating or breaking an object that had some value to them.

Here is how the correlation worked: Toddlers who eagerly imitated their mothers were more likely to follow the rules and more likely to exhibit a sense of guilt when they broke something.

I'm not a psychologist, so I can't offer any meaningful analysis of the experiment or how it was conducted. I'm just an ordinary guy who remembers his mother's influence in his life. Who has watched his own children interact with their mother. And who cringes at some of the undisciplined behavior he sees in kids who seem to feel no guilt or remorse for irresponsible things they do.

Maybe the fact that I didn't want my fourth-grade teacher, Mrs. Whaley, to tell my mother about the words she heard me using on the playground that day is evidence to support what the psychologists have now measured. Maybe all of us who had mothers who invested energy in our moral and spiritual development have thought at times, "I hope my mom never finds out about this!"

The key to an ethical life is to internalize norms of right and wrong that society, school, and church teach. But if there is not an external source to teach and model those norms, how can we ever internalize them? If you are a parent, Cub Scout leader, or Sunday School teacher, what you are saying is important. What you are doing is even more important.

And if you are wrestling with what you regard as a tough ethical dilemma today, it might help you to think about your mother for a few minutes.

–Rubel Shelly
Fax of Life



**From New Life
Mission**
(A second thank you from
Pat and Don Gingrich)

Thank you for the recent food donations. We so much appreciate the extra that comes in. Many times, we are in need of an additional side dish, such as a dessert, vegetable, or meat. This helps us meet the dietary needs of our clients. Thank you once again.



Letter Carriers' Food Drive

FOOD DRIVE

The second Saturday of May offers you the opportunity to join the fight against hunger and poverty. Shared Harvest Foodbank in Fairfield and the National Association of Letter

Carriers urge you to help feed hungry people in the Butler County area through the NALC's annual "Stamp Out Hunger" Food Drive Saturday, May 12th.

Your letter carrier will pick up your donation while delivering the mail that day. Carriers suggest you set bags or boxes of non-perishable food items next to your mailbox around the time your mail is normally delivered. In addition to pick-ups on city postal routes in Hamilton, Fairfield, Middletown, Monroe, Oxford, and Trenton, rural carriers this year have agreed to pick up food donations on rural routes.

All the food goes to Shared Harvest Foodbank, which distributes it to soup kitchens, food pantries, homeless shelters, and other emergency food programs in Butler County.

Stamp Out Hunger is the largest one-day food drive in America. Butler Countians contributed a record 70,000 pounds of food in the 2006 campaign. The food is distributed during summer months when children in need are home from school and parents are faced with providing additional meals for them. May God bless your generosity.

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

May 2007

6 9:15 Sunday School
 10:30 Worship
 12:00 VBS Meeting
 4:00 Ordination of Adam Metzger @ KingsWay
 4:45 Women's Council
 6:00 Cherub Choir
 6:00 Evening Celebration
 6:00 CREW Small Group

13 Mother's Day
 9:15 Sunday School
 10:30 Worship

20
 9:15 Sunday School
 10:30 Worship
 12:00 AB Girls
 4:30 Diaconate
 5:00 Board of Missions
 6:00 Cherub Choir
 6:00 Evening Celebration
 6:00 CREW Small Group

27
 9:15 Sunday School Promotion
 10:30 Worship
 5:00 Church Picnic @ Holloway Park

7
 8:50 Men's Softball Blue

14
 5:30 Spring Trip to Oneida
 7:40 Men's Softball Blue

21
 10:00 Men's Softball Blue

28 Memorial Day!
 Church Offices Closed

1
 9:30 MOPS Steering
 6:30 Men's Softball Gray

8
 6:00 Holloway, Abell, & Smith Circles Pot Luck Dinner
 7:40 Men's Softball Gray

15
 9:30 MOPS
 6:30 Men's Softball Gray

22
 6:30 Men's Softball Gray

29
 8:50 Men's Softball Gray

2
 5:00 ABW Meeting
 5:30 Biggest Loser
 6:00 Family Dinner
 6:30 Awana Game Show
 6:30 Lifeline
 6:30 Celebration Ringers
 6:45 Bible Study & Prayer
 6:45 Carpenter's Hands
 8:00 Chancel Choir

9 5:30 Biggest Loser
 6:00 Family Dinner
 6:30 Awana
 6:30 Lifeline
 6:30 Celebration Ringers
 6:45 Bible Study & Prayer
 6:45 Carpenter's Hands
 8:00 Chancel Choir

16 5:30 Biggest Loser/YMT
 6:00 Family Dinner
 6:30 Awana
 6:30 Lifeline
 6:30 Celebration Ringers
 6:45 Bible Study & Prayer
 6:45 Carpenter's Hands
 8:00 Chancel Choir

23
 5:30 Biggest Loser
 6:00 Family Dinner
 6:30 Awana Fair
 6:30 Lifeline
 6:30 Celebration Ringers
 6:45 Bible Study & Prayer
 6:45 Carpenter's Hands
 8:00 Chancel Choir

30
 5:30 Biggest Loser
 6:00 Family Dinner
 6:30 Awana Awards Night
 6:30 Lifeline
 6:30 Celebration Ringers
 6:45 Bible Study & Prayer
 6:45 Carpenter's Hands
 8:00 Chancel Choir

3
 National Day of Prayer!
 9:30 Ladies Bible Study
 12:15 Prayer service @ Presbyterian Church
 5:30 Music & Worship
 6:30 Ladies Bible Study
 8:00 ONE Bible Study

10
 9:30 Ladies Bible Study
 5:30 Board of Trustees
 7:00 Small Group
 8:00 One Small Group

17
 9:30 Ladies Bible Study
 6:30 Ladies Bible Study
 8:00 ONE Bible Study

24
 8:30 Matthew 25
 9:30 Ladies Bible Study
 8:00 One Small Group

31
 9:30 Ladies Bible Study
 6:30 Ladies Bible Study
 7:00 Small Group
 8:00 ONE Bible Study

4
 6:30 Co-Ed Softball White

11
 8:50 Co-Ed Softball White

18
 8:50 Co-Ed Softball White

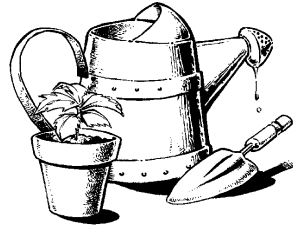
25
 8:50 Co-Ed Softball White

5
 8:00 Men's Prayer Gathering
 9:00 ABW Spring Rally
 8:30 Spring Clean-Up Day

12 Letter Carrier's "Stamp Out Hunger" Food Drive
 9:45 Awana Super Section Saturday
 2:00 Tina Reed/Ricky Monhollen Wedding

19

26



MAY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| 1 - Harold Sapp | 11 - Andrea Moorehead | 26 - Juanita Hazelwood
Don Perry
Amanda Mason |
| 2 - Glenn Madden | 12 - Helen Baker
Jerri Begley | 27 - Joshua Chamberlain
Daniel Morris
Iva Voss |
| 3 - Bob Arnold
Jeff Hazelwood
Tracy Scott
Douglas Rocco
Sizemore | 13 - Bill Abrams
Denise Cox | 28 - Jerry Hampton
Geraldine Smith
Bryan Wallick |
| 4 - Logan Stanger
Andrew Withrow | 15 - Drew Helton
Priscilla Phillips | 29 - Dorothy Hollowell
Heather Keith |
| 5 - William Cox
William Sizemore | 16 - Olivia West | 30 - Richard Apgar, Sr. |
| 6 - Lorraine Collier
Lisa Dulli | 17 - Mollie Johnson
Sydney Ruwe
Ashley Wilson | 31 - Frances Bailey
Isaiah Witmer |
| 7 - Zeke Gibson
Justin Zeek | 18 - Ruth Gaskins | |
| 8 - Anna Apgar
Warren Townsend | 19 - Darlene Gibson
Ron Herzog
Lucille Lancaster | |
| 9 - Lyndsay Begley
Tonya Metzger
Paul Dudley
Alex Hendrickson
Mary Ella Hudson | 20 - Danielle Williamson
Samantha Williamson | |
| 10 - Ruth Goble
Clinton Harris
Pauline Johnson
Omega Murrell | 22 - Elyssa Hines
Jeanette Schwab | |
| | 24 - Josh Metzger
Marilyn Shearer | |
| | 25 - Tiffany Jordon
Sheila Wallace | |

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

Personal Notes



From Dick Law

With the prayers of my home church and also of Ocean View here in Myrtle Beach as well as many other, I am doing really well. The doctors here as well as the support staff really did well. Very little if any damage, but two stents have corrected my problem. See you early May.

From Clela Paragin

Thank you all for the cards, visits, and prayers during my sinus surgery and hospital stay. It is such a comfort to belong to a church with such loving and caring people. A special thanks to Pastor Den and Pastor Bill for the visits. God bless!

From Darryl Paragin

I would like to thank everyone for their cards, calls, and visits on my recent hospitalization. I greatly appreciated also everyone's prayers, concern, and compassion. I am very fortunate to have so many friends and caring people in my church family.

From Jawanna Spencer

Words cannot convey the thankfulness that is within my heart. Not knowing who I was, you took my need before the Lord in prayer, and the witness of your faith sent to me while in the hospital in the form of a card signed by each of those who prayed. I am now home and know that your prayers helped speed my recovery. You may think it a small thing to do, to send a card to someone ill but it is not. It is the thing that makes you look like Him. You see, like you I've never heard Him speak yet His voice I know better than my own, and though His Hand has yet to wipe my furrowed brow

His touch has healed my body and brought comfort to my soul. Though I've yet to see his face I have been in His constant gaze and His eyes have always led me. Whenever I've had a burden or need He has never asked me what it is or what it's for. He has simply met me there bowed in prayer and lifted the burden from me. In your card I saw Him again reminding me that I am forever in His care. Until that day thank you and God bless you richly.

From Atha Wallin

Your welcomed cards, calls, and prayers were comforting to Buddy and I during the recent surgery process. Thank you for being so caring and loving. May God bless you all.

From Madge Walters

I would like to thank everyone for your prayers, cards, and kind words of encouragement during my brother Paul's illness and homegoing. I am glad for the assurance of seeing him again. You are very special people and I love you all. God bless!

From the Schilling & Allen family

We want to thank everyone for all their prayers that went up and cards that came our way when I had my procedure. I am fine thanks to God and thanks again to all of you. I love you all. Thanks to Pastor Metzger for coming to the hospital. It meant a lot to me.

From Rachel Buckley, Shelley Glass, & Traci Staten (Wisdom's Gate Home Education Cooperative)

The Wisdom's Gate Home Education Cooperative is very thankful for the opportunity to meet in your church each Friday. It has been a wonderful experience for our children! Your staff has been more than hospitable and helpful to our families, and we look forward to seeing you all again in the fall! Blessings.

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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