

The Courier

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



"Where everybody is somebody and Jesus Christ Is Lord"

November, 2008

Pray . . . With Thanksgiving

I've heard a lot of droopy prayers in my life. Hey, I've prayed a lot of them, too.

–Prayers of desperation–God, You've just got to help me!

–Prayers of self-pity–God, things are so awful!

–Prayers of resignation–God, if You want to leave me unemployed, the I can't stop You!

But I'm learning how to pray a different kind of prayer–prayer said with thanksgiving. I learned it from St. Paul who, writing from prison, taught me a most powerful lesson. He said, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition, *with thanksgiving*, present your requests to God." (Philippians 4:6)

Strange. Here he is suffering himself, yet he's telling me to pray with thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving is the seasoning that makes our prayers edible to God. After all, who wants to hear people whine all the time? I've learned that you can't whine and give thanks in the same breath. Self-pity and thankfulness don't mix any better than oil and water.

In fact, mixing thanks with prayer somehow changes it. When we remember what God has done for us in the past and think about who he is in the present–and express that in thankfulness–our prayers become more gentle, more trusting somehow. Thankful prayers are offered with faith. And faith is an essential ingredient for prayers that God chooses to answer.

We remember the Pilgrims on Thanksgiving Day, not so much for their turkey dinner, but for the sheer faith that inspired them to give thanks in a year that saw nearly half their number die of sickness. Yet they prayed with thanksgiving.

When your annual day of feasting is over, you may bemoan your extra helpings of dressing, masked potatoes, and pumpkin pie. But if you can hang on to

the "thanks" part of Thanksgiving, you'll be a different person. Because when you learn to talk to God about your needs–mixed with a healthy dose of heartfelt thanks–then you have crossed the divide from whining at God to real prayer.

Happy *thanks*–giving!!

–Adapted

Thanksgiving SERVICE



First Baptist Church and Immanuel Baptist Church have been invited to gather in a Thanksgiving Eve Service, Wednesday, November 21st, at 7:00 p.m at St. Clair 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 12th**. 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, solar 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 Nancy Follmer!

–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 . 11 Corinthians

"But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumph, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere."

II Corinthians 2:14 (RSV)

The second letter to the Corinthians begins with Paul's message of thanksgiving and love because he had heard from Corinth that the Christians there had listened to his messages and were trying to live as believers of Jesus should live. He said that those who follow Jesus can be "as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything." (II Corinthians 6:10 RSV)

PRAY for missionaries under the Board of National Ministries, ABC/USA as they preach the Gospel, establish new churches, and minister to persons of special need.

–Madge Walters

Veteran's Day **November 11th, 2008**

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“A Heart For Thanks-giving”

The official proclamation came over the signature of the governor and circulated among the citizens of the new community. It was greeted with a sense of “rightness” and urgency: “*All ye Pilgrims gather at ye meeting house from 9 am to 12 noon, Thursday, November 29 (1623), to thank God for all His blessings.*” Governor Bradford had every expectation that the morning would be filled with the genuine expression of praise and worship to the God of universe for their bountiful harvest in the midst of their adventure in the new world.

Traditionally, we have considered the Pilgrim observance to be the first such celebrations in America. But there may have been others. Bernard DeRemer, in *The Free Methodist*, reminds us that the year before the famous landing at Plymouth Rock, settlers at Berkeley Hundred, Virginia, on the James River, decreed that “*The day of our ship’s arrival (December 4, 1619) at the place assigned for plantacon (sic.) in the land of Virginia, shall yearly and perpetually kept holy as a day of thanksgiving to almighty God.*”

Even before that, however, colonists on the ships *The Gift of God* and the *Mary and John*, under the command of George Popham, gave thanks “*for our happy metinge and saffe aryval into the country*” on August 9, 1607, at what is now Phippsburg, Maine.

The Continental Congress proclaimed the first national celebration of Thanksgiving for Thursday, December 18, 1777, marking their victory over British troops at the Battle of Saratoga. President George Washington issued the first Presidential Thanksgiving Proclamation, designating Thursday, November 26, 1789, for acknowledgment “*with grateful hearts the many signal favors of almighty God...*” Thomas Jefferson, however, refused to follow suit, denouncing it as a “monarchical practice.” So, for many years, Thanksgiving was not observed on a national basis, though many states followed the practice.

It was not until Sarah J. Hale, of Boston, editor of *Ladies’ Magazine* and later, *Godey’s Lady’s Book*, considered the most influential women’s magazine of the 19th century, that Thanksgiving was elevated to national status. For thirty-six years she labored for a national Thanksgiving observance, petitioning presidents and governors, writing editorials, and promoting her idea among everyone she knew. Her editorial in September, 1863, made a lasting impression upon President Lincoln. In

the midst of the devastating days of the Civil War, Lincoln proclaimed Thursday, November 26, 1863, as a day of Thanksgiving, saying in part, “*...It is meet and right to recognize and confess the presence of the Almighty Father and the power of His hand equally in these triumphs and in these sorrows.*”

Most Americans think that the observance of Thanksgiving is something that we invented. But the real origin of *giving thanks* goes back long into the history of humanity. There is evidence that ancient cultures made it a practice to give thanks for an abundant harvest. And of course, in the Old Testament, the people of God learned the value of responding to God’s gracious provision by genuine expressions of the heart in thanks-giving.

For too many of us, Thanksgiving has become just another day to take time off work, to watch yet another game of football, and to enjoy dinner with family, who have gathered once again from places afar.

*Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.
His love endures forever.
Psalm 136:1*

In the midst of this history, and in the distractions offered by our modern culture, allow me to offer some well-worn advice: On this treasured day, take undisturbed time **to express your thanks**—to God for His abundant blessings; to one another for valued relationships; and to your family for the love of parents, spouses, children, and extended family. In the words of Psalm 103 and the song writer, may our hearts genuinely overflow with praise: “*Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me bless His holy name.*”

With a heart full of thanks-giving for you,
Pastor



Thank You

Thank you, church family, for your cards and words of appreciation to us during this month of Pastor Appreciation. Your encouragement means more than we can tell you. Special thanks to Jerry Wallace for representing the Board Chairs, in his comments in our worship service on October 26, and to Linda Wallace, Lisa Dulli, and Kim Gingrich for the staff luncheon following the service. The affirmation is greatly appreciated. Blessings, Pastor

Corrections and Additions To The Directory

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

Baker, Rick
cell phone # 513-617-2008
or 513-617-2014

Campbell, Nicole
634 Sycamore Street # 6Q
Cincinnati, OH 45202
cell phone # 513-519-3028

Hudson, Mary Ella
c/o Marcella Rommel
512 Vine Street
Hamilton, OH 45011

Schumm, Mark & Shannon
815 Adagio
Henderson, NV 89052



Budget Status Report

The Month of September, 2008

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$56,287
Offerings	<u>44,387</u>
Over (Under) Budget	(\$11,900)

Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$59,561
Offerings	<u>44,387</u>
Over (Under) Actual	(\$15,174)

The Year Through September, 2008

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$548,963
Offerings	<u>463,786</u>
Over (Under) Budget	(\$85,177)

Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$539,998
Offerings	<u>463,786</u>
Over (Under) Actual	(\$76,212)

—The Board Of Trustees

Third Quarter Business Meetings

Advisory Board

The Advisory Board will meet Sunday, November 9th, 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 12th, at 6:45 p.m. Items of business include the election of officers who will begin their duties in January, 2009. The Trustees will also present the 2009 Proposed Budget for adoption.

Young Women Of Hope

The AB Girls met on Sunday, October 19. We enjoyed a pizza lunch and spent time discussing future activities. We made cards in appreciation of our church staff.

Our next meeting will be at church on Sunday, November 9, at noon. We will be assembling a shoebox for Operation Christmas Child and will collect Love Gift offering.

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



Awana November Calendar

- 5th - Regular Club Night/Canned Food Drive
- 12th - Handbook time/Recreation/**Staff Meeting**/
Canned Food Drive
- 19th - Bring A Friend Night/Double Bucks!/Canned
Food Drive
- 26th - No Club (Thanksgiving Holiday)

Awana News

We are incredibly blessed and fortunate enough to be in a church where people are passionate about the AWANA program. In each area, Cubbies, Sparks and T&T we have dedicated people who come each Wednesday evening to work with our church's youngest members. They even do things outside of Wednesday evening to help AWANA run smoothly.

At the end of October we had our Annual Family Fall Festival, as we are writing this in advance we cannot give details about numbers. But we would like to say thank you for people bringing candy and those that set up and ran stalls.

We are still collected canned food for I CAN'T REMEMBER WHAT FOR!!! We will continue this until Thanksgiving. Our aim is to be able to have enough food to make a circle around the bottom level of the Church building, if we have more we would love to extend this circle around the upstairs also. As the children collect canned and dried goods we are being reminded of how we are commanded to look after widows and orphans. (James 1:27). Collecting canned goods is a very practical way for us all to understand how we can look after others.

Childcare

We know November is a time to be thankful, so thank you all those people who have continued to answer our pleas and sign up to help with childcare. If you doubt that it is something for you, then look at the faces of our children as they their lessons and learn about God's love and you'll see it is an awesome place to be! Even our little ones in the Toddler room experience God's love when adults play with them and share snacks.

Brandi Emenaker, Claire Metzger,
& Sandra Imhoff
Awana Leaders



85th Birthday Reception For Bert Brantingham

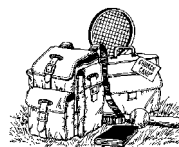
Sh-h-h! You are invited to attend a **Surprise 85th Birthday** reception for Bert Brantingham on Sunday, November 9th, from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. in the Family Center. **Please-It Is A Surprise!**

-Pastor Bill



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 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. Remember - this is NOT just for the KeenAgers. Everyone is welcome to be a part of this ministry.

-Pastor Bill and Bert Brantingham



1st Annual Benefit Auction Camp Kirkwood November 8th Noon - 7:00 p.m.

All are invited!
Live Action & Open House
For a list of items
visit us on the web at
www.campkirkwood.net

If you have items to donate,
please contact Tim Swicewood
(937) 382-3535
(614) 778-1047



Carpenter's Hands Signs Of Love



Silent Dinners

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

Interpreter Schedule for November

November 2	Jo Manson	Maria Miller
November 9	Jo Manson	Maria Miller
November 16	Jo Manson	Maria Miller
November 23	Jo Manson	Maria Miller
November 30	Jo Manson	Maria Miller

Happy Birthday



November 3 - Jimmy Smith

—Maria Miller
Director of Deaf Ministries



KingsKids Presentation

Plan ahead to attend the King's Kids Christmas 2008 musical on Sunday, December 7th, at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary, *Christmas in Reverse*. In reversing the story, both the children and all who attend, will be presented with the understanding of how man's sin created a need for the Savior, the prophetic voices of Isaiah and others, the long wait for Jesus' birth, God's choice of Mary to be Jesus' mother, and the choice of announcing Jesus' birth to "stinky, smelly" shepherds. You won't want to miss the special appearances of Mr. and Mrs. Jeremy Spence and Pastor Bill! Come celebrate Christmas with us!

—Ruth Metzger, Debbie Allen, Lauren Schwartz



Living Proof

You are invited to a special performance of "*Living Proof*". "*Living Proof*" will be performing at First Baptist for the evening service on Sunday, November 23th. Composed of college-age students this small group of tours churches and schools around the country. In churches they perform energizing Christian songs. In schools, under the name "Primary Focus", they perform assemblies centered around character. This year we are fortunate that they will be performing at all of Hamilton's Elementary Schools. Please come and bring your family and friends to this special evening. We're sure you will be blessed.

We are also in need of host families willing to share their home with one or two (or more) of this group's members that night. Please contact Laurin Sprague, 896-7911, if interested.



KeenAger November & December Meetings

Our November meeting will be at the church at 10:00 a.m. Monday, November 17th. Lil Wilson will tell about their recent trip to China. 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 8th, we will travel to



Middletown to enjoy the Christmas lights leaving the church at 5:00 p.m. Watch the weekly bulletin for details.

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



From The Heart Of Marilyn

College Corner

E-Mail From God

At the time of this Courier, all of our college students are back in school and making many adjustments. We have twenty-two 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.

Amber Allen (Miami University) 5297 Layhigh Road Hamilton, Ohio 45013	6/12	Jennifer McKee (Evansville University) 1700 East Walnut Street Rm. # 206 Evansville, Indiana 47714	5/15
Chad Allen (Wright State University) 1239 Springwood Lane Rm 406 B LAH Fairborn, Ohio 45324	11/2	Jared Morris 5364 Wayne Milford Road Hamilton, Ohio 45013	3/24
Mark Braun (University of Toledo) 1848 Meadowlark Avenue Toledo, Ohio 43614	4/11	Scott McRoberts (ITT Tech) 326 N 7th Street Hamilton, Ohio 45011	12/1
Rachael Davis (Miami University) 2483 Sir Martin Drive Hamilton, Ohio 45013	10/17	Lauren Schwab (Miami University) 3280 Frazee Road Somerville, Ohio 45064	3/14
Joey Fryer (Miami University Hamilton) 3019 Eaton Road Hamilton, Ohio 45013	4/4	Mandy Scott 2002 Tappan Hall 650 S. Patterson Avenue Oxford, Ohio 45056	12/14
Drew Helton (Wright State University) 1570 # 1 Reece Drive Fairborn, Ohio 45234	5/17	Benji Stanger (Eastern Kentucky University) 424 Garden City Drive Apt. # 38 Richmond, Kentucky 40459	11/18
Martha Helton (Miami University) 918 Greenwood Court Trenton, Ohio 45067	9/16	Alex Thiel (Ohio State University) Park Hall Room 707 110 W. 11th Avenue Columbus, Ohio 43210	6/15
Rachel Keller (Miami University-Hamilton) 4176 Bedford Avenue Hamilton, Ohio 45015	6/21	Susan Thomas (University of Kentucky) 256 Kalmia Street Apt. # 5 Lexington, Kentucky 40508	1/10
Mara Krall (Miami University) 5198 Westgate Drive Oxford, Ohio 45056	11/17	Jay Wallace (Miami University-Hamilton) 819 Eaton Avenue Hamilton, Ohio 45013	7/28
Daniel McKee (Ohio State University) 100 East Woodruff Avenue Columbus, Ohio 43201	9/24	Jennifer Wallace (Ohio State University) 378 Naiche Court Columbus, Ohio 43213	12/11
		Ashley Wilson (Miami University) 1401 Eaton Avenue Hamilton, Ohio 45013	5/17
		Nick Wilson (Miami University) 1401 Eaton Avenue Hamilton, Ohio 45013	3/25

–Marilyn Bowling
College Coordinator



The "adventure" in MOPS continues as we held our second meeting on Tuesday, October 21st. We had a total of 29 moms in attendance with 4 brand new moms to our group! Our numbers will continue to grow, as several of our regular attendees were still not able to attend this month meeting. We would like to thank all of the ladies and gents who volunteer there time each month for this ministry. Also a big thank you for all of the new volunteers who have allowed us to continue this year. We are very grateful for your compassion, love and servant heart. Please bear with us as we strive to work out the "kinks" that will allow all of us to have an enjoyable meeting. Steering will be addressing these issues.

Our October meeting focused on depression as we welcomed Sally Fiehrer and Robin Benson from NAMI. Mrs. Fiehrer covered the fundamentals of depression and the services NAMI has to offer, along with the signs that would indicate professional help is necessary. Mrs. Benson followed with a biblical perspective of depression. The moms in our group very well received this segment of the meeting. It reassured many of them to know several men and women of the bible faced depression. Our focus for the day was on Elijah. As with any circumstance we all may face the first step in any recovery is to seek His guidance. God was present at this meeting and comforted many ladies who felt that they may of let Him down by having periods of depression. We can definitely see God working in our group and in the lives of each mother.

We have several opportunities this month to fellowship. Several of us attended the mother/child outing to Wendel's Farm on Thursday. The weather was a bit a chilly but the company and owners were very delightful! All of the children had a great time riding the tractor, picking out a pumpkin and seeing all of the animals. On Monday, October 27th steering will host a Taste of MOPS. Right now we are expecting about 12 moms to participate. This will be an evening of fellowship and of course food! On Tuesday, November 4th we will be having the first of our quarterly dinner and a craft. This is just too cute to describe! If you interested in seeing were we have been and what we have done be sure to check out our new blog spot at www.mopshamilton.blogspot.com.

Be sure to invite a friend to next months meeting!

Our theme for the month is Lost and Found. We will have a mom's panel on how to save money! This will surely come in handy as the holiday season approaches! We are fortunate enough to not have a waiting list at this time to join our group so please be sure to share this ministry with someone you know. It is our prayer that each mother that attends our meeting hears His voice and is able to grow as a mother, as a friend and in a relationship with Him. Please join our ministry by continuing to lift us up in prayer as we see new moms each month.

Enjoying the adventure with Him-
Elise Martin, Coordinator



A Musical Christmas Card Sponsored By Worship And Music 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 21st, at 6:00 p.m. as we open the 2008 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.

Free Concert by Teenage Virtuoso Cellist

Sixteen-year-old music prodigy *Coleman Itzkoff* performs a free recital of works by Bach, Beethoven, and a virtuosic work by Tchaikovsky on the Midday Music in Oxford series at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday,

November 12 at the Oxford Presbyterian Church, 101 N. Main. He has soloed with symphony orchestras and is booked as the principal soloist to open the next season of the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra. Information at 523-6969 or JackDaugherty@hotmail.com.



Guinea pig: (gin e pig)
n. informal definition; an object of research or experimentation

LADIES--try something new!! We are asking you to volunteer to be a guinea pig on November 17 at our first ever Women's Ministry Council's Guinea Pig Dinner. It will be an evening of food, fun, fellowship and something different!

- Make your dinner reservation now at the table in the connector.
- Prepare a dish to share from a recipe that you have never tried before (appetizer, main dish, side dish, or dessert)
- Bring a copy of your recipe, written on the form provided at the table in the connector.
- As an individual or group, consider creating a tablescape and table setting in one of 4 categories: seasonal, Biblical, elegant, just for fun.
- More info will be provided when you sign up.
- We will gather in Room 200 at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, November 17.
- Enjoy an evening of fellowship, fun, and exceptionally good, but untried, food! Don't be afraid to be a guinea pig and test out new recipes!



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 12th. 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 2008.

Toddlers

Marsha Helton

Kindergarten

Genie Sexton

Primary

Nellie Roberts

TNT

Chris Metzger

Homebuilders

Bruce Soldano

Parenting

Mary Brown

Keystone

Bill Brantingham

Bert Brantingham

Bettie Carmack

Kathy Chambers

Ray Chambers

Isabell Johnson

Mary Petry

Walter Petry

FOCUS

Ruth Gaskins

Bill Roberts

Carpenter's Hands

Robert Williams

Office

Linda Gibbs



Fall Back Fellowship

The FOCUS Class and the Keystone Class will sponsor the Fall Back Fellowship Sunday, November 2nd, 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



Pastor Jeremy's Think Tank

God is Moving

As part of my job here at FBC I have the privilege of networking with others in youth ministry for a support system, generate of new ideas (or revamping old ideas that still work), gather information on things that work and don't work, and a time of praying for revival to hit our students and the churches we serve. These networks take many different shapes, sizes, and personalities depending on those involved but I always go away glad to have been a part of the body coming together as a united front.

The other week I was in a network gathering where one of the youth leaders talked about how some in the greater Cincinnati area sense that God is going to start a movement right here that will sweep the nation. The person shared what God had been revealing to him through prayer, Bible reading, and others. I came away thinking how neat that was but not sure if I thought God was really moving in our area. To put it bluntly, I was a skeptic!

It just happened that later in the day was the Hamilton All City T.F.C (Time for Change) Rally was to be held that evening in the auditorium of Hamilton High School. It was there I went from being a skeptic to a believer!

I saw about 350 students from across the Butler County area come together for the sole purpose of worshipping as one the God who created all. I saw two students, one being our own Brittany Hall, give their testimony about how God is all they need, watched a skit with many of our teens apart of (Katie Ford, Emily Cain, Sara Cain, and Rachel Showman), show how Jesus is everything. Following all this there was as clear call for those who wanted Jesus to be their everything for the first time. I tell you my heart warmed and overflowed as over 20 students made that commitment for the first time.

As if seeing people come to know the Lord wasn't exciting enough it was great to see believers genuinely caring and loving those who did not know Christ or came to know him that evening. A breath of fire and fresh air has come to our student ministries in Hamilton and now I know God is up to something. Do you believe God is up to something? If not please let me share with you His story as seen through my eyes.

Waiting with anticipation for God's next move,

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.

October 31st-November 4th: Junior High Fall Retreat at Camp Kirkwood. Please meet at the church at 7:00 so we can leave no later than 7:30pm. 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 9th 6:00pm: There will be a baptism service this evening. Please come to support those who will be baptized including some of our own from CREW. If you want to be baptized on the 9th please see Jeremy NOW.

November 12th 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. Don't forget you need to bring at least two shoe boxes this evening.

November 14th-16th: Senior High Retreat at Camp Kirkwood. We will be looking at surrendering everything for Christ. Zach Hunter will be our speaker and this year will be amazing. 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 26th: 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 27th: 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.



Child Care Schedule

Nursery (Morning)

November 2 - Rob & Jenny VanMeter
 November 9 - Linda Wallace
 November 16 - Nancy Follmer
 November 23 - Carolyn Dudley
 November 30 - Aleesha Spence

One & Two Year Olds

November 2 - John & Cheryl Motzer, Noelle & Sydney
 November 9 - Rick Baker
 November 16 - Marilyn Bowling
 November 23 - John & Cheryl Motzer, Noelle & Sydney
 November 30 - Monica Rose & Hailee

Kinderchurch

November 2 - Claire Metzger & Teen Helper
 November 9 - Brian & Barb Begley
 November 16 - Steve & Elise Martin
 November 23 - Anne & Rob Ruwe
 November 30 - Anne & Rob Ruwe



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)



Wednesday Family Dinners

November 5

Menu: Salisbury Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Tossed Salad, Rolls, Dessert
 Hosts: Keystone I

November 12

Menu: Barbecued Chicken, Macaroni and Cheese, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, Dessert
 Hosts: FOCUS

November 19

Menu: Sliced Turkey, Sweet Potato Souffle, Mixed Vegetables, Cranberry Sauce, Rolls, Dessert
 Hosts: Trustees

November 26

Menu: There will be no meal because of Annual Thanksgiving Service

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.

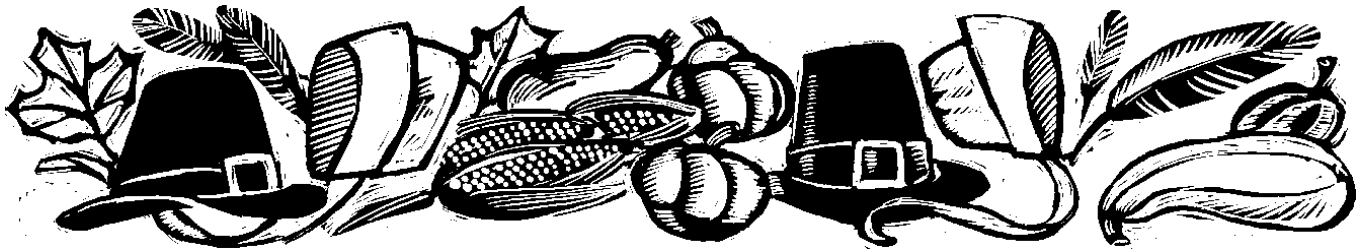
November Greeters

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



November 2

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>November 2008</h1>						1 8:00 Men's Prayer Gathering CREW Jr. High Fall Retreat at Camp Kirkwood
2 9:15 Sunday School-Fall Back Fellowship 10:30 Worship 3:00 Open Door Pantry Concert 4:45 Women's Council 5:30 KingsKids 6:00 Cherub Choir 6:00 Evening Celebration	3	4 9:30 MOPS Steering Committee	5 5:15 Celebration Ringers 5:30 Nominating Comm. 5:30 ABW 6:00 Family Dinner 6:30 Awana 6:30 Lifeline 6:45 Bible Study & Prayer 6:45 Carpenter's Hands 8:00 Chancel Choir	6 9:30 Ladies Bible Study 5:30 Music & Worship Committee 6:30 Ladies Bible Study 7:00 One Bible Study	7 Carpenter's Hands Silent Dinner @ Kenwood Mall	8 12:00 Camp Kirkwood Benefit Auction
9 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 12:00 AB Girls 5:00 Advisory Board 5:15 Youth Choir 5:30 KingsKids 6:00 Cherub Choir 6:00 Evening Celebration	10 11:00 Women's Christian Book Club @ Fairfield Library	11 10:00 Holloway Circle 7:00 Abell Circle 7:00 Smith Circle	12 5:15 Celebration Ringers 5:30 Nominating Comm. 6:00 Family Dinner 6:30 Awana 6:30 Lifeline 6:45 3 rd Qtr. Business Mtg. 6:45 Carpenter's Hands 8:00 Chancel Choir	13 9:30 Ladies Bible Study 5:30 Board of Trustees 6:30 Ladies Bible Study 7:00 One Bible Study	14 CREW Sr. High Fall Retreat at Camp Kirkwood	15 CREW Sr. High Fall Retreat at Camp Kirkwood
16 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 4:30 Diaconate 5:15 Youth Choir 5:30 KingsKids 6:00 Cherub Choir 6:00 Evening Celebration	17 10:00 KeenAger Meeting w/Lil Wilson's China Trip 11:30 KeenAger Thanksgiving Dinner	18 9:20 MOPS	19 5:15 Celebration Ringers 5:30 Nominating Comm. 6:00 Family Dinner 6:30 Awana 6:30 Lifeline 6:45 Bible Study & Prayer 6:45 Carpenter's Hands 8:00 Chancel Choir	20 8:30 Matthew 25 9:30 Ladies Bible Study 6:30 Ladies Bible Study 7:00 One Bible Study	21	22
23 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 4:30 CE Board 5:15 Youth Choir 5:30 KingsKids 6:00 Cherub Choir 6:00 "Living Proof" Concert	24	25	26 7:00 Thanksgiving Eve Service at St. Clair Baptist w/Immanuel Baptist	27 Thanksgiving Day! Church Offices Closed 9:00 CREW Turkey Bowl	28	29
30 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 5:15 Youth Choir 5:30 KingsKids 6:00 Cherub Choir 6:00 Evening Celebration						



HAPPY BIRTHDAY! NOVEMBER

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| 1 - Michael Garver
Leonard Jerome Jenkins | Blake Martin
Kim Mullins | 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 | 20 - Lois Grubbs
Mae Hill | <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 - Curt Bradbury
Beth Riczko | 21 - Debbie Allen
Lois Anderson
Nancy McAllister | |
| 12 - Faye Baker
Adison Ebbing
Matt Schumm | 22 - Norbert Baker
Roger Chamberlain
RuthAnn Wallace | |
| 13 - Kathy Chambers
JoAnne Diesbach
Brennan Graham | 23 - Teri Horsley | |
| 14 - Nella Hurst | 24 - Don Gingrich
Norma Setser
Beverly Proctor | |
| | 25 - Barb Arnold
Darin Chamberlain | |

Personal Notes



From Michael Atkinson

I want to thank Pastor Metzger for his prayers following my knee surgery. It has been a long haul. Figured I would be close to going back to work by now and was not prepared for the results. I just know that God has brought me through each day. Thanks to everyone for their prayers and the cards and notes. You know I was the new kid on the block, so to speak, and folks have just been so friendly.

From Norb & Helen Baker

Our dear brother, Dick Baker, was on First Baptist prayer list for months and after nine years of serious illness, the Lord took him home to glory. We are so grateful for your prayers and God's grace to bear the loss. Pastor Metzger and Rev. Brantingham both came to our home on the same day which we appreciated. Thank you for the many who signed the card.

From Dolly Houser

I want to thank my church family for all the love and support shown to me during my knee surgery. All the prayers, cards, and visits were very meaningful to me. Thanks to Pastor Brantingham for all the visits and prayers. I thank God for the recovery I've made. He is so-o good!

From Fred Isaacs, Barb Arnold and family:

We appreciate all prayers, cards and concern expressed during Eyvone's extended illness. The kindness extended by our church family at the time of her death will be remembered always. Special thanks

to Pastor Dennis, Pastor Bill, and Jack Young for the beautiful service to commemorate her life and celebrate her homecoming to heaven.

From Florence & Ralph Jones

We would like to express our thanks to all who made our anniversary so special. We appreciated all the beautiful cards, clippings from the paper, and well wishes. We feel very blessed to be part of this loving church family. Thank you.

**The Open Door Pantry
Annual Benefit Concert
of Spiritual Music
Sunday
November 2nd, 2007
3:00 p.m.**

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

**Among those featured are
Laurin Sprague
Mike & Diane Wallice**

**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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