

The Courier

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



"Where everybody is somebody and Jesus Christ Is Lord"

June, 2007

Peace In The Darkness A Father's Day Remembrance

She gazed into the black swirling clouds, squinting to see if she could spot him. It had only been a few hours since he died, but she needed to be sure he was there. As she looked above for answers, peace began to fill her, but at the same time the horror of the past several months forced her to look back.

Her father had suffered. His long, muscular body was rotten from the cancer that ravaged him. His pain was so severe that if she tried to comfort him with a gentle touch he screamed from the pain. He couldn't eat or speak and he was in and out of consciousness. He was too young to die.

Life had changed completely over the past year and a half. The once strong man who had protected her as a child lay helpless until just a few hours ago. He had been an athlete in his prime. He was the kind of person that made people happy just to be around him. Even though he had been proud, and at one time had claimed to be self sufficient, he loved everyone and they loved him back. Her friends claimed him as their own father but she didn't care. She knew they came from broken homes, and her dad was the kind of man that could take care of everyone and still make her feel special.

Her dad hadn't spent much time in church after reaching adulthood. He was raised in a Christian home, but as a man he thought being a good person was enough. He had plans to meet God some day, but for now he was too busy living his life. Something always scared her about his belief. She loved God and knew that no one was "good enough."

The day the doctors told her father that he had cancer would be marked forever in her mind. She was with him, and as they heard the news, he turned red in the face, and she cried. The room was quiet for a few minutes, but then her dad told her it would be okay and she believed him. For a few months everything was okay. Her dad got better and she knew God had answered her prayers in spite of her dad's self

sufficiency. To no one's surprise her father recovered much faster than the doctors expected. After just a few months, life was back to normal. She thanked God for his mercy, and her father thanked people for their prayers. Even though he was thankful, her dad had reminded everyone that he was not the kind of man who would be defeated by something as insignificant as cancer. This was just a bump in the road. He was moving on.

Summer turned into fall that year, and her father suddenly began to get sick again. Food was something he could barely look at, and he definitely couldn't eat. He lost over fifty pounds in one month, and the joy of Christmas was blackened with the knowledge that her dad was going to die. She rang in the New Year at his bedside knowing that this was the last year they would ring in together. He cried at midnight. She prayed.

The next several months were a blur for her. She spent as much time as possible with her dad, taking him to chemotherapy and cancer classes. He was quickly wasting away but she continued to pray for God to stop it. She asked for answers, and she prayed that God would make her father understand that he could no longer make it on his own strength. It was at this point that her prayer was answered.

A friend sent a minister to visit her dad, and about a month before he died, the pastor asked him if he knew God. Her father cried, and confessed that he didn't know God, but he realized it was time to ask for His help. She thanked her heavenly father for her dad's realization of his own weakness, but she was also devastated because she realized that God was not going to stop her father from dying.

Thanksgiving day came around again. Strangely enough she had been born on Thanksgiving although it was a different date. She was five days past twenty five when she was called to the hospital and was told that he had only hours left. Hours turned into four days

(Continued)



American Baptist Women's Ministries

June Missionary of the Month:
Lebanon
Sarah & Daniel Chetti

Sarah and Daniel serve at the Arab Baptist Theological Seminary. Daniel teaches theology and provided administrative assistance to the academic dean at the school. Sarah helps with the development and organization of the seminary's library. Daniel mentors and ministers to a Sudanese Congregation that gathers at Fanar Baptist Church, Lebanon.

**Bible Book For June
1 & 2 Thessalonians**

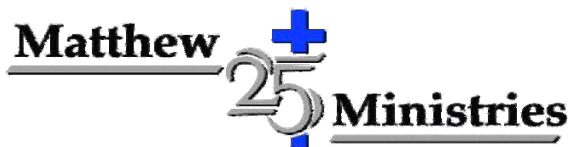
"And we exhort, brethren, admonish the idle, encourage the faint-hearted, help the weak, be patient with them all."

I Thessalonians 5:14 (RSV)

Paul had gone to Thessalonica and had preached about Jesus. Men and women had listened and been converted and consequently had experienced persecution for their new faith. Now from the city of Corinth Paul is writing to remind them of how wonderful is the new life which they have begun. He tells them what sort of persons they must show themselves to be, now that they are followers of Jesus. They must be at peace among themselves.

PRAY for the local churches of our denomination as they commit themselves to "Grow By Caring."

-Madge Walters



The next scheduled Work Day at Matthew 25 will be Tuesday, June 19th. 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

AB Girls Of Hope

The AB Girls have ended their year with two very special meetings. In April, Amy Wallace was our hostess. She and her family served a delicious brunch for lunch. Katie Ford presented a Love Gift program and the girls gave their offering. Two special guests, Betty Schwab and Thelma Ditmyer, joined us for lunch and were presented with spring wreaths that the girls had made. The girls then took gifts to two other grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Washam and Mr. and Mrs. Dungan. It was so much fun visiting with them.

Special guests were also present at our May meeting. The girls invited their moms or dads to join us. Lil Wilson was also with us to install the officers for 2007-2008. They are Lauren Schwartz, president, Amy Wallace, vice president, Katie Ford, secretary, Heather Keith, Love Gift, Emily Cain and Shauna Teters, White Cross, and Lauren Keith, historian. We also appreciated having Krys Schramm with us. She brought beads and helped the girls and their guests make beautiful bracelets. We have had a wonderful year and look forward to next year.

- In His Sevice,
Marilyn Bowling, Karen Schumm,
Mindy Hazelwood, Nancy Whipple

**To AB Girls
From Mending Hearts**

Dear Friends,

I am writing to express our gratitude for your support of the John Engle Christian Counseling Center where we endeavor to provide hope and healing to the hurting, through professional Christian Counseling and educational/support groups, (Living Hope, Mending Hearts, third Option, etc.) Thank you for all the paper products and craft items that you collected for Mending Hearts! Please know that your donation is making a difference. You have blessed us and the children so much through your thoughtfulness! May God bless you just as richly!

-Leanne Myers
Executive Director

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From The Pastor's Heart

“No One was Left...”

In the days just before our Memorial Day weekend, I had been scanning the pages of a book by William J. Petersen and Randy Petersen entitled *100 Bible Verses That Changed the World* (Revell, 2001). For a while, I pondered the material written about Martin Niemoller. Niemoller was a 41 year old pastor in Berlin when Hitler was named the Chancellor of Germany. Niemoller considered himself a German patriot, having served as the captain of a German U-boat during the days of World War I. In the early months of Hitler's rise to prominence, Niemoller supported the Hitler government. But soon things began to change. When the Reichstag, Germany's historic parliament building, went up in flames, Hitler blamed the Communists, claimed a national emergency, and suspended all constitutional rights. The people believed him. Within six months, Hitler had taken over the labor union, removed all Jews from civil service, outlawed opposition parties, and imprisoned his opponents. Only some members of the church stood in his way.

When Rome caused the Catholic Church to resist opposition to Hitler, and Hitler attempted to reorganize all twenty-eight Protestant denominations under a single leader, Martin Niemoller, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and several others organized the Young Reformation Movement. One of the goals of this group was to oppose the government in its effort to control the ministries of the church. When the Nazis banned all Jews and those married to Jews from holding church office, Niemoller organized the Pastors Emergency League and signed up more than two thousand pastors to oppose governmental influence in the church. On Reformation Sunday that year, Niemoller preached about Jesus Christ—a Jew, the rabbi of Nazareth. The following day, he was suspended from his pastoral duties. Three months later, he was arrested, along with other pastors of the Pastors Emergency League. When asked by a chaplain of the prison, “*What brings you here? Why are you in prison?*” Niemoller responded, “*Brother why are you not in prison?*”

Eight months later, Niemoller was released, but was rearrested and sent to Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp with 30,000 other prisoners. In 1941, he was moved to Dachau. Even in solitary confinement, Niemoller preached to the prisoners who did their daily exercises near his prison cell. He remained in Dachau until 1945 when he was liberated by the American soldiers.

Later, in reflection, it was Martin Niemoller who wrote these famous lines:

“In Germany, they came first for the Communists, and I didn't speak up because I was not a Communist. Then they came for the Jews, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Jew. They then came for the trade unionists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a trade unionist. Then they came for the Catholics, and I didn't speak up because I was a Protestant. Then they came for me, and by that time, no one was left to speak up.”

Like most of us, I get mail from various Christian governmental-watch groups interested in bringing our attention to matters of concern in our nation today. Recently, several of such concerns caused me to ponder the state of our affairs here in our nation. Some of these issues travel low—under the radar of most of us just trying to make our way through the day, supporting our families and trying to make a difference in the places where we live and work.

For example, what do you know about the Amero, or Totalization, or North American Union, or NAFTA Superhighway? It all has to do with a “Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America” establishing by 2010 open borders so that people and goods and flow freely between Mexico, the US, and Canada. Totalization is a word that describes providing Social Security benefits for all persons in America—legal citizens or not.

What have you heard about the efforts in Washington to establish a national ID card, providing access to all kinds of personal

information? I am sure you have heard little. Provisions for such an act were tucked away in the "Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Defense, the Global War on Terror, and Tsunami Relief" in 2005. Opponents say that such an ID card begins with requiring a new federally-approved driver's license which will govern all sorts of activities—voting, air travel, marriage licenses, medical care, etc. It is all supposed to begin being implemented in 2008.

What impact will the renewed interest on environmentalism and global warming have on our lives in America? *"It's about time that we do something,"* some would argue. But these things often spiral way out of their intended scope.

The issues that come across our desks or in our mailboxes are often alarmist (how else can they get our attention?), sometimes off the mark, and almost always looking for a donation. But sometimes, we in the church need to take a step back and ponder what role the Christian community needs to play in these issues.

Some issue are cultural, and we may have a difference of opinion about them. In these cases, a letter to our congress persons, a phone call to register an opinion, or a more studied path to the ballot box may be in order. Some issues are moral, and need to be more carefully informed by the Scriptures themselves. But whatever is going on all around us, we need to stir ourselves to express our concerns and to make our voice heard.

If we just continue to sit quietly, doing nothing, we may one day discover that there is no one left to speak for us.

Just thinking, and urging you to do the same,
Pastor

Congressman

John Boehner
Butler County Office 513-779-5400
Washington DC (800) 582-1001
<http://johnboehner.house.gov>

Senators:

Sherrod Brown (202) 224-2315
<http://brown.senate.gov> (Make selection)

George Voinovich (202) 224-3353
<http://senate.gov> (Make selection)

because her father would not let go. As Thursday passed into Friday she was at his bedside massaging his feet as he had always asked her to do. As she stared at him, she saw his eyes roll back, and with one huge exhale he was gone.

After her dad passed away, she ran to the hospital chapel and fell to her knees and cried. She then left to search the sky to see if she could sense that he was there. She cried out to God, for her dad and herself, and she was stunned when she felt God answer the questions she'd had. Her dad's eternal life was saved, because of the brutality of his earthly death. He never thought he needed God, but in the devastation of cancer he was humbled enough to realize just how wrong he was. At that moment she knew that she would see her dad again, because God had answered her prayers and had saved him.

I think back on that day quite often. No longer do I write as if it was the story of someone else. It was my story, and the man was my father. Now when I look to the sky, God fills me with a great peace as I remember the night my father died. It took the horror of cancer for him to turn to God, and in that horror God was ready for him. We may not see it at the time, but God is walking with each of us in every horrible situation and in every joyous day. We may not always get the answers we want when God puts us in a place we don't understand, but my situation taught me that He does know best. My father may not be with me this Father's Day, but I am confident he is with God, so I will celebrate. One June day I'll be there too, and we'll all celebrate for eternity.

Happy Fathers Day!
Teri Horsley

Corrections and Additions To The Directory

Please call the church office with additions or changes to your address, phone number, or e-mail address.

Kelly, Ben & Betsey
214 N. High Street
Lebanon, Ohio 45036

Attention!!
An Invitation To An Estate Sale

At the April Advisory Board and Business meetings the trustees were authorized to dispose of the tangible property inherited from Jack Baker's estate. With probate proceedings nearly complete the trustees would like to give the congregation a chance to buy some of those household goods.

On Friday evening, June 22nd, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, June 23rd, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., there will be a private sale for members of First Baptist and their families at Jack's house located at 10 Kerry court near church. This will not be a first come, first served situation nor will it be an auction. Offers to buy items will be taken as sealed bids in envelopes that will be opened that Saturday afternoon to identify the persons who have submitted the highest purchase prices.

Personal property for sale will include furniture, some kitchen appliances, dishes, utensils, cookware, power tools, various electronics, and other miscellaneous items.

Further details will be forthcoming in a letter.

-The Board Of Trustees



On Sunday, June 10th, during the morning worship service, it will be our joy to honor those in the church family who are graduating this spring or have recently graduated. A special recognition has been planned with Jeremy Spence, as guest speaker. We trust that you will be present to encourage these who have completed an important part of their lives. A luncheon to honor our graduates catered by Lisa Dulli will be held immediately following the morning worship for the graduates and their families in the Family Center. Please join us as we encourage and challenge our grads.

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

Andersonville University
 Craig Keller Masters of Theology

University of Cincinnati
 Ben Kelly B.A. in English Literature

University of Ashland
 Andy Braun . . . B.A. in History & Political Science

Central Michigan
 Bo Stanger B.S. in History & Political Science

Hamilton High School Edgewood High School
 Samantha Mosley Joe Fryer
 Alex Thiel
 Ray Wallace Ross
 Chad Allen

Talawanda
 Lauren Schwab

Budget Status Report

The Month of April, 2007

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$57,764
Offerings	<u>77,636</u>
Over (Under) Budget	\$19,872

Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$51,656
Offerings	<u>77,636</u>
Over (Under) Actual	\$25,980

The Year Through April, 2007

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$248,749
Offerings	<u>207,418</u>
Over (Under) Budget	(\$41,331)

Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$229,320
Offerings	<u>207,418</u>
Over (Under) Actual	(\$21,902)

-The Board Of Trustees

A Big Thanks!!



The trustees would like to thank everyone who helped the board spruce up the church grounds during the annual clean-up day on May 5th. Your assistance was invaluable and your reward is forthcoming because, as Hebrews chapter 6 promises, "God will not forget your work."



Awana Club

The 2006-2007 Awana Club year ended with our Awards Night on May 30. Congratulations to all the clubbers who received their book awards! A lot of Scripture memory is involved in finishing an Awana handbook. Here's an idea of how many verses Awana clubbers memorize and recite to get a book award:

Cubbies (3 & 4 year olds)

Hopper book (all Cubbies were in this book): 32 partial verses

Sparks (K-2nd grade)

Skipper book (1st year Sparkie): 32 verses

Hiker book (2nd year): 56 verses

Climber book (3rd year): 77 verses

T&T (3rd-6th grade)

Book 1 (1st year T&Ter): 80 verses

Book 2 (2nd year): 96 verses

Book 3 (3rd year): 112 verses

Book 4 (4th year): 136 verses

Thank you to all the Awana Leaders and Helpers who make our Awana Club possible—clear, consistent presentation of the gospel, Bible memory, a fun approach to learning God's Word, and of course, games!

We will begin the 2007-2008 Awana club year with a kick-off picnic & registration at Holloway park on Wednesday, August 29. The first official club night will be Wednesday, September 5.

—Emily Metzger
Awana Commander



June 14, 2007



From The Heart Of Marilyn

College Corner

E-Mail From God

Have I Got A Plan For You!

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

Dear Child,

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

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

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

Your Trail Guide,
God

—Serving in His name,
Marilyn Bowling
College Coordinator





Summer Son Club & Totally Terrific Tuesdays!

Can you believe that summer is almost here? I can't! It seems like we just had a summer! Time really flies! I don't think there are 30 or 31 days in a month anymore, because Courier articles seem to be due earlier and earlier each time! ☺ Well, the following is a tentative schedule for our summer activities. Stay tuned for a more concrete and detailed schedule, as well as registration papers and permission slips. Activities will begin the week after the fourth of July, and will continue until AWANA kickoff in August. All events will be accompanied by a devotional and journal writing/drawing, to help make connections between God and our world. Activities are appropriate for children going to 1st grade through completed 5th grade. Children younger than first grade can attend most activities if appropriate and accompanied by an adult. "Innies" are activities held at church, while "Outties" are activities off church grounds. Activities marked by a (*) are definite, while the others are subject to change. All dates fall on a Tuesday.

July 10: *Innie - Make It and Take It Day with Son Club t-shirt design

July 17: *Outtie - Pump It Up and VOA park, West Chester

July 24: Outtie - Bowling

July 31: Outtie - Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton

Aug 7: Innie - Carnival Day? TBA

Aug 14: *Outtie - Miami Recreation Center, Oxford

Aug 21: *Innie - Pottery Painting/ Art Day

Be sure to check the church website to get all of the latest info! If you would like to help with chaperoning duties on Innies and Outties, please let me know. Extra help is very much appreciated, and it's also lots of fun! ☺

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

VBS Craft Department Needs Your Help!

We are asking again this year for your help in supplying our items needed for the crafts being made in Vacation Bible School. In the past we have had a great response from our church members. This has helped with expenses for Bible School. The items needed this year are listed below. If you can help in any way, it would be greatly appreciated! Thank you!

- * 70 Sheets of Black Craft Foam
- * 25 Sheets of White Craft Foam
- * 25 Sheets of Orange Craft Foam
- * 30 Assorted Colors of Craft Foam
- * 75 Blank CD Disks w/o Labels
- * 75 Red Paper Plates (Red on both sides)
- * 1/4" Wide Ribbon (Black, Yellow, Orange, White)
(Enough for 280 12" pieces)
- * 280 15mm Wiggle eyes
- * 280 20mm Wiggle eyes
- * 75 12"x1/4" Dowel Rods
- * Sandwich Bags (75)
- * 1 pkg. White Card Stock Paper
- * Tacky Glue

—Cheryl Motzer

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



Take The Plunge **With Vacation Bible School 2007**

Clear your calendars for the week of June 18-22, 9:00 a.m. - 12 p.m. Join us for an exciting time of fun, fellowship, food, music, crafts, stories, and more! Travel about the stations within the church to experience all of the water-themed activities for the week. Take your water park pass and get stamped as you complete each station. Tons of fun is promised! Be sure to invite all of your friends! Bring your spare change to donate to our mission for this year: helping other countries install water purification systems for clean, safe water. This goes with our theme this year of Jesus being our living water. With our donations, we can offer clean water to others, as well as be a witness of the love of Jesus to those who need Him. Please take part of this important ministry! We hope to see all of our kids and their friends at our VBS this year! Last year we had 99 kids, and we are setting our sights for a much higher enrollment this year! Stay tuned for registration opportunities. When you register, receive the VBS music CD for free! Also, let us know if you need transportation. We will be glad to help!

Speaking of help, we are still in need of some assistance in the following areas:

- *volunteers to distribute flyers to area neighborhoods
- *prayer warriors
- *an additional nursery volunteer
- *an additional helper in the completed 1st grade class with Emily Metzger
- *an additional helper in the completed 3rd grade class with Ruthie Wallace
- *church van drivers who can assist with VBS pickup and/or drop off as needed
- *a "floater", who can travel to the classes throughout the morning, and help as needed by relieving workers for a quick break
- *finger foods for the teacher break room

The coolest place to be is in the Sun!



VBS Kick-Off

Our VBS Kickoff will be Wednesday, June 13th from 6:40 to 8:00 p.m., tentatively scheduled to be held at Holloway Park. Please join us for games, food, fellowship, and fun! Kids and helpers need to wear clothes that can get wet. Water games will be included in the festivities. Bring your friends, and register for VBS. When you register, receive a FREE VBS music CD, and enter your name for some fabulous door prizes! Parents encouraged to attend! Please call the church if you are able to attend so that we can get a food count! Thanks so much, and we hope to see everyone there!

Closing Program

We will be inviting families to our closing ceremony on Friday, June 22nd, at about 11:30 a.m. followed by a light lunch.

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



Soft Ball Schedules (Second Half of Season)

The second half of the softball schedules were not available at the printing of this issue of The Courier. Please watch the calendar portion of the weekly bulletin for the weekly softball schedules.

–Josh Metzger
Sports and Recreation



Playground Installed

Due to the graciousness of many of our church members, both past and present, a dream of one of those precious people, Peggy Chamberlain, has finally come to be! We now have a new place for our children to play, which will be used for many years to come by many different groups of children. Many hours were put in ahead of the installation in order to prepare the ground and drill the holes for the posts. MANY thanks to Nick Emenaker, Bill Imhoff, and Jeremy Spence for that time. Several of the people listed below also helped on the Trustee Clean Up day at the beginning of May. We are thankful for their time, as it made the work go much quicker!

On Saturday, May 19th, many people donated time and resources for the installation of the playset. We were blessed by perfect weather, and great workers. Because of those factors, the installation went rather smoothly and much quicker than expected. Of course, I wasn't the one mixing the concrete, but it looked smooth from where I was standing! 😊 I wanted to take a moment to thank those that were able to help us that day.

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| *Brian Begley | *Brad Begley |
| *Rob Van Meter | *Jim Baker |
| *Doug Wallace | *Alex Wallace |
| *John Wallace | *Samuel Wallace |
| *Ryan Inloes | *Angie Inloes |
| *John Diedrichs | *Rod Anderson |
| *Bill Imhoff | *Sandra Imhoff |
| *Chris Metzger | *Claire Metzger |
| *Dennis Metzger | *Nick Emenaker |

I also want to thank the families that donated the all-important food for the breakfast, lunch, and supper for the volunteers.

- *Emily and Josh Metzger
- *Barb and Brian Begley
- *Jerri and Brad Begley
- *Anne and Rob Ruwe
- *Angie and Ryan Inloes
- *Tim and Judy Swicegood
- *Bill and Sandra Imhoff

We all learned things that day, things about each other, and undiscovered talents! We also learned why it costs over \$7,000 to have these sets installed!

Playground Dedication

Please join us on Sunday, June 24th as we formally present the playground and dedicate it to the service of God and children's ministries. We also will recognize the donations that made this project possible.

–Brandi Emenaker
Co-Director of Children's Ministries

Wild And Wacky Wednesdays

Now that AWANA has ended, what are you doing on Wednesday nights? Well, Claire and I are still here, and we are looking forward to playing with the kids! Last year, our average attendance was approximately 5 kids (usually my kids, my cousins, and the Motzer's girls! 😊) We would like to have MANY more kiddos this year, and we challenge you to help us reach that goal! Bring your friends, neighbors, and relatives! Our Wednesday nights are like little VBS's, so it promises to be a good time! If you need help with transportation, please let us know!

–Brandi Emenaker
Co-Director of Children's Ministries

Childcare Requested

Do you love working with children? Do you like to play games, color, and sing? Well, even if you aren't great at those things, luckily, kids don't care! They just love your time and attention! What if you like to hold little ones, rock them, sing to them, and feed them? We would love to have your help in the nursery and in Kinderchurch this summer. If you would like to help, the following dates are still available! Just let me know when and where you would like to serve! 😊

Nursery dates: July 1, 15, 22
Kinderchurch dates: June 17, 24, July 1, 8, 15, 22

–Brandi Emenaker
Co-Director of Children's Ministries



Carpenter's Hands Signs Of Love



Silent Dinner

The **Silent Dinner** for **June** will be Friday, June 1st, at Cincinnati Mills. See you there!

Interpreter Schedule for June

June 3	Robin Chamberlain	Maria Miller
June 10	Jo Manson	Maria Miller
June 17	Jo Manson	Maria Miller
June 24	Robin Chamberlain	Maria Miller

Happy Birthday



June 4 Robin Chamberlain

—Maria Miller
Director of Deaf Ministries



KeenAger June Meeting

For the KeenAgers' **June** meeting we will be joined by our teenagers (CREW members) for the 4th Annual Picnic of the KeenAgers/Teenagers at Holloway Park, Monday, June 11th, at 11:30 a.m. The KeenAgers will provide the food and the teenagers will provide the games and entertainment. Jeremy will bless us with a short devotional. **KeenAgers and Teenagers, please sign the list on the bulletin board.**

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



We invite our church family to join with our families to share in our special day as we become united in marriage.

With both of us having experienced the loss of a longtime mate, we are so thankful to God for allowing us to again find love by meeting, becoming best friends, and now sharing our lives.

Come and celebrate with us on Saturday, June 16, at 1:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church and PLEASE - your presence and your prayers are the only presents we want.

Thanking God for you all,
Nellie Wardlow
Bill Roberts



Congratulations, Barb Keith!

Our own Barb Keith was presented the 2006-07 Jim Blount History Educator Award on May 17th at the Harry T. Wilks Conference Center. Named for local historian and educator Jim Blount—a celebrated history teacher, newspaper editor and award-winning journalist who has written 10 books since 1994—the award is sponsored by the Michael J. Colligan History Project in cooperation with the Colligan Fund Committee of the Hamilton Community Foundation.

Barb teaches at Monroe Elementary School in Hamilton. She says, "History is extremely important to students. I like to have history relate to the students and their daily lives . . .for example learning about where their ancestors came from and how it affects their lives today." She also believes it is important to make students aware of current events in their community—such as the new High-Main Bridge and past—and the history of their community—such as Alexander Hamilton, the city's namesake.

Congratulations, Barb, we are proud of you!

—Editor's note: Taken primarily from the Journal News



Child Care Schedule

Nursery (Morning)

June 3 - Kristy & Steve Harden
June 10 - Judy, Amy, & Anna Wallace
June 17 - Kathy & Lori Hamblin
June 24 - Wayne, Debbie & Megan Miller

One & Two Year Olds

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

Kinderchurch

June 3 - Brandi Emenaker & Teen Helper
June 10 - Steve, Elise, & Heidi Martin
June 17 -
June 24 -



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

June 6

Menu: Sloppy Joe Sandwiches, Macaroni and Cheese, Baked Beans, Potato Chips, Cole Slaw, Dessert
Hosts: Deaconesses

June 13

Menu: Chicken Fingers with Honey or Honey Mustard, French Fried Potatoes, Peas and Carrots, Fruit Jello, Rolls, Dessert
Hosts: Keystone II

June 20

Menu: Meat Loaf, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Green Beans, Tossed Salad, Rolls, Dessert
Hosts: TNT

June 27

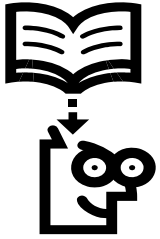
Menu: Cheesy Ham and Scalloped Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Applesauce, Rolls, Dessert
Hosts: FOCUS

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

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

June Greeters

Jerry Hampton, Ken Hendricks, Mary Petry,
Evelyn Maddox, & Nancy Follmer



Pastor Jeremy's Think Tank *Summer is Here!!*

As you can tell by the weather already summer is upon us. For most that is a wonderful thing and to some extent I agree. For the CREW it means a shift in what we do as we accommodate better weather, shorter attention spans, and greater opportunities to reach out to our friends. Below is a partial list of events for the summer, you may find a full list online or by asking me for one. As always if you have any questions please let me know. One last thing to remind you, don't forget the sunblock!!!

Trying not to get sunburned,
Jeremy

Upcoming Events

- June 3rd 6:00pm-CREW will be in the CREW Room in order to plan evening service for July 8th.
- June 6th 6:30pm: First Lifeline for new CREW members. We will be going over summer plans and playing a variety of games indoors and outdoors. Please wear appropriate shoes and clothing.
- June 8th-9th: CREW Formal Night tickets are \$5 per person and on sale now. Ladies meet at the lower level of the church at 5pm on Friday. Dinner will be served at 6:00pm with a menu of: grilled chicken, salad, dinner rolls with butter, green beans, apple pie, water and tea. Immediately following dinner we will change clothes and roller skate. Ladies will leave the church for a home around 9:30pm or so. Breakfast will be served at 9:30am on Saturday with the event over by 11:00am. Guys must wear tie, pants, and shoes (no sandals or flip flops) for the dinner portion. See Jeremy for more information. Ladies if you need a formal dress please see one of your older CREW peers or Jeremy and he will put you into contact with someone who has formal dresses. Also we are in need of a place for the ladies to sleep on Friday night. Our first two places have other commitments to honor. Please see Jeremy if you would like to open up your home for this evening. This is also the first event where our new CREW members may join us.
- June 10th-Members Baccalaureate Service-Attention All Graduates and Families- Plan now to attend the Baccalaureate Service and Luncheon on June 10th. You should have received information by mail however, if you did not receive anything please let Jeremy Spence of Marilyn Bowling aware. Anyone who has graduated from High School, College, or Graduate School anytime this past year will be recognized.

- June 10th, 6pm: CIA Project in evening: Passing out flyers for VBS in Sharon Park area. This is the group of homes right at the foot of our drive across Pyramid Hill Blvd.
- June 11th 11:00am: The Fourth Annual Keenager and Teenager Picnic will take place in Holloway Park. Please make sure teens (and parents remind them) to sign up on the bulletin board so enough food will be purchased.
- June 13th-Lifeline 6:30pm: We will be having a miniature golf bonanza here at the church. Warm up your feet and make sure your ankles are flexible for this fun night of golf variants.
- June 17th- In honor of Father's Day there will be no evening services. Please spend this time with your families and especially dad.
- June 18th-June 22nd: Each morning there will be Vacation Bible School here at the church. If you are interested in helping but have not signed up yet please see Brandi or Claire to do so. For more information on VBS itself please see information in the Courier. On Tuesday June 19th and Thursday June 21st all teenagers helping will be treated to a free event as our way of showing thanks for your work. No money will be needed and you will receive instructions the day before on what you need to bring. One of the two will be a pool party with food.
- June 20th 6:30pm: We will be having Lifeline as usual but remember if you plan on going to the Spirit Song concerts at King's Island on July 5th-7th your \$25 is due then to reserve your ticket. Artists appearing at Spirit Song include: Newsboys, Casting Crowns, Jeremy Camp, Kutless, Falling Up and many more.
- June 24th 4:30pm: We will be meeting at the church to head out to LaserWeb in Fairfield for an evening of Laser Tag. Invite your friends for this one and please bring \$5 to help offset the cost to play. We will return to the church around 7:15pm. If you want to meet us there and/or be picked up there please talk with Jeremy soon. You are guaranteed two games possibly three.
- June 27th 6:30pm: During Lifeline this evening we will be doing a video scavenger hunt. Please make sure you are in the CREW room by 6:50pm so teams can be divided and plenty of time given to accomplish certain tasks. Parents we may end Lifeline later than usual as we will try and watch the videos as well. Needed for this evening will be extra adults to drive teenagers and at least two more video cameras that will be operated by adults. If you are willing to help drive or loan the CREW your video camera to use please let Jeremy know.



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) Director: Linda Miller	\$255.00
Aug. 12-17 - Junior Camp (Gr. 4-6)	\$225.00
Aug. 12-17 - Great Expectations (Gr. 4-6) Director: Kirby Francis	\$275.00
Aug. 12-15 - New Adventures (Gr. 3-4) Director: Tim Lee	\$150.00

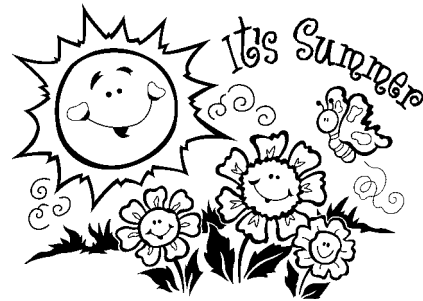
The Board of Christian Education decided last fall that the church would pay 1/2 of the fee to attend ABC camps. There is a \$50.00 scholarship provided by ABC/OHIO if registration is received 30 days prior to the scheduled camp attended. We want to be sure to take advantage of this scholarship.

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



Looking Ahead!!



Miami Baptist Association Summer Fun Day Camp Kirkwood

Join with kids from other churches for a day of fellowship and fun together Saturday, July 14th, from 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at Kirkwood, our American Baptist Camp & Conference Center. There will be field sports, children's games, water activities, hayrides, fishing, canoeing, opening & closing ceremonies. The cost is \$8 per person which includes a picnic lunch and snack. This is for children and youth (K - 8), parents and adult leaders. High school youth can help with games. Registration is due by July 8th. See Loretta Hampton for further information and to register.

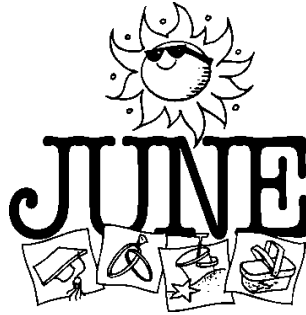


St. Clair Avenue Baptist Church
cordially invites you to join us on
July 1st at 6:00 p.m.
for a Christian Music Concert
presented by

"The Continentals"

It is our sincere hope that
your congregation can join us
for this wonderful time of
music and fellowship.

-St. Clair Avenue Baptist Church



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| 1 - Ken Dulli
Evon Laubenstein | Mandy Wilson
Snader | 26 - Katie Riczko |
| 2 - Tonya Bishop | 16 - Sue Gambrell Peace | 27 - Mary Law
Fred Schilling |
| 3 - John Rish
Karen Schumm | 17 - Dale McAllister | 28 - Harold Lainhart
Lauren Schwartz |
| 4 - Trevor Allen
Robin Chamberlain | 18 - Tom Avance
Mary Walker | 29 - Maxine Hillman
Sam Murrell |
| 6 - Lois Ross
Betty Schwab
Dorothy Withrow | 19 - Branan Becknell
Philip Dudley
Mark Whipple | 30 - Blair Hampton
Carson Martin |
| 7 - Andy Braun
Matthew Riczko
Rob VanMeter | 20 - Joe Ford
Johnnie Wallace | |
| 8 - Sallie Minnich | 21 - Bill Brown
Gery David Huelseman III
Dick Inloes
Rachel Keller
Lillie Senior
Madeline Wallick | |
| 9 - Katie Buchanan | | |
| 12 - Amber Allen
Marlene Collins
Jim Davis | 22 - Oliver Davis
Guy Gessendorf | |
| 13 - Duke Baker
Dan Brandenburg
Audrey Wallace
Alexandra West | 24 - Michelle Hampton
Josh Young | |
| 15 - Lona Davidson
Marilyn McAllister
Alex Thiel | 25 - Molly Day
Dale Young | |

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 Don Gingrich

I would like to thank our kind, compassionate church family for all the cards, prayers, cards, visits, and phone calls. I feel blessed to be part of such a caring group. God bless you. I'm looking forward to being back in church sometime soon.

From Darryl & Clela Paragin

Again thanks for all the cards, visits, and prayers during my recent colon surgery. Thank you for being caring and loving. May God bless you all.

The World According To Dad

(These are words that most dads have said at some time or another to their children.)

This is going to hurt me more than it hurts you.
Quiet, I'm watching the ball game.
Don't forget to check the oil.
Bring back all the change.
How should I know? Ask your mother.
I'm not made out of money!
When I was your age I walked 5 miles to and from school each day and it was uphill both ways.
You are going and you **will** have fun.
Who's paying the bills around here, anyway?
If you break your leg, don't come running to me.
Don't put your feet on the furniture. Your mother will kill you.
Get down before you kill yourself. On second thought, go ahead.
Quit playing with your food.
Why? Because I said so.
If you don't quit that I'm going to call your mother.
I was not asleep. I was just resting my eyes.
Just wait till you have kids of your own.

A Letter To Dad

There are so many things I'd like
To tell you face to face;

I either lack the words or fail
To find the time and place.

But in this special letter, dad,
You'll find, at least in part,

The feelings that the passing years
Have left within my heart.

The memories of childhood days
And all that you have done,

To make our home a happy place
And growing up such fun!

I still recall the walks we took,
The games we often played;

Those confidential chats we had
While resting in the shade.

This letter comes to thank you, and
For needed words of praise;

The counsel and the guidance, too,
That shaped my grown-up days.

No words of mine can tell you, Dad,
The things I really feel;

But you must know my love for you,
Is lasting, warm and real.

You made my world a better place,
And through the coming years;

I'll keep these memories of you
As cherished souvenirs.

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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