

The Courier

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



"Where everybody is somebody and Jesus Christ Is Lord"

November, 2007

Time For Thanksgiving

The ability to be genuinely grateful is one of the purest and holiest impulses of the human heart. To be convinced of its *purity*, think how effortless and natural it seems to be for little children who have yet to learn the vice of greed. To see its *holiness*, you need only to recall how often the Bible praises gratitude.

As a matter of fact, the Bible commands gratitude. "Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful" (Colossians 4:2). "Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).

But who really believes that thanks can be offered on cue because of a commandment? The spirit of appreciation rises from hearts that have been touched with the reality of God's generosity and grace.

Is there any good thing in your world? Do you have a coat to protect you from the cold? Will you have food to eat today? Is there constructive work for you to do this week? Does anyone love you? Did the Son of God die for you?

We are sometimes so cynical as to think that Thanksgiving Day should be removed from the calendar. Terrorism, war, political division, uncertain markets, drug addiction, family dysfunction, life-threatening illness — all of them frighten us, and some have touched us. So where is the place for gratitude this year?

The more cynical we allow ourselves to become, the less spiritual we are. Failing to glorify God by giving thanks is one of the marks that our hearts are slipping away from him. It is less that God needs our thanks or that he will withhold from those who fail to give thanks than that we need to be a thankful people in order to be a spiritual people.

Giving thanks is always a route into the presence of God. Since he is the one who provides every good gift, gratitude inevitably moves us in his direction. One

writer put it this way: Since we live suspended between blessings received and blessings hoped for, we should always give thanks.

As our nation observes the upcoming holiday weekend with football, family, and food, resolve to do so with a consciousness of God.

"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord . . ." (Psalm 92:1).

—Rubel Shelly
Fax of Life

Thanksgiving SERVICE



First Baptist Church and St. Clair Baptist Church have been invited to gather in a Thanksgiving Eve Service, Wednesday, November 21st, at 7:00 p.m at Immanuel Baptist Church. There will be songs of praise and gratitude, testimonies, and a message of thanksgiving for the Lord's faithfulness and goodness in our lives.

You will want to be a part of this service and bring any guests that will be visiting you for this family holiday!

*"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands.
Serve the Lord with gladness:
Come before His presence with singing.
Know ye that the Lord He is God:
It is He that has made us, and not we ourselves;
Enter into His gates with thanksgiving,
And into His courts with praise:
Be thankful unto Him, and bless His name.
For the Lord is good: His mercy is everlasting;
And His truth endureth to all generations."*

Psalm 100 (KJV)



American Baptist Women's Ministries



The filled shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child must be at church by **Wednesday, November 14th**. The cost of shipping has increased to \$7.00. Please include that inside your box. Makes checks payable to Samaritan's

Purse with a note on the memo line that the gift is for Operation Christmas Child. Pick up box labels and other information at the table in the connector or contact Nancy Whipple at 863-2309.

Here is a list of suggested gifts you can use in your box.

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

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

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

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

Do NOT include the following:

Used Items

War-related Items

Chocolate or Perishable Food Items

Liquids

Medicines: vitamins, cough drops, ointment, etc.

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

Any one needing a shoebox, please see Nancy Whipple or Ellie in the church office!

–Nancy Whipple
ABW President

Missionaries for the Month of **November:**

Charles & Sarah West
South Africa

In partnership with the Baptist Convention of South Africa, Charles and Sarah work toward the goals of renewal and reconciliation by training and equipping

people for leadership roles. They minister in the areas of leadership development, church planting, and evangelism. They also assist the Baptist Convention in the formation and implementation of ministries through the newly created HIV/AIDS Desk and Mission Committee.

Rev. Glen & Rita Chapman
Democratic Republic of Congo

Glen and Rita teach at the Kikongo Pastor's Institute. Glen teaches Old Testament, African religions, and Baptist distinctives. Rita works with the spouses of the pastoral students, preparing them to minister in partnership in a rural setting. The Chapmans are also actively involved in evangelism and in economic development projects.

Bible Book of the Month . . Habakkuk

“ . . .but the righteous shall live by his faith.”

Habakkuk 2:4 (RSV)

This book contains the troubled thinking of a man who was bewildered because there seemed to be so much that was wrong in the world around him. He wondered why God let things be that way. He questions God. He receives the answer that whatever the troubles and contradictions of the time might be, those who kept their faith in God and tried to be obedient would outlast all the evil that might threaten them.

PRAY that families will continue to grow in closeness and commitment to God because of people who take time to share God's message of love.

–Madge Walters

Young Women Of Hope

We are so thankful for our wonderful group of AB Girls, who are developing skills and hearts for service. The girls will meet at noon on Sunday November 11th. Megan Miller will be the hostess, providing the lunch. Evon Laubenstein will be our guest speaker. Our Love Gift donations will be collected by Heather Keith, Love Gift chairperson.

In His service,
Marilyn Bowling, Mindy Hazelwood,
& Nancy Whipple

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A MATTER OF THE HEART

In his study on the twelfth chapter of the Gospel of Mark, R. Kent Hughes comments:

There is a disease which is particularly virulent in this part of the twenty-first century. It is called cirrhosis of the giver. It was actually discovered about 34 A.D., and ran a terminal course in a couple named Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5). It is an acute condition which renders the patient's hand immobile when it attempts to move from the billfold to the offering plate. The remedy is to remove the afflicted from the church, since it is clinically observable that this condition disappears in alternate environments, such as golf courses, restaurants and other places of recreation and business...

If you read like I do, you had to go back and read that paragraph again. "Liver" did not seem to fit the context, and I suspected that there was a chuckle somewhere in that story.

During several worship gatherings in the month of November, we will be examining the issue of Biblical Stewardship. There is little question that when one speaks of our challenging role in Christian stewardship, our wallet is involved somewhere in that discussion. And rightfully so! This is a serious time for reflection regarding the role each of us must play in the active support of the church ministry.

As each of us is faithful to the challenge of effective stewardship, we will collectively provide the resources for worship, instruction, evangelism, mission, and fellowship. In that mix,

- children will learn about the love of Jesus through Sunday School, Awana, children's choirs, and in a new children's outreach program called Upward Basketball (more about this exciting program later);
- through our LifeLine and small group ministries, youth will be challenged to integrate Christ into their developing view of the world and how they fit into that world; and
- through Sunday school gatherings and small groups, adults will learn how to reflect what they are learning about the call to a life-style of committed and costly discipleship.
- the whole church family will be challenged to worship our Lord more deeply and to love Him more sincerely

Beyond the walls of this great facility, maintained over the years by the financial stewardship of many members, are those in

need in our community who will receive the loving touch of our Savior through ministries we support financially, and by our own personal involvement—Serve City, the Pregnancy Care Center, New Life Mission, Matthew 25, Dayton Christian Center, Trumbull Christian Center, the John Engle Counseling Center, and our own Love in Action Ministry. Love in Action is a new ministry, born out of our 2006 Hurricane Katrina volunteer mission team in Bayou LaBatra, discovering practical ways to address the home repairs of those in our own church family and community who have limited resources for essential repairs.

Through our faithful financial stewardship, we also enable others to minister on university campuses, through the work of Inter-Varsity (the Dudleys), Campus Crusade (the Corrovas), and high school campuses (Young Life).

In addition to what happens locally through our financial stewardship is the ministry we help support in over thirty locations all over the world. Added to that are the relief efforts world-wide that are made through the combined gifts of believers like First Baptist through our One Great Hour of Sharing. This financial assistance meets immediate needs for food, shelter, clothing and medical care of disaster victims all over the world.

In essence, through the consistent stewardship of each member, this church body will continue to be a powerful arm of the Lord,

demonstrating His presence in the midst of this dark world of sin and genuine human need. Through our faithful stewardship, immediate needs in our neighborhood and beyond are addressed, and ministries are supported far beyond our walls.

Of course, we have many people involved in hands-on ministries that are not reflected in our ministry budget. This is certainly a powerful expression of faithful Christian stewardship in using the gifts God has given to each of us as a Christian body.

In his correspondence to the Corinthian church, Paul tells his readers:

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each (person) should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work... You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. (2Co 9:6-11)

Actually, when seen in the light these instructions, "cirrhosis of the giver" is really not a motor problem at all, but a *heart issue*, having to do with those things we value most.

How will you respond to the challenge of Christian stewardship, not only during the month before us, but throughout the coming year? Jesus' comment to His disciples should speak clearly to our own lives in the days ahead: "*Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also*" (Mat.6:21).

Perhaps it is time we check in with the Great Physician. *Cirrhosis of the giver has been the demise of even the greatest of ministries.* Fortunately, it is not too late for First Baptist. But it is a worrisome place to be, and requires the genuine heart reflection of each one of us.

Yours for committed stewardship,
Pastor

**Newsletter
DEADLINE**

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

Letters from Dad

Words of Faith, Hope, and Love Unlocking the Hearts of Fathers

"Turning the hearts of the fathers to their children and the hearts of the children to their fathers..." Malachi 4:6

The Big Question?

Men—If God were to take you home today, what would your wife and children hold in their hands tomorrow that would let them know that they were the treasures of your life? The right answer..

Letters from Dad

After the beginning of the year, the men of our congregation will be invited on a journey... a journey to leave a legacy of Faith, Hope, and Love through the lost art of letter writing.

Our journey will take us through the lessons on learning to write five specific types of letters. We will learn what it means to give our blessing to our wives, children, and grandchildren. In addition we will:

- Learn to write and say the things we have always wanted to say, but just didn't know how.
- Leave treasured letters of love that will be read long after we are gone.
- Learn to speak and write these blessings to our families.
- Build deep and lasting relationships with other men in the "Legacy Group."
- Store, in letter form, the only 3 things that remain: Faith, Hope, and Love.
- Finally, we will deliver our letters to those we love.

This "Legacy Adventure" will be scheduled after the beginning of the year. I hope that you will look forward to blessing your family in this tangible way. Watch future *Couriers* for developing details. —Pastor

Third Quarter Business Meetings

Advisory Board

The Advisory Board will meet Sunday, November 11th, at 5:00 p.m. to hear the report of the Nominating Committee, reports of boards and committees, and consider the proposed 2008 Budget. All elected officers are members of the Advisory Board.

Third Quarter Business Meeting

The Third Quarter Business Meeting of the church will be held Wednesday, November 14th, at 6:45 p.m. Items of business include the election of officers who will begin their duties in January, 2008. The Trustees will also present the 2008 Proposed Budget for adoption.

Budget Status Report

The Month of September, 2007

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$56,742
Offerings	<u>59,660</u>
Over (Under) Budget	\$ 2,918
Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$60,796
Offerings	<u>59,660</u>
Over (Under) Actual	(\$ 1,136)

The Year Through September, 2007

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$551,110
Offerings	<u>454,550</u>
Over (Under) Budget	(\$96,560)
Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$522,911
Offerings	<u>454,550</u>
Over (Under) Actual	(\$ 68,361)

–The Board Of Trustees

November



November

There are a lot of things to be thankful for in November, Thanksgiving, family, friends and so forth. Many countries do not celebrate Thanksgiving, but we think it is such a wonderful opportunity to say thanks to God for everything that He provides us, even at times when we feel alone. So this year we would like to THANK...

Teen helpers who volunteer

Husbands who give up their time!

Awana teams with an abundance of patience

Nurturing people who care for toddlers and babies

Kinderchurch workers

Saints in prayer

Gentle care givers that love all the children the same

Indefatigable children

Volunteers who never tire of giving

Incognitos – those that do things that we never see!

Never ending encouragers

GOD-- for with Him all things are possible

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

An Addition to the Bell Family

On July 18, Karen and Jim Bell brought their new daughter, Kathryn Meilan, home to their family from China. A 24-hour trip landed Katie at the Indianapolis airport where Karen, Emily, and Jonathan were anxiously waiting with a small welcoming party of family and friends.

Katie was born on January 21, 2006 and spent her pre-adoption days in an orphanage in the southern China city of Lianjiang. For years Karen and Jim considered the possibility of adopting one of China's "lost girls," infants abandoned in the tragic intersection of the Chinese government's one-child-per-family law and the cultural preference and economic need for sons. Only in the past two years did life circumstances open the possibility to pursue this dream. Early in 2006 Jim and Karen began the long and arduous adoption process, and in February of 2007 they received the referral of Katie from their adoption agency, All God's Children International. On June 26, while Karen and Jonathan stayed back to hold down the fort at home, Jim and his brother, Pat, headed to China to receive Katie and do the required processing with both the Chinese and U.S. governments. Katie was placed in Jim's arms on July 3, and became acquainted with Mom and Jonathan through twice-a-day skype video calls. After a seemingly endless series of appointments and proceedings, the approvals were granted and the way was cleared for Katie to head to her new home in the United States!

In the three months since Katie has been home, she has adjusted well and made great progress in development. She learned to crawl, and just a week and a half later was up on her feet walking! She enjoys eating (especially LaRosa's meatballs!) and has caught up to appropriate benchmarks for weight and height. On October 1, she had surgery at Cincinnati Children's to correct a cleft lip, and is recovering well. She's beginning to pick up some English words like "duck" and "dad" and "dance," loves Elmo from "Sesame Street," and enjoys going for rides in her stroller.

To see pictures and stories of the Bell's journey for Katie, visit Katie's website and blog at <http://katie.wadeday.com/China.php>.

–Submitted by Jim Bell



Women's Ministry Movie And Dessert Night

A movie and dessert night will be held at Kathy Inloes's on Tuesday, November 6, at 7:00 p.m, at 275 Random Dr. This event for the women of the church is sponsored by the Women's Ministry. The movie will be "Love Comes Softly," based on the best selling book by Janette Oke. Sign up in the connector to attend.



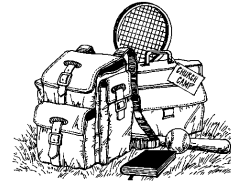
Women's Christian Book Club

The Women's Christian Book Club will be meeting the second Monday of each month beginning January 14, 2008. The WCBC will meet at the Fairfield Lane Library from 11:00 - 12:30 a.m. Ladies interested in reading and discussing quality Christian literature may sign up for the WCBC beginning Sunday, November 18th. The WCBC will be limited to fifteen participants so sign up early. (If we have a large number signed up, another book club may be formed.) More information will be provided during sign up. Any questions call Nancy Follmer - 863-3816 or Judy Farris - 777-0139.

★ Thank You! ★
★ THANK YOU! ★

From Dave & Dorothy Hollowell

Thank you for the prayers and cards we received after "deer" chose to hit our car. It was a blessing from God that were only hurt a little. Dave & I love our church family.



Care And Share For Camp Kirkwood

Camp Kirkwood has an urgent need for some Care and Share items. There is **always** a need for **paper towels and postage stamps**. Other urgent needs are: Zip-Loc/One-Zip (quart & gallon) bags, Ace Bandages, Tylenol/Advil (Adult, Jr., & Children's Chewable), Trial/Small Size Toothpaste, Soaps, Shampoos, Deodorants, Copier Paper (white & colors), Laundry detergent, Batteries (all sizes). If you can donate some of these items, there will be a box in the narthex marked Care and Share. Jeremy Spence will take the items to Camp Kirkwood when he goes to his Fall retreats November 2nd - 4th and 16th - 18th .



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, November 29th. We will leave the church at 8:30 a.m. returning at about 3:00 p.m. Come dressed to WORK - bring your own sack lunch and beverage. Remember - this is NOT just for the KeenAgers. Everyone is welcome to be a part of this ministry.

—Pastor Bill and Bert Brantingham





Awana Club

Awana November Calendar

7th - Awana Harvest Party/Costume Party AND
Bring a Friend Night

14th - Bring a Friend Again Night

21st - No Club (Thanksgiving Holiday)

28th - Regular Club Night

Awana Harvest/Costume Party

The Awana Harvest Party has been rescheduled to November 7th. Costumes are optional, but we are having a Costume Contest this year! This year's costume theme is "All God's Creatures, Big and Small." What are God's Creatures? Birds, bugs, animals, fish, (people!), etc... If you choose, you may dress differently (fictional character, etc), but you will only be entered in the Costume Contest if you are dressed as one of God's Creatures. No scary costumes, please!

Bring a Friend Night—Double Bucks

Even though we rescheduled the Harvest Party, we will keep Bring a Friend Night on November 7th. So your friends can come dressed up in costume, too. Just be sure to let them know we don't want scary stuff. They will have to take their costume off if it is inappropriate for church.

- If you bring a friend, you will get **double** visitor Awana Bucks. That means you and your friend will each get 10 Awana Bucks instead of the normal 5.
- **All other Awana bucks remain the same this night** (1 Awana Buck each for attendance, uniform, handbook, Bible, & sections).

Bring a Friend Again Night—Triple Bucks

- If your friend comes to our Awana club on **both November 7 and November 14**, you will get **triple** visitor Awana Bucks. That means you and your friend will each get 15 Awana Bucks instead of the normal 5.
- **All other Awana bucks remain the same this night** (1 Awana Buck each for attendance, uniform, handbook, Bible, & sections).

How can I find someone to bring?

I have quite a few Awana postcards and cards available if you would like to send/give written invitations. If you would like some Awana cards to use as invitations, ask Emily Metzger. You don't have to bring your visitor in your car to get credit for them. If they come with their

parents, grandparents, friend-of-the-family, etc., they count as long as you were the one who invited them!

Awana Adopt-a-Club

Our adopted Awana club is at **Nyangania Bible Church in Ghana**. If you bring in money for Adopt-a-Club, be sure to let your leaders know...we need to keep it separate from dues money. You can be an Adopt-a-Club sponsor by bringing in \$3.50 (or 50¢ a month for 7 months).

Surprise Inspections!

From time to time we have a surprise Uniform Inspection, where all clubbers who wear their uniform get rewarded with extra Awana Bucks. I also look for clubbers who are wearing tennis shoes (gym shoes, athletic shoes, etc., vs. slip on shoes, open toe/heel shoes, flip flops, etc.). Sometimes we will have a Uniform Inspection, other times it will be a Tennis Shoe Inspection. Watch out for the big combo ... Uniform & Tennis Shoe Inspection!

Sparks Treasure Chest

Each Sparks clubber gets one Awana Buck and one ticket for each handbook section they complete. On the table near the front of room 110 we have colored bags that match the Sparks' handbooks. Sparks clubbers put their tickets in the bag that matches the color of the handbook that clubber is working on. Each night we start fresh (no tickets from last week) and draw 2 names from each bag. These 6 clubbers get to pick something out of the Treasure Chest. So keep working on your handbook sections. The more you complete each night, the more chances you get to have your name drawn!

T&T Truth Trackers Prize Box & T&T Trading Cards (NEW!)

T&T clubbers have a "Truth Trackers" chart in their handbook rooms. For each Discovery or Challenge that they complete (each Discovery and Challenge contains 7 handbook sections), they get to put a sticker on the chart. They also get a coordinating prize from the box for each Discovery/Challenge that they complete. The prizes start small but get progressively bigger & better.

☺ This year, we will be adding T&T Trading Cards to the Prize Box. After the first 2 Discoveries/Challenges completed, clubbers may choose either the designated prize or a package of T&T Trading Cards. These cards feature the T&T characters, cool jokes, questions, trivia & a special Web code! Collect a set and use the codes to unlock interactive games and Web content. Find the limited-edition Gold Streamwood Card, finish your handbook and receive a Gold Prize Pack from Awana Headquarters!

Emily Metzger
Awana Commander



Carpenter's Hands Signs Of Love



Silent Dinners

The **Silent Dinner** for **November** will be held on Friday evening, November 2nd at Kenwood Mall. See you there!

Interpreter Schedule for November

November 4 Jo Manson	Maria Miller
November 11 Jo Manson	Maria Miller
November 18 Jo Manson	Maria Miller
November 26 Jo Manson	Maria Miller

Happy Birthday



November 3 - Jimmy Smith

—Maria Miller
Director of Deaf Ministries



Thanksgiving Dinner

KeenAger November and December Meetings

Our November meeting will be at the church at 10:00 a.m. Monday, November 19th, with a speaker from Cross Roads Hospice followed by a devotional. At 11:30 a.m. we will enjoy a delicious Thanksgiving meal catered by Lisa Dulli. The cost will be \$8. Please sign the list on the bulletin board.



Monday, December 3rd, we will travel to Sharon Woods to enjoy the Christmas lights. Watch the weekly bulletin for details.

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



KingsKids Presentation

??

The Mystery of the Manger - It's the Gospel Truth!

Sunday, December 2nd
6:00 PM
in the Family Center

There may be people coming to our church at Christmas time that don't believe that Christ came to earth as a baby, grew up, died for our sins and was resurrected. We're going to reveal how much evidence there really is about Jesus that show that Jesus was indeed all He claimed to be. Isn't it great that we get to be a part of unraveling that mystery to people who don't believe?



Ruth Metzger, Debbie Allen, Lauren Schwartz

Cherub Choir November 6:00 Schedule

November 4 - Cherub Devotion & Fellowship Time
November 11 - Cherub Choir Rehearsal
November 18 - Cherub Devotion & Fellowship Time
November 25 - Cherub Choir Rehearsal (last rehearsal until January)

Please note: Cherub Choir will sing on Sunday, December 9th in the morning service.



Free Noon Concert In Oxford



In Oxford the Midday Music series presents a program by organist Heather McPhail and flutist Sandra Seefeld at noon on Wednesday, November 7th at the Oxford Presbyterian Church, 101 N. Main Street. Included will be solo organ works and a touchingly moving and rarely performed composition for organ and flute. For information call Jack Daugherty - 523-6969.



Celebration Ringers' Recognition

There have been many dedicated ringers over the past 24 years, but several stand out for their dedication to the music ministry thru handbells. So it is with this in mind that we honor those who have accumulated the most years as handbell ringers. The first group are no longer able to be a part of this ministry.

Teresa Patrick began ringing at age 13 and continued until 2003 for a total of 21 years. She is a charter member of the Celebration Ringers.

Mary Walker began ringing in 1985 and continued until 2002 when she took a sabbatical and returned to ringing in 2004. She retired this year (2007). She rang for a total of 21 years.

Marie Sparks is a charter member of the Celebration Ringers. She was a member of the first choir and continued ringing until she became ill. She rang for 19 years and retired in 2001

Dorothy Withrow rang for 17 years. Even when she was no longer able to drive, her daughter Jene Krall would bring her to rehearsals. She rang until illness forced her retirement in 2003.

Eileen Campbell began ringing in 1985. When she was diagnosed with Parkinson Disease, she didn't stop ringing until she no longer could hold the bells. She rang for 16 years and retired in 2001.

At the present time the Celebration Ringers have active ringers who have served 10 years or more.

Sally Williamson began ringing in 1992 and is still active as a ringer in the choir for a total of 14 years.

Jene Krall has rung for 13 years. She now lives in Oxford and rings on a limited basis.

Robin Chamberlain is presently going to school, but has totaled 11 years of ringing.

Roger Chamberlain is still active as a ringer and has 11 years of ringing.

Bob Borden began ringing in 1995 and still is an active ringer. He has rung for 12 years.

Josh Metzger began ringing in 1997 and has rung for 10 years.

Congratulations to the above 11 ringers who total 165 years of service in our handbell ministry.

Thank you and keep the bells ringing!
Elaine Tragesser

Keep An Eye Open For Backpack Sales!

Next summer, our church will be participating in a Back to School carnival which helps needy students in the Ross School district. This is a fabulous and growing event, sponsored by several Ross churches, and benefits some of our across-the-street neighbors, Sharon Park (as well as other students in the Ross district). The churches collect backpacks to fill with donated school supplies to give to students who need assistance with school supplies. So, keep a lookout for backpacks which are on sale now. I bought several a few weeks ago, ranging in price from \$3 to \$7, and one even came with a lunchbox! If you would like to donate one to the cause, bring it in to church, and we can store them here until next year. If you see other common school supplies on sale and would like to get those as well, bring them on in, and we can get a head start on next year. Stay tuned for more information as we get closer to summer (it will be here before we know it!), and we will have more details, as well as how to participate in other ways. Thanks so much in advance for your acts of service!

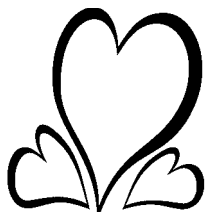
Brandi :)



Cookie Exchange

Dazzle your family and friends with a delicious assortment of cookies for the holidays! Bake your own favorite type of cookie and bring it for the exchange at Karen Buchanan's house, 1067 Southern Hills Boulevard, Thursday, December 6th, at 7:00 p.m. Sign up in the connector. You will be notified about how many cookies to bring depending on the number of participants. We are looking forward to your participation in this Women's Ministry event.

—Women's Ministry Council



From The Heart Of Marilyn

College Corner

E-Mail From God

Starting Over

"If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come."

—II Corinthians 5:17, NRSB

Dear Child,

Have you ever felt like you had blown it so badly that you couldn't start over? No way! No matter how badly you think you've messed up, there is always a starting-over place. That place is a personal relationship with Me through My Son.

When you establish a relationship with Jesus, He gives you a whole new beginning. His forgiveness helps you to look back at the old things almost like they happened to someone else. He gives you hope to look forward to new things with the faith and innocence of a little child. The best thing about this new relationship with My Son is that He gives you His Spirit to help you live with the same courage and compassion that He did. Are you ready?

The Lord of New Beginnings,
God

At the time of this Courier, all of our college students are back in school and making many adjustments. We have twenty-nine college students this fall. Each one of them have set goals for themselves and all working out a path on how to best achieve success, both in and out of the classroom. It is my prayer that you will keep this list and write a note of encouragement to one student each month. We need to let them know we appreciate who they are and that we will pray for them.

Birthday

Amber Allen (Miami University) 6/12
5297 Layhigh Road
Hamilton, Ohio 45013

Chad Allen (Wright State University) 11/2
1239 Springwood Lane Rm 406 B LAH
Fairborn, Ohio 45324

Joe Arnold (Ohio State University) 10/23
1996 Indianola
Columbus, Ohio 43210

Josh Braun (Ashland University) 3/29
621 Bruce Street
Ashland, Ohio 44805

Mark Braun (University of Toledo) 4/11
1848 Meadowlark Avenue
Toledo, Ohio 43614

Rachael Davis (Miami University) 10/17
2483 Sir Martin Drive
Hamilton, Ohio 45013

Thomas Ellison (Miami University) 10/8
610 S. Locust
Oxford, Ohio 45056

Daniel French (Miami University) 12/10
1646 Morman Road
Hamilton, Ohio 45013

Joey Fryer (Miami University Hamilton) 4/4
3019 Eaton Road
Hamilton, Ohio 45013

Martha Helton (Miami University) 9/16
918 Greenwood Court
Trenton, Ohio 45067

Rachel Keller (Miami University-Hamilton) 6/21
4176 Bedford Avenue
Hamilton, Ohio 45015

Mara Krall (Miami University) 11/17
5198 Westgate Drive
Oxford, Ohio 45056

Daniel McKee (Ohio State University) 9/24
100 East Woodruff Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43201

Jennifer McKee (Evansville University) 5/15
1700 East Walnut Street Rm. # 206
Evansville, Indiana 47714

Scott McRoberts (ITT Tech) 12/1
326 N 7th Street
Hamilton, Ohio 45011

Daniel Morris (Eastern Kentucky University) 5/27
1071 West Barker Lane
Berea, Kentucky 40403

Lauren Schwab (Miami University) 3/14
3280 Frazee Road
Somerville, Ohio 45064

Benji Stanger (Eastern Kentucky University) 11/18
 424 Garden City Drive Apt. # 38
 Richmond, Kentucky 40459

Bo Stanger (CA University of PA) 4/3
 670 Park Street
 California, Pennsylvania 15419

Alex Thiel (Ohio State University) 6/15
 Park Hall Room 707
 110 W. 11th Avenue
 Columbus, Ohio 43210

Andrew Thiel (Ohio State University) 1/17
 33 E. 17th Avenue Apt. E
 Columbus, Ohio 43210

Libby Thomas (UC-Raymond Walters) 4/18
 7130 Plainfield Road # 11
 Cincinnati, Ohio 45236

Susan Thomas (University of Kentucky) 1/10
 510 Woodland Ave. # 202
 Lexington, Kentucky 40508

Jay Wallace (Eastern Kentucky University) 7/28
 Box 83 Martin Hall
 Richmond, Kentucky 40475

Jennifer Wallace (Ohio State University) 12/11
 378 Naiche Court
 Columbus, Ohio 43213

Ashley Wilson (Miami University) 5/17
 1401 Eaton Avenue
 Hamilton, Ohio 45013

Nick Wilson (Miami University) 3/25
 1401 Eaton Avenue
 Hamilton, Ohio 45013

Trisha Zeek (Eastern Kentucky University) 10/20
 412 Sarah Leigh Drive Apt. 2
 Richmond, Kentucky 40475

Justin Zeek (Sinclair University) 8/7
 112 W. Dayton-Yellowsprings Road Apt. 22
 Fairborn, Ohio 45324

Ten Reasons To Be Thankful

Each holiday season, it's important to take a gratitude inventory. A number of things in life can make us uncomfortable or even a little miffed. Sometimes they are gifts in disguise. Here are 10 reasons to be thankful.

1. Be thankful for growing older. Not everyone gets this opportunity. Aging with health and grace is a rare and beautiful gift.
2. Be thankful that you can read these words. It is a very sad thing that many people do not have the ability to read.
3. If you have to wait in line at the supermarket, be thankful that you can afford what you want to eat and have a convenient place to buy it. We are all aware of the many people waiting in line to have a meal at the local homeless shelter.
4. Be thankful for the ability to pay our bills, even if it means that you have to give some things that you want. Remember that having basic needs met is a luxury for many.
5. If you have to get up before dawn to get to work, be thankful that you get to see another sunrise and have a job to go to. Think about what it would be like if you slept everyday until noon and spent the rest of your waking hours wondering what to do with your life.
6. When you're stuck in traffic, be thankful you have a car to get where you need to go and money to buy gas. Standing in the rain while waiting for a bus is, at the very least, uncomfortable.
7. When the children are screaming at each other, be thankful that you have children to love and who love you, and remember that at least some of the time, they do get along. There will always be bumps in the road, but they are usually followed by easier times.
8. When your mate is acting grumpy or giving you a hard time, be thankful for having love in your life and some to grow old with. A life partner is something that less than half the population has. Having your partner is a blessing that needs to be counted several times.
9. When your parents are telling you how to run your life, be thankful that you still have them around. If they are no longer with you, take a moment to be thankful for the time you had with them.
10. When you sit down with your loved ones for your holiday dinner, be thankful for everyone and everything that makes it possible. Look your family and friends in the eye and express to them your gratitude for sharing this wonderful time together.

–Marilyn Bowling
 College Coordinator

The holiday season is very special. Embrace those around you and your ability to give thanks to those you love.



A Musical Christmas Card Sponsored By Family Life Committee

As the Christmas season draws nearer our thoughts turn to the sounds of Christmas music. Once again we are pleased to be presenting a wonderful gift from the vocalists and musicians of our congregation. Plan to be with us on Sunday evening, December 9th, at 6:00 p.m. as we open the 2007 edition of "A Musical Christmas Card." Come share with us the joy of Christmas as presented by our church family. A light buffet supper will be served at 5:00 p.m.



It's hard to believe that another month has come and gone! We are right in the middle of a season of change. The grass is not as green anymore. The leaves have all taken on a color of their own. The flowers that once bloomed in our shadow boxes have had to be brought inside (if you're lucky enough to still have some) and replaced with heartier flowers, such as mums. Maybe as a mother you too are in a "season" of change. Change from the infant stage to the toddler. Or perhaps change from the toddler to the preschooler. Maybe you are a brand new mother and have begun a new season of your life. Whatever "season" you may be in there are many of us who are also in the same "season," who have been through that "season", or maybe we are going through that "season" again. The MOPS group of First Baptist Church welcomes all mothers, no matter what "season" you may be in. It's important to remember no matter what "season" of life you are in that God is always there with you. Pruning, shaping and growing you to become a fruitful vine for Jesus!

What an awesome October meeting! Our guest speaker, Carol Bower a licensed Christian counselor, addressed our concerns with sibling rivalry and how to

discipline and handle those situations when they arise. We had 30 moms in attendance and welcomed 1 new mom to our group. It is so humbling to see God working in our group and reaching out to mothers in our community.

Tuesday, November 20th, we will visit *The Kitchen*. Be sure to check us out, you never know what may be cooking this month!

At Home with-
Elise Martin, Coordinator

Urgent Need!!



Helpers are needed for MOPS on the third Tuesday of the month from 9:20 - 11:30 a.m. We need workers in the nursery and with toddlers two and under. Even if you could help occasionally, you would be most welcomed. Please call Karen Buchanan - 863-1472.



Christmas Poinsettia Time

Although it is not yet time to shovel snow the season has arrived for ordering Christmas flowers. Poinsettias to decorate the sanctuary are once again available for just \$8 per poinsettia. You can reserve the flowers in memory or honor of a loved one by obtaining an order envelope in the connector or office and return it to Marilyn Bowling or Lois Anderson no later than Sunday, November 18th. Orders placed after that date may not be filled. Checks should be written to First Baptist Church.

-The Flower Committee



We Are Looking For You In Sunday School!

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

Psalm 122:1

Congratulations to those who had perfect Sunday School attendance for July, August, and September 2007.

Toddlers

Marsha Helton

Kindergarten

Genie Sexton

Primary

Nellie Roberts

Middler/Junior

Anna Wallace

7th & 8th

Alex Wallace

Senior High

Amy Wallace

Homebuilders

Jerry Wallace

Judy Wallace

Office

Linda Gibbs

Keystone

Bettie Carmack

Kathy Chambers

Ray Chambers

Charlie Glynn

Dorothy Glynn

Isabell Johnson

Mary Petry

Walter Petry

J.K. Walker

Mary Walker

FOCUS

Margie Braun

Paul Braun

Ruth Gaskins

Jean Grimes

Everett Hoskins

Don Perry

Bill Roberts

Carpenter's Hands

Robert Williams

Edgewood High School Fall Play

"Arsenic And Old Lace"

Presented by Edgewood Thespian Troupe #591

Edgewood High School Auditorium, Trenton

Friday, November 16 and Saturday, November 17

7:00 p.m.

Drew Helton - Mortimer Brewster

In this comedy, Mortimer Brewster, a drama critic, learns on his wedding day that his beloved maiden aunts are poisoning lonely old men, one brother believes he is Teddy Roosevelt and digs locks for the Panama Canal in the cellar of the Brewster home, and another brother has received plastic surgery performed by Dr. Einstein. Mortimer debates whether to go through with a honeymoon with the woman he loves and has recently agreed to marry.

For more information and ticket prices, contact Drew Helton. Tickets will be available at the door.

—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.

Gipson, Michael & Billie
4147 Hamilton-Cleves Road
Hamilton, Ohio 45014
Phone # 738-3431

Law, Dick & Mary
1388 Cotswold Lane
Hamilton, Ohio 45013

Miller, Hank & Pat
1590 E. Firestone Drive
Chandler, Arizona 85249
Phone # (480) 802-0456

Williams, Robert
Email: Williams.Robert31@aol.com
Williams.Robert31@sprint.blackberry.net



Fall Back Fellowship

The FOCUS Class will again sponsor the Fall Back Fellowship Sunday, November 4th, from 8:45-9:15 a.m. They will service a

light breakfast of muffins, donuts, specialty breads, juice, milk, and coffee. All senior high through adults are invited. Children are welcome when accompanied with an adult.

—Carol Howard
FOCUS Class



Child Care Schedule

Nursery (Morning)

November 4 - Judy, Amy, & Anna Wallace
November 11 - Juli & Katie Ford
November 18 - Sandra & Bill Imhoff
November 25 - Claire & Chris Metzger

One & Two Year Olds

November 4 - Linda & Oliver Davis
November 11 - Johnnie Wallace & Samuel Wallace
November 18 - Emily Metzger & Erin Gingrich
November 25 - Ruthie & John Wallace

Kinderchurch

November 4 - Mike & Susie Garver
November 11 - Anne & Rob Ruwe
November 18 - Rick & Vicky Baker
November 25 - Jerri & Brad Begley



Attention All Morning Worship Child Care Workers

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

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

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



Wednesday Family Dinners

November 7

Menu: Pulled Pork Barbecue Sandwiches, French Fried Potatoes, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, Dessert
Hosts: Deacons

November 14

Menu: Turkey Cutlet, Sweet Potato Souffle, Mixed Vegetables, Jello Salad, Rolls, Dessert
Hosts: Deaconesses

November 21

There will be no meal because of Annual Thanksgiving Service

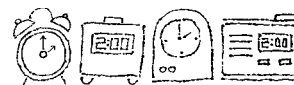
November 28

Menu: Chili Soup and Potato Soup, Grilled Ham and Cheese Sandwiches, Potato Chips, Dessert
Hosts: Keystone II

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.

November Greeters

Don Gingrich, Evelyn Maddox, Nancy Follmer,
Mary Petry, & Jerry Hampton



November 4



Pastor Jeremy's Think Tank

Buffet Tables

I love working in small groups. I am a larger group person but I also find great enjoyment in being with or leading a small group of people through God's Word and sharing life together. This is probably one of the reasons the CREW is structured the way it is, small groups abound.

The other week in our 7th and 8th grade group, we meet on Sunday nights here at church, we talked about going to a restaurant, similar to Golden Corral, and sitting at the table waiting for food to come to our table. We had a great discussion about how that would look or what someone would think if we actually complained about not eating and going away hungry because the food wasn't on our plates on our tables.

I mean seriously, who goes to a buffet and then waits for the food to come to them? Not many from the observations I have had. We would laugh at the idea of someone complaining about there not being food when the buffet is fully loaded.

Yet, I believe we as Christians sometimes do this more often than we realize. Of course I am not talking about our lack of eating at a restaurant but instead our lack of "eating" before the buffet of the Lord. Psalm 34:8 says "Taste and see that the Lord is good." How many of us have tasted of God this past couple hours, days, weeks, months or even year?

You see I believe God has laid out a buffet table to speak for us on a daily basis but instead of getting up and partaking of it we sit back and wonder why we aren't fed. I see this a lot in our mentality of "I didn't get anything out of the _____." Fill in the blank with any of the following words: Bible, prayer, church, small group, sermon, worship, etc. Could it be that just like we must get up at a restaurant to enjoy the buffet we may need to be active about enjoying God's buffet? Is part of our issue that we expect everything to be done for us? I am not sure exactly where the problem lies but I know this much: just like we would not entertain too seriously someone who goes hungry at a buffet restaurant for lack of "eating, maybe we should seriously consider whether we treat God's buffet the same way. Join me in "tasting and seeing that the Lord is good."

Eating at God's buffet this thanksgiving,
Jeremy

Upcoming Events:

Sundays in November: Don't forget every Sunday at 5:15pm Youth Choir for anyone interested. Please see Laurin Sprague for more information.

Small Groups: Each Sunday night around 6:00 pm our small groups are meeting discussing life and the Bible. If you are not part of a group please consider joining one of the three groups. For 7th and 8th grade small group see Linda Davis or Jeremy Spence, for 9th and 10th grade small group see Mike and Dale Braun, for 11th-12th grade small group please see John and Ruthie Wallace. You will not be disappointed by joining a small groups. Small groups will take a break starting the Sunday after Thanksgiving until February sometime. Check with your leaders for exact schedules.

November 2nd-4th: Junior High Fall Retreat out at Camp Kirkwood. Please meet at the church at 5:30 so we can leave no later than 5:45pm. Total cost of the weekend is \$50 per person and will include a t shirt. If you have not signed up yet please see Jeremy NOW to get in on the fun. We will be looking at how God can use anyone with a pulse, and that includes you. See Jeremy for more information and details.

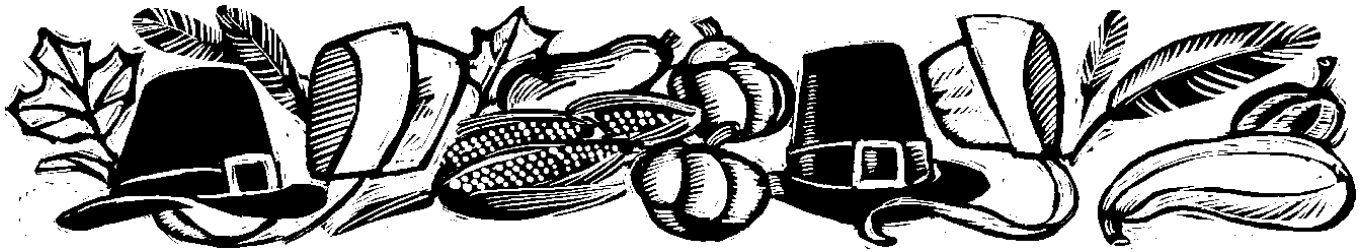
November 7th Lifeline: We will be filling shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. Please bring small items to fill as many shoe boxes as possible to bring Christ to children around the world this Christmas season. A list will be posted on the CREW room doors as to what you can bring or go to www.samaritanspurse.org/occ for more information and details on the project.

November 16th-18th: Senior High Retreat at Camp Kirkwood. We will be looking at surrendering everything for Christ. Adam Metzger has put together a great experience for us and I am sure you will not want to miss this weekend. Cost is \$50 per person and you need to let Jeremy know NOW if you are attending. We will be leaving at 5:45pm on Friday and returning before morning service is out on Sunday. See Jeremy for more details.

November 21st: There will be no Lifeline this evening due to the joint Thanksgiving service that will be taking place during that time. More details on the service can be found elsewhere in the Courier.

November 22nd: The Annual Turkey Bowl will be held Thanksgiving morning at Seven Mile School. Play begins around 9:00am. Bring your own flags if possible. This is open to any guys in the church who want to show their football skills to others.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>November 2007</h1>						
				1 9:30 Ladies Bible Study 5:30 Music & Worship Committee 6:30 Ladies Bible Study	2 CREW Jr. High Fall Retreat at Camp Kirkwood	3 8:00 Men's Prayer Gathering CREW Jr. High Fall Retreat at Camp Kirkwood
4 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 3:00 Open Door Pantry Concert 4:45 Women's Council 5:00 Celebration Ringers 5:15 Youth Choir 5:30 KingsKids 6:00 Cherub Devotion 6:00 Evening Celebration	5	6 9:30 MOPS Steering Committee 7:00 Women's Ministry Movie & Dessert Night	7 5:30 ABW 6:00 Family Dinner 6:30 Awana Harvest Party/Bring A Friend 6:30 Lifeline 6:45 Bible Study & Prayer 6:45 Carpenter's Hands 8:00 Chancel Choir	8 9:30 Ladies Bible Study 5:30 Board of Trustees 6:30 Ladies Bible Study	9	10
11 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 5:00 Advisory Board 5:00 Celebration Ringers 5:15 Youth Choir 5:30 KingsKids 6:00 Cherub Choir 6:00 Evening Celebration	12	13 10:00 Holloway Circle 7:00 Abell Circle 7:00 Smith Circle	14 6:00 Family Dinner 6:30 Awana Bring A Friend Again Night 6:30 Lifeline 6:45 3 rd Qtr. Business Meeting 6:45 Carpenter's Hands 8:00 Chancel Choir	15 9:30 Ladies Bible Study 6:30 Ladies Bible Study	16 CREW Sr. High Fall Retreat at Camp Kirkwood	17 CREW Sr. High Fall Retreat at Camp Kirkwood
18 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 12:00 AB Girls 4:30 Deaconate 5:00 Celebration Ringers 5:15 Youth Choir 5:30 KingsKids 6:00 Cherub Devotion 6:00 Evening Celebration	19 10:00 KeenAger Meeting w/Cross Roads Hospice 11:30 KeenAger Thanksgiving Dinner	20 9:20 MOPS	21 7:00 Thanksgiving Eve Service at Immanuel Baptist w/St. Clair Baptist	22 Thanksgiving Day! Church Offices Closed 9:00 CREW Turkey Bowl	23	24
25 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 4:00 CE Board 5:00 Celebration Ringers 5:15 Youth Choir 5:30 KingsKids 6:00 Cherub Choir 6:00 Evening Celebration	26	27	28 6:00 Family Dinner 6:30 Awana 6:30 Lifeline 6:30 Celebration Ringers 6:45 Bible Study & Prayer 6:45 Carpenter's Hands 8:00 Chancel Choir	29 8:30 Matthew 25	30	



HAPPY BIRTHDAY! NOVEMBER

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| 1 - Michael Garver
Leonard Jerome Jenkins | 14 - Nella Hurst
Blake Martin
Kim Mullins | 25 - Barb Arnold
Darin Chamberlain
Elsie Skipper |
| 2 - Chad Allen
Dennis Dudley
Ron Gerth
Bill Imhoff
Arlene Thomas | 15 - Samantha Mason
Kimberly Weisenberger | 26 - Andy Cain
Sara Cain
Katie Fryer
Mason Sackenheim
Kaleb Sackenheim |
| 3 - Rachel Riley
Jimmy Smith, Jr. | 16 - Alayna Garver
Samantha Hetterich | 27 - Zachary Mullins |
| 7 - Bert Brantingham
Joey Braun
David Diedrichs
Martha Perry | 17 - Earnie Huff
Mara Krall
Wayne Miller | 28 - Christian Acus
Charles Day
Dick Winkler |
| 8 - Allan Blevens
Eugenia Sexton | 18 - Marsha Helton
Jacki Pryor
Benji Stanger | 29 - Carol Howard |
| 9 - Glenn Roddy
Flo Smith
John Wallace | 19 - Lindel Sapp
Ryan Schwab | 30 - Janet Day
Kelli Fryer
Kevin Fryer
Jennifer Owen |
| 10 - Brenda Brown
Thomas Owen | 21 - Debbie Allen
Lois Anderson
Nancy McAllister | <u>Note:</u> 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. |
| 11 - Beth Riczko | 22 - Norbert Baker
Eileen Campbell
Roger Chamberlain
RuthAnn Wallace | |
| 12 - Faye Baker
Adison Ebbing
Matt Schumm | 23 - Teri Horsley | |
| 13 - Kathy Chambers
JoAnne Diesbach
Brennan Graham | 24 - Don Gingrich
Norma Setser
Beverly Proctor | |

Personal Notes



From Bettie Carmack

I want to thank my church family for all the beautiful cards, prayers, and well wishes received during my foot surgery.

From Helen Mullen

I want to thank you for all your prayers when I was in the hospital and when I was home recuperating. I want to thank Pastor Bill for visiting me in the hospital. Knowing you were keeping me in your prayers meant so much to me and helped me more than you will ever know. I appreciate all the cards from each of you and I was blessed with each one. I want to thank Earl Gabbard for sending me the cassette of the Pastor's messages on Revelation that I missed, and for Mary and J.K. Walker for bringing me fresh green beans and tomatoes. I thank the Lord for His many blessings and for each of you.

From Mal Landis

Many thanks for the many cards, phone calls, and prayers received during my tests and heart problems. They were greatly appreciated.

From Mary Law

I cannot begin to express how much I appreciate and love my church family . . . the many cards, phone calls, and prayers that you gave to me and words of encouragement made my recent surgery much easier. The calls and prayers with Pastor Den and visit from Pastor Bill gave me the reassurance that I needed. God truly has blessed me and with your compassion and the doctors and nursing staff, my problem and pain is much better. Thank you so much.

From Luella & Norbert Lerch

We want to thank everyone for their prayers for our nephew, Gregory Reece, who has been diagnosed with ALS. He has been to Northwestern University Hospital at Chicago and spent over three weeks at the Cleveland Clinic, mostly in ICU. He had pneumonia when they took him up there. They put in a feeding tube and did a tracheotomy. He is now at Drake Rehabilitation Hospital. We are still praying for a miracle. Thanks again for all of your prayers.

From Irene Schilling

I would like to thank everyone for their visits, card, and most of all prayers. What a blessing to be able to have all of you to turn to for prayer and to Pastor Den and Bill for visiting every day. May God bless all of you for being there for me. In Christ's love.

**The Open Door Pantry
Annual Benefit Concert
of Spiritual Music
Sunday
November 4th, 2007
3:00 p.m.**

**First St. John United Church of Christ
412 South Front Street**

**Everyone is welcome!
Freewill offering**

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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