

# The Courier

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



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*"Where everybody is somebody and Jesus Christ Is Lord"*

*September, 2007*

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## The Heart Of A Teacher

The heart of a teacher has to be big enough to  
love a whole classroom of new students every year,  
yet small enough for a child  
to hold in his hand without fear.

The heart of a teacher has to be light enough  
for a child to be able to steal,  
yet heavy enough to endure  
countless hurts so very real.

The heart of a teacher has to be tough enough  
to take a beating when life isn't fair,  
yet tender enough to break  
when a child is in despair.

The creator of hearts knew teachers  
would need something more  
to enable them daily  
as they walk through the door.

So they were filled with patience,  
kindness, and love.  
That leaves room for gentleness,  
goodness, the peace of a dove.

There was room left for joy  
and much self-control,  
and finally some faith,  
which plugged up the hole.

Thus the heart of a teacher  
is special and dear,  
filled to the brim  
to last through the year.

It is light, yet heavy; big, yet small.  
Tough, but tender to answer the call.  
The success of a teacher  
we would all confess,  
comes from a loving heart,  
and from it we're blessed.

—Read by Jill O'Hara  
at the Celebration of Life of Peggy Chamberlain

## 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm For Students

The Lord is my Shepherd,  
I shall not flunk.  
He keepeth me from lying down  
when I should be studying.  
He leadeth me beside the water cooler  
for a study break.  
He restores my faith in study guides.  
He leads me to better study habits  
for my grades' sake.  
Yea, though I walk through  
the valley of borderline grades  
I will not have a nervous breakdown  
For thou art with me.  
My prayers and my friends, they comfort me.  
Thou givest me the answer in moments of blankness  
Thou anointest my head with understanding.  
My test paper runneth over with questions I recognize.  
Surely passing grades and flying colors  
shall follow me  
All the days of my examinations  
And I shall not have to dwell  
in this exam hall forever.

—Author Unknown

**Kirkwood  
(Church In The Woods)  
Worship and Celebration  
September 2, 2007  
6:30 p.m.**

***"Surprised By Prayer"***

Dr. Dennis M. Metzger, Guest Speaker

Music and Singing

Cookout 5:00 p.m. Cost: \$6 adults; 5 & under \$3  
Call Tim Swicegood 937-382-3535  
or 614-778-1047 for reservations.  
Campsites available—Call Tim

Brainstorming session follows worship.



# American Baptist Women's Ministries

## Join An ABW Circle

A heart for missions, hands for service, and a desire for Christian fellowship. If this describes you, then be sure you are part of an American Baptist Women's Circle. Our circles begin a new year in September, and it is our hope that every woman in the church will participate. You are invited to come to one of the following groups that meet on the second Tuesday of each month:

- Abell Circle - 7:00 p.m. in the church library; Carolyn Dudley - 523-8007
- Holloway Circle - 10:00 a.m. at church; Evon Laubenstein - 863-2696
- Smith Circle - 7:00 p.m. in members' homes; Carol Howard - 887-9415

This year's program theme is "*Come To The Edge*". This is an edge of excitement that comes with a daily walk with Jesus and the possibility of doing new things for Christ. Step out in faith and join us at the edge.

In God's Service,  
Nancy Whipple, ABW president

## Miami Association ABW Fall Rally

We would like to take a large group to the ABW Fall Rally on Saturday, October 6th, at Immanuel at Lakewood Baptist Church in Cincinnati. We will leave the church at 8:30 a.m. to arrive for registration at 9:00 a.m. with the business meeting at 9:30 a.m. Jenè Krall and her group will provide the music followed by an inspirational speaker. Lunch will then be served at a cost of \$7.00. Contact Nancy Whipple, at 863-2309, with your reservation.

In Christian fellowship,  
Nancy Whipple

Missionaries for the Month of **September**:  
Thailand  
Kit Ripley  
Democratic Republic of Congo  
William and Ann Clemmer

## Bible Book of the Month ..... Ephesians

“. . . that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.”  
Ephesians 3:19b (RSV)

Paul appeals to God's people to live out the meaning of God's great plan for the unity of humankind through oneness with Jesus Christ. He speaks of how God has

chosen a people through Jesus Christ. He appeals for a oneness in Christ which will become real in their life together.

**PRAY** for the unity of American Baptists through oneness with Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit.

—Madge Walters

## AB Girls Of Hope

The new year for the AB Girls of Hope will start with a meeting on Sunday, September 9, from 12-2:00. We will meet in the Family Center and lunch will be provided by the leaders. We want to invite all girls in grades 9-12 to join us. We are looking forward to a year of spiritual growth, leadership and personal development, and service.

In Christ,  
Marilyn Bowling, Mindy Hazelwood,  
and Nancy Whipple

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## Women's Day Luncheon

Dear Ladies of Ohio,

Please consider this your personal invitation to join us at Women's Day on Thursday, Oct. 18, during the Annual Gathering of American Baptist Churches of Ohio. The luncheon will be held from 11-1:30 at the Cincinnati Marriot, 9664 Mason-Montgomery Rd., Mason, Oh.

Our guest speaker will be Kim Brown. Kim works with a team of indigenous leaders to manage a multi-faceted response to the needs of tribal peoples; HIV/AIDS prevention education, care for those with HIV (including the "House of Love" for women and children affected by AIDS), ministry to people with disabilities, youth ministry and education, and economic development work among migrants from traditional villages to urban slums. Kim carries out her ministry in relationship with the Thailand Karen Baptist Convention.

Cost for the luncheon is \$13.00 per person. Please join us for this refreshing time of fellowship, good food, and learning. I look forward to seeing you.

Thank you,  
Lillie Wilson, Women's Day Chair

(This state conference involves many events for American Baptist Churches in Ohio. Men and women who would be willing to take tickets or usher are needed. Please contact Lillie Wilson at 858-1585 if you can give some time on October 18 or 19.)

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## *To Be An Inviting People...*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Before the night was over, John offers this report:

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

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

**It is important that we not underestimate the power of the invitation. Read on...**

*(From the Pastor's Heart, cont.)*

Church growth studies have something to say about this issue. Statistics and the things behind them are the kind of things that excite some people. Here is what I discovered. Peter Wagner comments that in a survey of twenty-two congregations in three major cities, newcomers were asked, "What brought you to this church?" Here are the results: 2% indicated an advertisement; 6% indicated an invitation by the pastor; 6% indicated an organized evangelistic program; 86% stated an invitation by a friend or family member. Think of that! **The most effective method of reaching out to the unchurched is a simple invitation born out of love and friendship.**

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

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

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

**T**his is a great time of year to be thinking about people who might be open to such an invitation. The weather is wonderful, and the sunshine warms the spirit to the invitation. But the fall is also the time of year when people are looking for a church to attend. Whether there is a lurking "oughtness" from childhood that they should be in church, or a genuine desire to establish some spiritual roots, *people are amazingly open to our invitations.* Think of how wonderful it would be to have played a significant role in exposing your friends to the wonder of the Gospel message! We have the opportunity. We have family and friends whom we love. In the face of that love, what will we do?

May I suggest that you create a "hit list" of those you might invite to join you. Pray about the opportunity. Plan how you might make the day a little

more special than usual. Ask the Lord to enable you to be bold as you offer your invitation. You may be surprised what God could do with that simple, but caring effort.

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

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

**Whom can you invite to join us on this journey of serving and blessing our Lord?** Our task, as the people of God, is to continue to act on the Father's behalf to become "an inviting people." The motivation for such an invitation should simply be the "outflow" of all that you hold dear in your relationship with Christ. It is an exciting challenge and an awesome privilege. I hope you will join me as we take the task seriously.

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

## **Sunday Evening Leadership Video Series**

On the second Sunday of each month, 2007-2008, during our usual evening services, we will have the opportunity to participate in a series led by men and women who are being powerfully used of God to make a difference in the lives of others. These video presentations are available to us through our Church Communication Network Satellite ministry. I hope that you will reserve these Sunday evenings September-November; January-May. The fall schedule follows:

September 9 "*The Law of Love*" by Chip Ingram, President, Walk Thru the Bible Ministries.

Growing churches are characterized by warm, caring, relationships that grow out of a culture committed to hospitality, laughter, and the celebration of who God is and what He is doing among them.

October 14 "*Revolutionary Parenting*" by George Barna, Director of the Barna group. This presentation will assist parents and grandparents establish a positive influence with the children in their care.

November 11 "*Creating a Culture of Generosity in Your Church*" This presentation is lead by Bob Coy and Joseph Stowell, and will assist us in thinking about our role in Christian stewardship.

## Budget Status Report

### The Month of June, 2007

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$54,850
Offerings	<u>44,859</u>
Over (Under) Budget	(\$ 9,991)

Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$55,218
Offerings	<u>44,859</u>
Over (Under) Actual	(\$10,359)

### The Year Through June, 2007

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$364,999
Offerings	<u>306,163</u>
Over (Under) Budget	(\$58,836)

Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$348,566
Offerings	<u>306,163</u>
Over (Under) Actual	(\$42,403)

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### The Month of July, 2007

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$59,354
Offerings	<u>45,762</u>
Over (Under) Budget	(\$13,592)

Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$54,907
Offerings	<u>45,762</u>
Over (Under) Actual	(\$ 9,145)

### The Year Through July, 2007

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$424,353
Offerings	<u>351,925</u>
Over (Under) Budget	(\$72,428)

Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$403,473
Offerings	<u>351,925</u>
Over (Under) Actual	(\$51,548)

—The Board Of Trustees

## Fall Trip To Oneida, KY

Jerry Hampton and Ken Hendricks will be making their fall pilgrimage to Oneida Baptist Institute on Tuesday, October 9th. The campus has approximately 450 teens grades 6-12 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 September 30th. Please put the items in plastic trash bags and mark them for Oneida. For more information, call Jerry Hampton-844-1967 or Ken Hendricks-863-2628. (Please, because of storage problems - NO donations after Sunday, October 7th.) They will be accepting donations to help cover the expense of gasoline for the trip. See Jerry or Ken.

## Ladies' Bible Studies Beginning September 6

If you are looking to grow in your spiritual walk and to pray and fellowship with other women, here is your opportunity!!!

This fall 2 groups will be studying Beth Moore's new up-dated Bible study *A Women's Heart—God's Dwelling Place* (a 10 week study of the Old Testament Tabernacle).

Where: At First Baptist Church in rooms 113-114

When: Thursdays beginning September 6

Who: Anyone who wants to grow

What: Two sessions—choose your best time!!

**\*\*Morning session begins at 9:30**—for more information contact Dale Braun at 726-4000.

**\*\*Evening session begins at 6:30**—for more information contact Lois Anderson at 894-1216 or randerson26@cinci.rr.com

Why: Because we are to "...study to show ourselves approved..."



We will be making our monthly trip down to Matthew 25: Ministries for a wonderful day of fellowship, fun, and WORKING FOR THE LORD Thursday, September 20th. We will leave the church at 8:30 a.m. returning at about 3:00 p.m. Come dressed to WORK - bring your own sack lunch and beverage. Everyone is welcome to be a part of this ministry.

—Pastor Bill and Bert Brantingham

## Bread of Life Ministry

It has been our privilege to take a loaf of nut bread to first time visitors to our services on a Sunday. They are so thrilled to be remembered in this way. It also gives us an opportunity to welcome them and trust they will return. If you would like to be on the list to bake the bread and deliver it, please call me soon (868-7715). We are in need of **more volunteers**. God bless you for sharing in this ministry.

—Bert Brantingham



## Some Enchanted Evening

More so than any composer and lyricist who have written for the stage, the songs of **Rodgers & Hammerstein** have become an integral part of our everyday lives. You will enjoy this musical revue which includes songs from "Oklahoma", "Sound of Music", "The King And I", "South Pacific", "Carousel", and many others.

Presented by Middletown Lyric Theatre  
1530 Central Avenue  
Middletown, Ohio

Friday & Saturday September 21 & 22 - 8:00 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday September 28 & 29 - 8:00 p.m.

Cast Members: **Drew Helton and Kryss Schramm**

Directed by Becky Childs

Tickets: \$12 - Adults; \$10 - Children under 12  
To reserve tickets, call the MLT Ticket Hot Line, (513) 425-7140 or contact a cast member for an order form or additional information.



### Free Bluegrass Music At Noon



On September 26th at 12:10 p.m. Midday Music in Oxford begins its 19th season with a free program of bluegrass music performed by Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass, a hard-driving group of five performing on banjo, guitar, bass, mandolin, and fiddle. Oxford Presbyterian Church, 101 N. Main Street in Oxford. For information or a season brochure, call 523-6969.

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## KeenAger September Meeting

The KeenAgers plan to go to the Newport Aquarium on the Levi in Newport, Kentucky, Monday, September 17th. Please watch the weekly bulletin for the cost, time, lunch, and/or changes. Please sign the list on the bulletin board.

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

## Women's Council Mystery Dinner Theater

Do you like a good mystery? Then you won't want to miss the Mystery Dinner Theater, sponsored by the Women's Ministry Council, on Thursday, October 25. Be there to unravel the mystery waiting for you in the Lord and in the fellowship of Christian women.

Our own Teri Horsley has written a mystery play that will entertain, uplift, and introduce you to the Women's Ministry theme. Our talented actresses will present the clues and you will have a chance to solve the mystery.

We will meet at 6:30 pm in the Family Center for a delicious soup, sandwich, and dessert meal. The cost is \$6.00 and reservations will be taken in the connector beginning September 30 - October 14.

This unique event for the women of our church will be talked about long after the evening has ended. Be there to share the fun and fellowship, and you will be blessed as the mighty and wonderful mystery that is the Lord touches your heart.

Mysteriously,  
Women's Ministry Council,  
Dale Braun, Lois Anderson, Elise Martin,  
Teri Horsley, and Nancy Whipple

### Upcoming Women's Ministry Events

Look forward to these events, with more information to follow:

Craft activities  
Service opportunities  
Mystery Dinner Theater - October 25  
Cookie exchange - December 6 at Karen Buchanan's  
Christian Author's Book Club in January led by  
Nancy Follmer and Judy Farris  
Weight loss and fitness program  
Mission luncheon for the John Engle Counseling  
Center  
Women's Conference with a morning speaker  
followed by lunch  
Mother and Daughter Tea - April 26

In Remembrance of

Sept.



## Totally Terrific Tuesdays

It has been so hot this summer! We're really thankful, however, that whenever our Totally Terrific Tuesdays took us outside, we were blessed with cooler times. This added to the wonderful atmosphere that we had. If you were to ask the children what their favorite Tuesday was, it was probably the outing to Pump It Up. The parents would answer any Tuesday that their children were with us. Brandi would say anytime that she didn't have to lead the caravan, and Claire would say any one that didn't require her to drive a church vehicle.

The summer has been full of fellowship with the children and fun activities that we could not do justice to by just writing about them. So we will briefly describe what we did then challenge you to ask a child (or adult!) who took part in the adventure! Be sure to check out their journals and autograph pages. Our first Tuesday was a "Make It and Take It" day at church with crafts and the wonderful tie-dyeing of a gazillion t-shirts (ask Sandra Imhoff all about it!) We jumped and bounced around Pump It Up! which is full of giant, inflatable equipment. We have been swimming with the sharks at the Newport Aquarium, flying with the aircraft at Wright Patterson Air Force Museum, knocking down pins at Columbia Bowling Lanes and playing the Motzer's games, splashing around at the Miami Recreation Center, and finally being artistic with pottery and pigs!

We have had various numbers of participants with a total 225 children, many teens and adults. The following were faithful teens, who took up the challenge of helping, assisting, and calming down children. We love them very much and want to say a huge THANK YOU!!! to Emily Cain, Katie Ford, Heather and Lauren Keith, Alex and Amy Wallace, Lauren Schwartz, and Hailey Rose.

As well as teens, our adults also made commitments to drive, chaperone, feed, and generally help wherever there was a need. Again these are awesome people who deserve much more than just a THANK YOU, so feel free to give them a smile and a hug! These were, Chris Metzger, Sandra Imhoff, Judy Wallace, Kim Schuermann, Barb Begley, Angie Inloes, Loretta Hampton, Lisa Witmer, John and Cheryl Motzer, Debbie Allen, and Mandy Chaney.

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

## Wonderful Wacky Wednesdays

We had various children join us for Wednesday night programming. We try to cram as much crafting, snacking, Biblical ideas, playground time, and movies as we could possibly in the time we had. The numbers differed each week, but we are confident that lessons were learned and relationships built upon. Especially the lessons of patience and taking turns – we were able to model this in our lives as we learned it together!

As we prepare for school, we cannot help but think about all these fun Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and other days that has brought joy not just to the children, but parents, us, church, everywhere that we have been and God. It has truly been a blessing to have been able to work alongside so many talented people and minister to our children. So when you are in the hustle and bustle of school this fall, don't think we have forgotten the children. We still have AWANA that Emily Metzger wonderfully organizes, we have the upcoming New Believers' Class and a few other events coming up, so keep your calendar clear for:

- **New Believers Class:** starting September 16th. Running for 4 weeks during Sunday School hour in the Board Room.
- **Family Fun Harvest Festival, featuring Talent from First Baptist:** Saturday October 27th, from 5-8pm. Watch out for flyers!

So again thank you for all the memories and friendships we've enjoyed with you all and your fantastic children this summer. Let's keep it up!

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



## Playground Dedication

Please join us on **Sunday, September 16th**, 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.



## Butler County Fair Results!

Congratulations to these winners at the Butler County Fair in July, as published in the Journal News.

### Mary Brown - Senior Fair - Arts & Crafts & Culinary

- 1st - Afghan - Baby Knitted
  - 1st - Knitted Hat
- 2nd - Large Stuffed Animal Toy
  - 1st - Other Table Runner
  - 3rd - Carrot Cake
  - 3rd - Favorite Cake
  - 2nd - Favorite Pie
  - 1st - Cinnamon Rolls
  - 1st - Biscuits
  - 1st - Jelly Roll
  - 1st - Best of Show Yeast Bread
- 4th - Bar Cookies

### Jeff Hazelwood - Junior Fair

- 4th - Swine Showmanship - Age 16
- 4th - Swine Born & Raised Market Hogs - Division III - Class 7
- 3rd - Swine Born & Raised Market Hogs - Division III - Class 9
- 2nd - Market Hogs - Division III - Class 13
- 4th - Market Hogs - Division IV - Class 16
- 1st - Pair of Market Hogs - Class 4

### **Reserve Grand Champion Pair**

- Senior Fair
- 4th - Hog Market
- 8th - Hog Market
- 1st - Pair of Market Hogs
- 1<sup>st</sup> - Champion Pair Market Hogs**

### Aubrie Jordan - Culinary

- 1st - Novelty/Junior
- 1st - Best of Show Junior Cake
- 1st - Muffins

### Siera Jordan - Culinary

- 1st - Fancy Flowered/Junior
- 1st - Decorated Cookies

### Noah Krall

- Junior Fair
- 2nd - Swine Born & Raised Market Hogs - Division III - Class 7
- 7th - Pair of Market Hogs - Class 2
- Senior Fair
- 6th - Market Hog
- 2nd - Pair of Market Hogs

### Alyson Rothenbusch

- Junior Fair - Horse Show
- 3rd - Working Hunter Under Saddle - Ages 14-18
- 10th - Hunter Hack - Ages 8-18

### Lauren Schwab

- Junior Fair
- 3rd - Swine Showmanship - 17 Year olds
- 8th - Swine Born & Raised Market Hogs - Division II - Class 5
- 1st - Swine Born & Raised Market Hogs - Division III - Class 7
- 8th - Market Hogs - Division III - Class 13
- Senior Fair
- 3rd - Market Hog

### Ryan Schwab

- Senior Fair
- 3rd - Swine Born & Raised Market Hogs - Division II - Class 6
- 6th - Market Hogs - Division III - Class 11
- 7th - Market Hogs - Division IV - Class 15
- 5th - Pair of Market Hogs - Class 13
- 4th - Class 1141 - Bench
- Senior Fair
- 4th - Market Hog
- 2nd - Pair of Market Hogs

### Toni Schwab

- Senior Fair
- 3rd - White Onions
- 2nd - Red Onions
- 2nd - Best 3 Long Green Cucumbers
- 3rd - Longest Quality Cucumber
- 4th - Largest Quality Tomato
- 4th - Pair of Market Hogs

-Editor's note: Please report items of interest, honors, roles in plays, etc. to the office so they can be noted in the Courier. Thanks!

## Corrections and Additions To The Directory

Please call the church office with additions or changes to your address, phone number, or e-mail address so that everyone can update their directory.

**Brown, Nancy** (Click)  
Phone # 513-424-5321 (Ext. 5113)

**Retherford, Geraldine**  
122 Colonial Lake Drive  
Hamilton, Ohio 45013



### Awana September Calendar

5th - First Night of Club  
12th - Regular Club Night  
19th - Awana Colors Night  
26th - Regular Club Night

#### **First Official Club Night**

Our first night of Awana club will be Wednesday, September 5th. Sparks and T&T Opening Ceremony continues to meet downstairs in Room 109/110 at 6:30 p.m. It is very important that clubbers and leaders be prompt! After Opening, Sparks will go directly to their handbook rooms, and T&T will go to Game Time.

#### **Awana Colors Night**

The four official Awana colors are Red, Green, Blue, and Yellow (the four color teams used in Game Time). On September 19th, Awana Colors Night, show that you've got "Awana Fever" by wearing one or more of the Awana colors (not counting your uniform, which you need to wear as well, if you have one).



#### **Sparks Leaders/Helpers Needed**

Because of family obligations or a desire to serve in other areas of church ministry, some of our Sparks Leaders are unable to return to Awana Club this year. We need some helpers who would be able to assist during Sparks Handbook Time (6:35-7:05 p.m.). If you are interested, and would like more information, please contact me, Emily Metzger, at 892-1453 or ameliabedelia@cinci.rr.com and I will show you what this involves.

-Emily Metzger  
Awana Commander



**From The Heart Of  
Marilyn**

**College Corner**

### **E-Mail From God**

### **I'll Get Your Back**

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

-Zephaniah 3:13

Dear Child of Mine,

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

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

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

Your Bodyguard,  
God

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

-Marilyn Bowling  
College Coordinator





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

All meetings this year are based on a room of the house. We will kick off the new year on Tuesday, September 18th at 9:45; with registration beginning at 9:20. September's meeting topic will be *The Foyer*.

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

Being at home with Him-  
Elise Martin, Coordinator



## Carpenter's Hands Signs Of Love



### Silent Dinners

The **Silent Dinner** for **September** will be held on Friday evening, September 7th, at Florence Mall. See you there!

### Interpreter Schedule For September

<b>September 2</b>	Robin Chamberlain	Maria Miller
<b>September 9</b>	Robin Chamberlain	Maria Miller
<b>September 16</b>	Jo Manson	Maria Miller
<b>September 23</b>	Robin Chamberlain	Jo Manson
<b>September 30</b>	Jo Manson	Maria Miller

—Maria Miller  
Director of Deaf Ministries



### Nominating Committee Elected

The following were elected to serve on the Nominating Committee at the second quarter business meeting on Wednesday, July 18th. The responsibility of the Nominating Committee will be to search out men and women of the Lord's choosing to serve Him and the church, beginning in 2008.

- Jerry Wallace . . . . . representing the Deacon Board
- Nancy Follmer . . . . . representing the Deaconess Board
- Mike Braun . . . . . representing the Missions Board
- Rod Anderson . . . . . representing the Trustees Board
- Loretta Hampton. . . representing the Christian Ed Board
- Jerry Hampton . . . . . Member-at-Large
- Ryan Inloes . . . . . Member-at-Large

Those filling offices for the coming years will help determine the direction of the ministry of First Baptist Church. The responsibility that this committee undertakes is an awesome one and your prayers are coveted as they begin this important task.



## Child Care Schedule

### Nursery (Morning)

September 2 - Cheryl & John Motzer  
 September 9 - Kim Schuermann & Teene Campbell  
 September 16 - Bill & Sandra Imhoff  
 September 23 - Janet & Mindy Hazelwood & Bettie Carmack  
 September 30 - Elise & Heidi Martin & Lori Hamblin

### One & Two Year Olds

September 2 - Debbie Allen & Lauren  
 September 9 - Debbie Allen & Lauren  
 September 16 - Debbie Allen & Lauren  
 September 23 - Debbie Allen & Lauren  
 September 30 - Debbie Allen & Lauren

### Kinderchurch

September 2 - Chris & Claire Metzger  
 September 9 - Debbie Miller, Megan & Emily  
 September 16 - Brandi Emenaker  
 September 23 - Rick & Vickie Baker  
 September 30 - Chuck & Beth Riczko



## Attention All Morning Worship Child Care Workers

Just a reminder that all child care workers should try and trade with someone on their schedule sheets when something comes up and they are not able to keep their scheduled Sunday. Also, it would be extremely helpful if child care workers would be in their scheduled room by 10:15 a.m. to help with the transition time between Sunday School and Morning Worship time. Several of our Sunday School teachers need to be relieved for choir and the adult worship service. When you have difficulty finding someone with whom to trade with, please call the following Child Care Coordinators:

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

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



## Wednesday Family Dinners

### September 5

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

### September 12

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

### September 19

Menu: Lasagna, Tossed Salad, Bread Sticks, Dessert  
 Hosts: Deaconesses

### September 26

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

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

## September Greeters

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



## Sparks Leaders/Helpers Needed

Because of family obligations or a desire to serve in other areas of church ministry, some of our Sparks Leaders are unable to return to Awana Club this year. We need some helpers who would be able to assist during Sparks Handbook Time (6:35-7:05 p.m.). If you are interested, and would like more information, please contact me, Emily Metzger, at 892-1453 or ameliabedelia@cinci.rr.com and I will show you what this involves.

-Emily Metzger  
 Awana Commander



# Pastor Jeremy's Think Tank

*Reflection*

This time each year I do something that provides encouragement, discouragement, anxiety, relieve and many more feelings all at one time. Yet, even with feeling all those things plus, it is an important part of my job. It is the time of year when I reflect on where we have been and where we need to go.

This year as I am reflecting I realize just how busy this past summer as been. I won't recount all the places we have been nor the events that took place but let me say this, it has been one of the busiest summers the CREW has had in probably a long time. We have done fun things to service projects, Bible studies to fun and games. All this with the goal of bringing each student in our midst to the throne of God.

Some of these have been better than others but my prayer has been that all of them helped instead of hurt in reaching people for Christ. God only knows and time will tell just what impact, if any, this summer will have in the lives of the students in our ministry.

The other part of reflecting for me is deciding where in the future we need to go. You see, I could just reflect on where we have been and never allow it to guide me into where we need to go because of our past. I am in the process of sitting down and discerning what God wants to be discussed, explored, and taught in the upcoming months. A process that hinges on where we have been and what God has shown needs to be discussed.

The process I am going through is the same process we as Christians need to participate in on a regular basis. In fact, I would suggest it is a must part of our Christian life and necessary to our growth in Christ. As you search the Scriptures you will see many of times where the Israelites and the new Christians are told to remember where they have been and use it to teach others.

The question remains: What about us? What are we doing to remember our previous days? How are we passing on our experiences with God to the next generation of believers?

Unfortunately we are probably not the greatest at this, at least I know I am not. Yeah, I share my experiences with our students week in and week out. But what am I doing to remember it for the future? This is where the internet can be a great thing.

Online you can hold something called a "blog". This is similar to what has been called a journal in years past. Here you have a spot that is yours to write and share what is going on in your life with others or just

yourself. Often though, we use this information for the wrong things, too personal of information, or just petty things. However, what if we used this technology to help share what God and Christ has done in our life.

I am convinced that if we did this our Christian walk and our next generation will be much better. So join me as we both reflect and write down, whether on a blog or journal, knowing we will only grow in the process and help the generations to come.

Be God's,  
Jeremy

## Upcoming Events

**September 5th 6:30pm:** Lifeline gets back into school mode. Themes and lessons are being formulated now for the fall and winter months. If you have an idea, want to help teach, or would like to give some feedback please see Jeremy.

**September 9th 6:00pm:** Small Groups will resume. John and Ruthie Wallace will be leading our 11th and 12th grade group, Mike and Dale Braun will be leading the 9th and 10th grade group, and Jeremy Spence and Linda Davis will be leading the 7th and 8th grade group.

**September 14th and 15th:** Revolve Tour for the CREW Ladies. You will be meeting here at the church at 4:00pm. It is crucial you are here at this time to allow enough time to get up to Columbus, eat some pizza, and get into the conference. Events in Columbus begin promptly at 7:00pm. You will be returning on Saturday around 7:00pm. If you have any questions please see Angie Inloes.

**September 15th:** CREW Paintball Outing to Cabin Creek Paintball. We will be leaving the church at 10:30am, or you can meet us there at 11:00am, for a couple hours of Paintball fun. Cost will be \$25 per person without a gun and \$15 per person with a gun. This will include everything you will need for the afternoon. Please do not bring your own paint as we will buy paint as a group and make sure everyone has the same amount. We will be leaving Cabin Creek around 2:00pm and returning to the church at 2:30pm.

**September 23rd:** See You At the Pole Rally will be held from 6:30pm until 8:00pm at the Underground. Smalls group will possibly meet beforehand or not at all that evening. This will be a great time of worship, meeting Christians from your school and planning the SYATP for your school which is the following Wednesday. We will be back at the church around 8:30pm.

**September 26<sup>th</sup>:** See You At the Pole held at local area schools roughly 30 minutes before the first bell. Please plan on attending now to pray for your school and how God may use you to reach students for Him.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>September 2007</h1>						<b>1</b> 8:00 Men's Prayer Gathering
<b>2</b> 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 6:30 Worship & Celebration @ Kirkwood	<b>3</b> Labor Day! Church Offices Closed	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 5:00 ABW 6:00 Family Dinner 6:30 Awana-1st Club Night 6:30 Lifeline 6:45 Bible Study & Prayer 6:45 Carpenter's Hands 8:00 Chancel Choir	<b>6</b> 9:30 MOPS Steering Committee 9:30 Ladies Bible Study 5:30 Music & Worship Committee 6:30 Ladies Bible Study	<b>7</b> 11:00 Women's Council @ Elise Martin's Home	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 12:00 AB Girls 4:30 Mission Board 6:00 Cherub Choir 6:00 Evening Celebration 6:30 CREW Sm. Groups	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 10:00 Holloway Circle 7:00 Abell Circle 7:00 Smith Circle	<b>12</b> 6:00 Nominating Com. 6:00 Family Dinner 6:30 Awana 6:30 Lifeline 6:45 Bible Study & Prayer 6:45 Carpenter's Hands 8:00 Chancel Choir	<b>13</b> 9:30 Ladies Bible Study 5:30 Board of Trustees 6:30 Ladies Bible Study	<b>14</b> 4:00 CREW Ladies leave church for Revolve Tour in Columbus	<b>15</b> 10:30 CREW to Paintball 7:00 CREW Ladies return to church from Revolve Tour
<b>16</b> 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 4:30 Diaconate 5:15 Youth Choir 6:00 KingsKids Kick-Off 6:00 Cherub Choir 6:00 Evening Celebration 6:30 CREW Sm. Groups	<b>17</b> KeenAger Trip ???????? (Watch weekly bulletin)	<b>18</b> 9:20 MOPS	<b>19</b> 6:00 Nominating Com. 6:00 Family Dinner 6:30 Awana-Colors Night 6:30 Lifeline 6:45 Bible Study & Prayer 6:45 Carpenter's Hands 8:00 Chancel Choir	<b>20</b> 8:30 Matthew 25 9:30 Ladies Bible Study 6:30 Ladies Bible Study	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 5:15 Youth Choir 6:00 KingsKids 6:00 Cherub Choir 6:00 Evening Celebration 6:30 See You At The Pole	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 6:00 Nominating Com. 6:00 Family Dinner 6:30 Awana 6:30 Lifeline 6:45 Bible Study & Prayer 6:45 Carpenter's Hands 8:00 Chancel Choir	<b>27</b> 9:30 Ladies Bible Study 6:30 Ladies Bible Study	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 4:00 CE Board 5:15 Youth Choir 6:00 KingsKids 6:00 Cherub Choir 6:00 Evening Celebration 6:30 CREW Sm. Groups						



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

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

A special thank you to all who helped with the craft supplies for Vacation Bible School. It was greatly appreciated and helped make our Bible School a wonderful success.

### From Lee Ann Blum

I want to thank the church and its wonderful people for allowing my daughter to experience your VBS again this year as well as Totally Terrific Tuesdays. The angels you have working for you have truly earned their wings. Barb Begley, Jerri Begley, Brandi, and all of the others!! Although we are not members of your church, we always feel welcome. Thank you all for the wonderfully spreading of God's love.

### From John Bowling

Oh, what a blessing I received when I opened your card. Thank you for lifting up my name during your time of Bible Study and Prayer. I firmly believe in the power of prayer and I know that our Lord has heard your prayers. I was saved and baptized many years ago at First Baptist's Court Street location. In His service.

### From LaVerne Gerth

I want to express my sincere thanks to Pastor Den, Bill, and our church family for their prayers, cards, and phone calls during my eye surgery. I thank the Lord for answered prayers and a successful surgery.

### From Anne Hazelwood

I want to thank everyone for their prayers and cards while I was in the hospital from my recent double knee surgery and stroke. A special thanks to Pastor Den and Pastor Bill for their visits. I can personally say I believe in the power of prayer.

### From Janet & Dave Hazelwood & family

Once again I would like to thank my First Baptist family for all the comforting words, cards, and prayers during this time of sorrow from the loss of my sister, Joyce Simpson. Words cannot express what each of you means to our family. Christ is our hope.

### From Walter & Maxine Hillman

We would like to thank each and everyone for their prayers, phone calls, visits, and concerns during our recent illnesses and injuries. We feel so blessed to belong to a great church family as First Baptist, Hamilton. Ever since we joined the family we have felt the Christian love you have shown us in health and sickness. Christ is surely in this church body. Our love in Christ.

### From Ed, Karen, & Edison Meece (cousin of Jerri Begley)

We appreciate your prayers and kindness during Landon's illness, and more as our family learns how to live without her. God has been amazing to us in how he has brought the love of our Christian family to bear on our pain and need. Please keep us in your prayers. God bless.

**Newsletter  
DEADLINE**

Reminder: All articles for the monthly newsletter, The Courier, are due in the church office by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month. They can be emailed to Ellie at [ellie.dinger@fuse.net](mailto:ellie.dinger@fuse.net) or [elliedinger@juno.com](mailto:elliedinger@juno.com). Articles received after the 20<sup>th</sup> may not be in that month's newsletter.

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

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