

The Courier

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



"Where everybody is somebody and Jesus Christ Is Lord"

November, 2009

Cranberry Sauce And Pumpkin Pie

Turkeys and cornucopias and pilgrim hats. Seasoned stuffing hot from the oven. Creamed onions, cranberry sauce and pumpkin pie. Uncles and aunts and cousins to play with. Grandmothers and grandfathers with family gathered round. Dads watching college football and raking leaves.

But thanksgiving? How much will our celebrations have to do with thanks?

A glance at the first Thanksgiving brings it all back. On December 21, 1620, the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock. Through the dead of winter, the colony struggles with poor, meager food, strenuous labor and biting wind that chilled to the bone, and the ravages of disease. Nearly half of the 102 Mayflower passengers did not live to see spring.

But God sent Indians—Samoset, Squanto, and Massosiot—to help the English settlers plants, hunt and fish. The bountiful harvest that autumn led Gov. Bradford to invite the Indians to celebrate God's goodness. 90 tall braves accepted the invitation to join the Pilgrims in a feast of Thanksgiving to God for His blessings.

The Pilgrims lived close enough to the soil to know how dependent they were on God's providence. They had learned to thank God in the midst of the bitterness of winter past. And they were quick to thank Him during abundant blessings, too.

We teach our children to say "please" and "thank you" as the rudiments of courtesy, yet it is so easy to be rude and unthinking toward God. How often we forget to gratefully acknowledge His goodness toward us.

This Thanksgiving let your prayers and expressions of love rise toward your Heavenly Father.

—Adapted

Thanksgiving SERVICE



St. Clair Baptist Church will be joining us at First Baptist Church in a Thanksgiving Eve Service, Wednesday, November 25th, at 7:00 p.m. There will be songs of praise and gratitude, testimonies, and a message of thanksgiving for the Lord's faithfulness and goodness in our lives brought to us by Rev. Mark Click.

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 11th**. The cost of shipping has increased to \$7.00.

Please include that inside your box. Make 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

Abell Circle

The Abell Circle has decided to meet during the instead of in the evening. We will meet 10 a.m.-12:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. If this time works better for you, please come join us! We always

welcome visitors!

–Carolyn Dudley

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 Psalm 73-150

“Come, let us praise the Lord. Let us sing for joy in God, who protects us.”

Psalm 95:1 (TEV)

No doubt the Book of Psalms is the best-loved book in the Old Testament. It has been called the solid gold of Christian experience. Every Psalm is a direct expression of the soul's consciousness of God. The sanctuary is mentioned in many of these psalms. The sanctuary is seen from its ruin to its restoration in the fullness of blessing.

PRAY for the celebration of World Community Day that it will make a singular difference in our world vision. Pray that Baptist women may meet together in harmony on Baptist Women's Day of Prayer with thankful and grateful hearts.

–Madge Walters

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“It’s Just a Little Worry...”

What’s wrong with a little worry?” That’s the question Jerry Bridges asked in his March/April 2008 article in *Discipleship Magazine*. Legitimate reasons for worry seem to be all around us. The economy appears to be in a long-term stall. Retirement funds may not ever recover what had been lost in the investment crash of 2008. The jobless rate is at an all time high in many parts of the country. The national deficit has climbed far beyond any expectation that it can ever be repaid, even in the lifetimes of our children and grandchildren. Contrast all these concerns with the commercial I heard yesterday asking this absurd question as the camera panned the sleek lines of a Mercedes Benz, a Lexus, and a BMW: “Are you struggling with your decision about which luxury car to buy?” I wondered what planet the pitch-men for these new cars actually lived on. And the worries press on. As the cold months stand on our doorstep, we are bracing for the multitude of requests for utility and rent assistance. The toll of the N1H1 virus is mounting. Thirty-seven states have been affected, registering over 3,800 deaths in the U.S. from this flu so far this year. 76 of those deaths have been people under 18-years old. 28 have been pregnant women.

In the life of the church, these issues seep into the day-to-day concern of ministry: How does the economy affect the development of our church budget for the new year? What is happening to the attendance-habits of our people? Is the faith we once-professed losing its influence in the lives of the faith community? Has the church simply become irrelevant in the face of today’s overwhelming issues? “What’s wrong with a little worry?” we might feel justified in asking.

Jesus had a lot to say about worry. The most prominent (and familiar) passage is Matthew 6:25-34. Jesus uses the word “anxious” over six times in this text. We are not to be anxious about what we are to eat, drink, or wear; or even about the unseen circumstances tomorrow holds. Read the text and reflect how Jesus’ words might actually impact your situation:

“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?”

“And why do you worry about clothes?”

*See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, **O you of little faith?***

So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.”

In another Gospel text Jesus uses urges the listeners: “Fear not...do not be afraid.” (Mk 10:31; Lk 12:7). Paul picks up the admonition in Philippians 4:6: “Don’t be anxious about anything...” And Peter adds his exhortation in 1 Peter 5:7 “Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.”

So when we give way to worry, anxiety, and fear we are, in effect, **believing that God does not genuinely care for us**. And in addition, that He will not take care of us in the particular circumstance that triggers our anxiety of the moment.

Budget Status Report

We are about to enter two very exciting times of the year: **Thanksgiving**, and the season of **Advent**. It would be helpful to us to give serious thought to what these days will call us to practice. **Thanksgiving**—the offering of our hearts to the Lord in praise and worship for how He loves us and cares for every aspect of our lives. And then in **Advent** to observe exactly how much our God truly does love us as the Spirit urges us to welcome “*Immanuel—God with us*” into the mix of our daily concerns. Does God truly love us? Can we trust Him to work out in every detail the deep concerns of our lives? The Psalmist thought so:

"Because he loves me," says the Lord, "I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name. He will call upon me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him. With long life will I satisfy him and show him my salvation" (Psalm 91:14-16).

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. Let the redeemed of the Lord say so... (Psalm 107:1-2).

Peter adds these words from the Phillips translation:
"You can throw the whole weight of your anxieties upon Him for you are his personal concern" (1 Peter 5:7).

What's wrong with a little worry? Simply, worry/anxiety/fear strangles us with mistrust that God cannot—even will not—help us in days of uncertainty. But the alternative is to expose ourselves to the God of hope who loves us more than we can expect or imagine. Take to heart the benediction of Paul in his letter to the Ephesian church:

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen (Ephesians. 3:20-21).

Those words should comfort even the most impassioned worrier among us.

Trusting in God's grace and mercy in times of worry, and inviting you to join me...Pastor

The Month of September, 2009

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$60,725
Offerings	<u>43,879</u>
Over (Under) Budget	(\$16,846)

Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$58,594
Offerings	<u>43,879</u>
Over (Under) Actual	(\$14,715)

The Year Through September, 2009

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$557,660
Offerings	<u>468,311</u>
Over (Under) Budget	(\$89,349)

Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$549,616
Offerings	<u>468,311</u>
Over (Under) Actual	(\$81,305)

—The Board Of Trustees

Third Quarter Business Meetings

Advisory Board

The Advisory Board will meet Sunday, November 8th, at 5:00 p.m. to hear the report of the Nominating Committee, reports of boards and committees, and consider the proposed 2010 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 11th, at 6:45 p.m. Items of business include the election of officers who will begin their duties in January, 2010. The Trustees will also present the 2010 Proposed Budget for adoption.

Young Women Of Hope

The AB Girls will meet after the Sunday service on November 8th. We will go out to lunch and then Christmas shop for several children. Please bring items to help fill our Christmas shoebox for a girl age 4-6.

In His service,
Marilyn, Nancy, and Mindy



Awana November/December Calendar

November

- 4th - Mini-Store Night/Canned Food Drive
- 11th - Bring A Friend Night/Double Bucks!/Canned Food Drive
- 18th - Handbook time/Recreation/**Staff Meeting**/Canned Food Drive
- 25th - No Club (Thanksgiving Holiday)

December

- 2nd - Regular Club Night
- 9th - Christmas Theme Night



FOOD DRIVE

Canned Food Drive

The Awana sponsored canned food drive is still underway during the month of November. As we approach the Thanksgiving time with our families and friends, we should be mindful of those less fortunate than us. The Awana clubbers are excited to be there on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings to collect donations from the church family for the needy of the community. We will also have a "turkey" jar that will collect your pennies to purchase a turkey. Maybe we should call it "Pennies for Poultry!" or maybe not....Anyway, look for the turkey decorated jar on the table in the connector that is for the canned goods. We will also have a prayer over the food before it is delivered before Thanksgiving.

We cannot say thank you enough for the many dedicated workers on Wednesday nights that help our children with their handbooks, recreations, etc. We pray that many bonds of friendship between the leaders/listeners are being formed with our kids that will last a lifetime. You may not realize the difference you make, but we do!

–Claire Metzger, Cheryl Motzer,
& Sandra Imhoff
Awana Leaders



Fall Festival

When you read this, our Fall Festival will be just a memory, but hopefully a great one! We tried to provide ways that would let Jesus shine in all of the activities that we planned. A special thanks to the "Crew" and Jeremy for providing help and joining in our fun and for all of our volunteers.



Newsletter

The monthly newsletter called "Kidz Biz" is already two months old! This is mailed to everyone child in the church from age 3 - grade 6. If you are not receiving it, please let Claire or Cheryl know, so we can get you on the mailing list. If you would like a copy of this month's newsletter, there is a supply on the bulletin board by the downstairs entrance. All news about our kids is welcome. We want to include school, sports, or recognitions to get to know you better. We ask for God's blessings on you as this goes to your homes each month.

–Claire Metzger & Cheryl Motzer
Co-Directors of Children's Ministries



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 19th. 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



**Carpenter's Hands
Signs Of Love
Silent Dinners**



The **Silent Dinner for November** will be held on Friday evening, November 6th at Kenwood Mall. See you there!

Interpreter Schedule for November

November 1 Jo Manson	Maria Miller
November 8 Jo Manson	Maria Miller
November 15 Jo Manson	Maria Miller
November 22 Jo Manson	Maria Miller
November 29 Jo Manson	Maria Miller

Happy Birthday



November 3 - Jimmy Smith
 -Maria Miller
 Director of Deaf Ministries

**KeenAger
November Meeting**

Our November meeting will be a 45 minute tour of Rumpke Landfill on Wednesday, November 18th. We will leave the church at 9:00 a.m. We will be having lunch together after the tour at Eli's in Ross. Please sign the list on the bulletin board by November 11th. Sign early as there is a limit of 24.

-KeenAger Activity Director
 Bernie Griesinger



**KingsKids
Presentation
Sunday, December 6th
6:00 p.m.**

Our musical this year has been personally selected by our new 6th graders. We're going to have a Christmas County Spelling Bee along with a Christmas Pageant. The words used in the competition are the names for Jesus that describe His character. Although many scholars believe that there are over 700 different names and titles given to Jesus in Scripture, we'll focus on those mentioned in Isaiah 9:6. All these names will help us grasp just how truly awesome the gift of His Son is!

-Ruth Metzger, Debbie Allen, Lauren Schwartz

Cherub Choir

The Cherub Choir will offer their musical Christmas gift to Jesus during morning worship on Sunday, November 29th, the first Sunday of Advent. The twelve "shepherd" Cherubs will share "*Headin' Down To Bethlehem*", "*This Is Jesus*", and "*God And Tell*" as they journey to see the new-born King.

**The Open Door Pantry
Annual Benefit Concert
of Spiritual Music
Sunday
November 1st, 2009
3:00 p.m.**

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

**Everyone is welcome!
Freewill offering**



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.

	Birthday		
Chad Allen (Wright State University) 1239 Springwood Lane Rm 406 B LAH Fairborn, Ohio 45324	11/2	Drew Helton (Wright State University) 1570 # 1 Reece Drive Fairborn, Ohio 45324	5/17
Joey Braun (Ohio State University) 3140 Baker Hall West 129 West 12th Avenue # 41 Columbus, Ohio 43210	11/7	Martha Helton (Miami University) 918 Greenwood Court Trenton, Ohio 45067	9/16
Mark Braun (University of Toledo) 1412 Roosevelt Avenue Toledo, Ohio 43607	4/11	Samantha Hetterich (Penn Foster) 215 Country Club Drive Oxford, Ohio 45056	11/16
Andy Cain (Earlham University) Bundy Hall 309 801 National Road West Richmond, Indiana 47374	11/26	Teresa Hoff (Miami University) 9 Madeline Place Hamilton, Ohio 45013	10/2
Sara Cain (Northern Kentucky University) Commonwealth Hall GL103 20 Campbell Drive Highland Heights, KY 41076	11/26	Lauren Keith (Miami University) Collins Hall, Room 140 Oxford, Ohio 45015	2/13
Brian Chamberlain (University of Cincinnati) 5028 West Scioto Drive Fairfield, Ohio 45014	9/13	Mara Krall (Miami University) 5198 Westgate Drive Oxford, Ohio 45056	11/17
Rachael Davis (Miami University) 2483 Sir Martin Drive Hamilton, Ohio 45013	10/17	Noah Krall (University of Cincinnati) 5198 Westgate Drive Oxford, Ohio 45056	7/6
Jeff Hazelwood (Ohio State - ATI) 1031 Franklin Ct. Wooster, Ohio 44691	5/3	Jennifer McKee (Evansville University) 1660 East Walnut Street Evansville, Indiana 47714	5/15
		Lauren Schwab (Miami University) 3280 Frazee Road Somerville, Ohio 45064	3/14
		Katie Scott (Miami University) 650 Patterson Avenue Oxford, Ohio 45056	4/2
		Mandy Scott (Miami University) 3212 Ogden Hall 401 East High Street Oxford, Ohio 45056	12/14
		Benji Stanger (Eastern Kentucky University) 424 Garden City Drive Apt. # 38 Richmond, Kentucky 40459	11/18
		Alex Thiel (Ohio State University) 35 W. 10th Avenue Columbus, Ohio 43210	6/15

Mark Whipple (University of Cincinnati) 6/19
756 Impala Place
Hamilton, Ohio 45013

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



This year we are trying something different. We have assigned prayer partners to all of the college students. Here is the list of college students and the ones who volunteered to pray for them while they are in school:

Martha Helton	Janet Hazelwood
Brian Chamberlain	Madge Walters
Jeff Hazelwood	Lois Anderson
Mark Braun	Mike Gipson
Lauren Keith	Lexie West/Karen Buchanan
Sara Cain	Evon Laubenstein
Lauren Schwab	Katie Simpson
Alex Thiel	Chris & Claire Metzger
Samantha Hettrich	Mary Walker
Mara Krall	Nancy Whipple
Rachel Davis	Ruth Wallace
Noah Krall	Mike Braun
Benji Stanger	Johnnie Wallace
Andy Cain	Sharon Brewer
Katie Scott	Teri Horsley
Mark Whipple	Lil Wilson
Jennifer McKee	Bill & Bert Brantingham
Nick Wilson	Bill & Bert Brantingham
Chad Allen	Lisa & Lauren Sprague
Drew Helton	Cheryl & John Motzer
Mandy Scott	Judy Wallace
Joey Braun	Ruby Gessendorf
Teresa Hoff	Jeremy Spence

—Marilyn Bowling
College Coordinator



We held our second meeting for the 2009-10 MOPS year on Tuesday, October 20th. Our attendance was a bit down, due to the vast amount of illnesses, however we had 24 moms in attendance with 2 being new to our group! Our guest speaker, Judy Hogue, of the Professional Counseling Group was a pure delight and gave some valuable information on friendship. She enjoyed the morning with us and even participated in our discussion groups! Everyone seemed to enjoy the fellowship, topic and of course breakfast and our craft.

Our fall outings have been very successful to date and we have some upcoming ones to look forward too! In November our mom/child outing is scheduled for the 19th where we will be heading over to Banana's Jump and Play while our mom's only outing will be game night at Kathy Farrell's home. For more information on what's coming up or even to grab our latest edition of the newsletter be sure to stop by and check out our bulletin board located just outside the toddler and nursery rooms.

At our November meeting our theme will be *We Come in Peace* with a focus on family relationships. Our guest speaker will be Barbara Condo with One Way Farm. Please plan on joining us!

Our group this year has been very active in supporting the community. We are still collecting salad dressing for One Way Farm and will assemble shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child at our November meeting. If you would like to help us with these outreach ministries we would greatly appreciate it! We would also like to thank all of the volunteers, financial supporters and walkers at our first annual Great Mom's Walk. Even though our numbers were small, the rain held off long enough for us to get the walk in and enjoy a time of fellowship after the event. Fifty percent of our proceeds from the walk will go to the three organizations we have teamed up with this year - One Way Farm, Oxford Pregnancy Center and Cincinnati Children's Hospital- the remaining proceeds will stay within our group for scholarships. Please continue to be in prayer for the MOPS ministry. Please pray for the steering team, mentors, moms who have attended, who are attending and who have yet to attend. May all the ladies receive abundant blessings and their eyes opened to see, hear and live a life for Him!

On Planet Mom - but not alone,
Elise

Corrections and Additions To The Directory

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

Gard, Amie
Kingston Residence of Perrysburg Ohio
333 East Boundary Street
Perrysburg, OH 43551

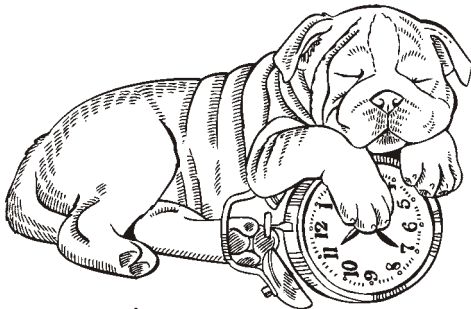
Isaacs, Fred
Sunrise Assisted Living
896 N. W. Washington Boulevard
Room 408
Hamilton, OH 45013

Krastins, Erla
Phone #: 699-4741

Lakes, Fred
Hawthorn Glen
5414 Hankins Road
Room 431
Middletown, OH 45044

Murrell, Herb
c/o Amber Kiesel
41 Hidden Cove Circle
Valparaiso, FL 32580

Powell, Jim
Email: jpowell58@cinci.rr.com



Daylight-Saving Time Ends

November 1st

An Invitation!

Please join us for the
5th Annual
John Engle Christian Counseling Center
DINNER THEATER

Featuring the

Friends of the Groom
in
*The World's Oldest Financial
Planner*



Back by popular demand, this group
combines
laughter with drama to create a delightful
evening of entertainment.

Saturday, November 14, 2009
6:30 P.M.
Redeemer Church
3431 Hamilton-Middletown Road
\$35.00

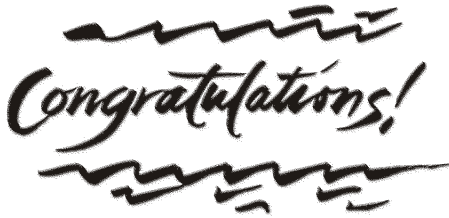
There will be a silent auction
to benefit Mending Hearts

For tickets, see Jeremy or call (513) 896-4357 and
leave a message
or email hope@JECCC.org



Veterans Day

**Veteran's Day
November 11th**



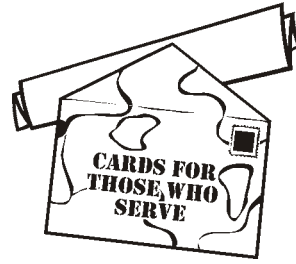
**Congratulations,
Nancy Follmer!**

Congratulations, to Nancy Follmer who was one of the five women selected to receive the 2009 YMCA Women of Achievement Award. She was honored at the 24th Annual Salute to Outstanding Women of Achievement luncheon on October 28th at the Courtyard by Marriott Hamilton Hotel. This award was given to Nancy as she represents the caring spirit of Butler Count women who are a powerful force in our community with her volunteering.

CREW Compassion Child

Don't forget to bring in your offerings to help support David our compassion child. We are constantly receiving updates on him and his drawings keep getting better. It takes about \$45 per month to support him. The past couple months you guys have been doing an outstanding job, keep up the great work. His latest letter is downstairs with the others so take time today to read what he had to say. Also remember to pray for him, his family, and his village each day.

-Jeremy



Military Mail

As you are aware October marked the 8th anniversary of War on Afghanistan. When this war started five of our young men were merely pre-teen/teenagers in our church. We taught them that prayer is vital in a Christian's life. Now is our time to reciprocate what we taught them. They need our prayers for their safety everyday. Three of them are in Afghanistan or Iraq where dangerous situations are everywhere. Please keep these young men in your prayers everyday.

We will be collecting notes, letters, words of encouragement. Andy Braun and Matthew Lyttle are in Afghanistan . Philip Dudley is in Iraq. Ray Wallace is in Germany. Jay Wallace is in Georgia. They ALL need our prayers daily. Let them know that their church family remembers them. Place your letters in the box marked "Military Mail" in the coatroom. The letters will be sent out on a monthly basis. They will appreciate being remembered and receiving letters from "home".

**Free Noon
Concert In Oxford**



**Christmas Poinsettia
Orders Accepted**

It's not just the department stores that are already preparing for Christmas. The church is too. 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 Wednesday, November 11th. Orders placed after that date may not be filled. Checks should be written to First Baptist Church.

-The Flower Committee

The next free concert of the Midday Music in Oxford series will be performed at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 4 by the Jim Connerley Jazz Trio at the Oxford Presbyterian Church, 101 N. Main Street in Oxford, OH. In addition to traditional jazz, Jim also leads the United Methodist Jazz Trio, a group devoted to treatments of gospel songs, hymns and spirituals, some of which will be performed on November 4. The Trio is from the Greater Cincinnati area and performs widely in that vicinity and elsewhere. Information: Jack Daugherty at 513-523-6969.



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 2009.

Toddlers

Marsha Helton

Primary

Nellie Roberts

FOCUS

Jean Grimes

Janet Lewis

Bill Roberts

Parenting

Stan Brown

Keystone

Jewell Bowling

Zeke Bowling

Bill Brantingham

Bettie Carmack

Kathy Chambers

Bob Eicher

Isabell Johnson

Mary Petry

Walter Petry

J.K. Walker

Mary Walker

Office

Linda Gibbs

Dear Fellow Sister in Christ,

Don't you just love a good love story? I do—especially if it's one of those where a guy and a girl are "best friends." They've know each other forever, tell each other everything, and trust each other completely. The trouble is, she loves him, even though he's never noticed. Then he meets a new woman and falls head over heels for her. His "best friend" is stuck in the position of confidant, comforter and maybe even messenger to the new lady love. But for love of her guy, she sets aside her own feelings and does what he asks of her. In the end, they guy's eyes are opened somehow and he sees his dear friend in a new light. Startled to find love so close at hand, he berates himself for never really seeing her before. And of course, they live happily ever after!

Many of us are blind to what is closest to us. In our hearts we long to experience spiritual intimacy. We want to be close to god. We long to be His child, his beloved, His friend. And in our yearning to be acknowledged by the Father, and welcomed by the Son, we completely miss what is right in front of us. Or, what is right *inside* of us. The God we long to be close to is already closer than any sister, friend, or lover can come. God, the Holy Spirit, dwells *in* us. Do you long for spiritual intimacy?

Come join me in a new Sunday School Class for women called "Experiencing Spiritual Intimacy," starting Sunday, November 1st. Come to the FOCUS/Keystone Classes' "Fall Back Fellowship" at 8:45 and then join me in the Board Room at 9:15. This Bible Study will help open our eyes to the Spirit's role in our lives. He knows us in intimate ways. Let's get to know Him together!

I'll look forward to seeing you there!

In His Love—

Diane Wallick

*"His Holy Spirit, moving and breathing in you, is the most intimate part of your life, making you fit for Himself. Don't take such a gift for granted."
Ephesians 4:30 MSG*



Fall Back Fellowship

The FOCUS Class and the Keystone Class will sponsor the Fall Back Fellowship Sunday, November 1st, from 8:45-9:15 a.m. You are invited to a breakfast of coffee cakes, muffins, donuts, and special breads. Juice, coffee, tea, and milk will also be served. We will fellowship in the Family Center, then go to our regular Sunday School classes. Invite friends, especially those without a class. If you bring your children or grandchildren to Sunday School they are welcome to attend. (Don't forget to turn your clocks back on October 31st!)

—Carol Howard



Child Care Schedule

Nursery (Morning)

November 1 - Judy, Amy, & Anna Wallace
 November 8 - Debbie, Megan, & Emily Miller
 November 15 - Claire & Chris Metzger
 November 22 - Stacy & Brian Dickman
 November 29 -

One & Two Year Olds

November 1 - Johnnie Wallace, Samuel & Audrey
 November 8 - Aleesha Spence & Teen Helper
 November 15 - Brandi, Lauryn, & Taylor Emenaker
 November 22 -
 November 29 - Ruthie & John Wallace

Kinderchurch

November 1 - Vicky Baker & Dorothy Hollowell
 November 8 - Elise, Steve & Heidi Martin
 November 15 - Vicky Baker & Dorothy Hollowell
 November 22 - Barb & Brian Begley
 November 29 -



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 Child Care Coordinator, Ruthie Wallace (887-8387):



Wednesday Family Dinners

November 4

Menu: Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Gravy, French Toast, Hash Brown Casserole, Cinnamon Apples, Biscuits
 Hosts: Deacons

November 11

Menu: Barbecued Chicken, Macaroni and Cheese, Green Beans, Cole Slaw, Dessert
 Hosts: Deaconesses

November 18

Menu: Sliced Turkey, Sweet Potato Souffle, Mixed Vegetables, Cranberry Sauce, Rolls, Dessert
 Hosts: TNT (Seekers)

November 25

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, Mike Gipson, & Jerry Hampton





Pastor Jeremy's Think Tank

The Why Behind The What

This month's article is the first in a series of articles I will be sharing with you considering the mission, vision, values, and goals of the CREW Student Ministries. I hope you will take time to read each month and to pray about what the CREW is doing. I am sharing this information so you will know why we do what we do with our students here at First Baptist Church. As always, if you have any questions or would like to discuss this further in person, please let me know and I will be happy to sit down and talk with you. God is doing great things with our teenagers and I am pleased to be the youth pastor here.

The CREW Student Ministries exists to connect students with: themselves, God through Jesus Christ, the church (both at FBC and globally), and the world around them so others will know what it means to be a Christ's Radically Empowered Witness (CREW) member. It should be easy to see the CREW Student Ministry is all about making connections and providing opportunities to connect the students of Butler County with something greater than themselves.

You should also notice our ministry does not cater to just one high school in our county but to all of them. This is one of the unique aspects of our ministry; we have students from most of the school in Butler County coming each week. Even though we have many students from Hamilton and Fairfield we will not focus all our attentions at these two schools. This is why you will see myself and others out at Edgewood, Talawanda, Lakota, and Ross events to help those students know about our ministry and connect with them.

It should also be evident that our ministry exists to help individual students and therefore tends to be relational in nature. I will be talking more about this in a future article related to our core values but it is worth stating now, our ministry is committed not to big events and doing things in large groups but the individual teenager. No teenager is the same! There are similarities and generalities one can make about teenagers but it is imperative we remember each individual who comes through our doors is unique and needs to be treated in such a way.

Our mission is all about Christ and becoming His disciple and witness wherever we may live. We are not just a social club, even though we do social things, but are intentional about connecting students with Christ and the power He offers them through the Holy Spirit. We do not just provide a safe place for teens to hang

out, but we try to provide a safe place where students can ask questions about Christ, the Bible, and what it means to be a Christian in this world. If we do not provide this type of atmosphere we have failed to accomplish our mission.

Contrary to what some may believe it should be evident the CREW is more than just fun and games. Yes, this is a big portion of what we do and we value fun, more on this later, but we exist to connect people with Christ and His Church.

That said, we are not the only and most important ministry of our church but one among the many which is trying to build up First Baptist Church as a whole. We are more interested in connecting students to the larger church than just our programs. Each time we can have a student become active in a ministry outside of CREW it is a win for us, the student, and the church at large. We want to provide life long commitment to Christ and His Church.

Hopefully, this short article helps you know more about the CREW and why we do what we do. Stay tuned for more next month.

Be God's,
Jeremy

Upcoming Events:

Fall Retreats: If you signed up for fall retreats a reminder we will leave on Friday at 6:30pm to head to Camp Kirkwood. Junior High this would be November 6 and Senior High this is November 13. Both retreats and groups will be back by 12:30pm on Sunday the 8 and 15 respectively. Please see Jeremy for questions or to register for the Senior High Retreat.

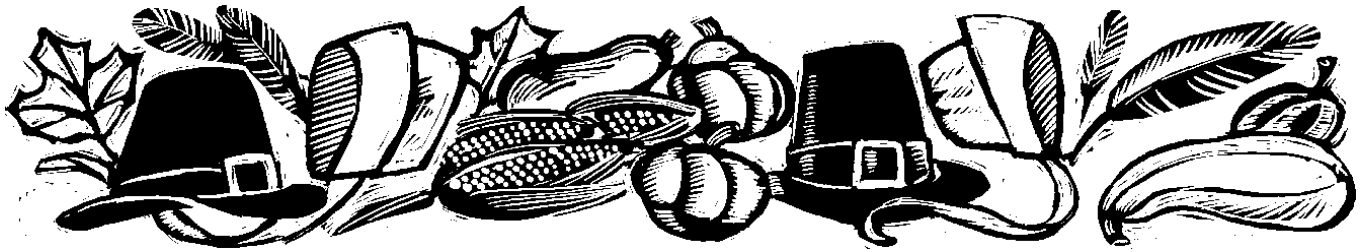
November 25th: No CREW Lifeline. There will be a unity service instead.

November 26th: Annual CREW Turkey Bowl in Seven Mile School starting at 9:00am. Please guys, plan to attend and bring your own flags.

November 30: Check with your small group leader about whether you will have small groups then.

Wednesday Nights: Join us for God's Story Season 1 episodes 7, 8, and 9, during Lifeline. The episodes will begin at 6:40pm and are finished around 8:00pm each Wednesday night. See Jeremy for more information.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>November 2009</h1>						
1 9:15 Sunday School-Fall Back Fellowship 10:30 Worship 3:00 Open Door Pantry Concert 5:30 KingsKids 6:00 Cherub Choir 6:00 Evening Celebration	2	3 9:30 MOPS Steering Committee	4 9:30 MOPS Bible Study 5:30 ABW 6:00 Family Dinner 6:30 Awana-Mini-Store 6:30 Lifeline 6:45 Bible Study & Prayer 6:45 Carpenter's Hands 8:00 Chancel Choir	5 9:30 Ladies Bible Study 5:30 Music & Worship Committee 6:30 Ladies Bible Study 7:00 One Bible Study	6 6:30 CREW Jr. High Fall Retreat at Camp Kirkwood	7 8:00 Men's Prayer Gathering CREW Jr. High Fall Retreat at Camp Kirkwood
8 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 12:00 AB Girls 5:00 Advisory Board 5:30 KingsKids 6:00 Cherub Choir 6:00 Evening Celebration	9 11:00 Women's Christian Book Club @ Fairfield Library	10 10:00 Holloway Circle 10:00 Abell Circle in Library 7:00 Smith Circle	11 9:30 MOPS Bible Study 6:00 Family Dinner 6:30 Awana-Bring A Friend Night/Double Bucks 6:30 Lifeline 6:45 3 rd Qtr. Business Mtg. 6:45 Carpenter's Hands 8:00 Chancel Choir	12 9:30 Ladies Bible Study 5:30 Board of Trustees 6:30 Ladies Bible Study 7:00 One Bible Study	13 6:30 CREW Sr. High Fall Retreat at Camp Kirkwood	14 CREW Sr. High Fall Retreat at Camp Kirkwood 6:30 John Engle Christian Counseling Center Dinner Theater @ Redeemer Church
15 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 4:30 Diaconate 5:30 KingsKids 6:00 Cherub Choir 6:00 Evening Celebration	16	17 9:30 MOPS	18 9:00 KeenAgers Tour Rumpke Landfill w/lunch at Eli's 6:00 Family Dinner 6:30 Awana-Handbook Time/Recreation 6:30 Lifeline 6:45 Bible Study & Prayer 6:45 Carpenter's Hands 8:00 Chancel Choir	19 8:30 Matthew 25 9:30 Ladies Bible Study 6:30 Ladies Bible Study 7:00 One Bible Study	20	21
22 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 4:30 CE Board 5:30 KingsKids 6:00 Cherub Choir 6:00 Evening Celebration	23	24	25 7:00 Thanksgiving Eve Service w/St. Clair Baptist at First Baptist	26 Thanksgiving Day! Church Offices Closed 9:00 CREW Turkey Bowl	27	28
29 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship-Cherubs 5:30 KingsKids 6:00 Cherub Choir 6:00 Evening Celebration	30					



HAPPY BIRTHDAY! NOVEMBER

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| 1 - Michael Garver
Leonard Jerome Jenkins | 14 - Nella Hurst
Blake Martin | 25 - Barb Arnold
Darin Chamberlain
Elsie Skipper |
| 2 - Chad Allen
Dennis Dudley
Ron Gerth
Bill Imhoff
Charles Victor Louis Miles
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 |
| 4 - Allison Sommers | 17 - Earnie Huff
Mara Krall
Wayne Miller | 28 - Christian Acus
Charles Day
Dick Winkler |
| 7 - Bert Brantingham
Joey Braun
David Diedrichs
Martha Perry | 18 - Marsha Helton
Jacki Pryor
Benji Stanger | 29 - Carol Howard |
| 8 - Allan Blevens
Eugenia Sexton | 19 - Lindel Sapp
Ryan Schwab | 30 - Janet Day
Kelli Fryer
Kevin Fryer
Jennifer Owen |
| 9 - Glenn Roddy
John Wallace | 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. |
| 10 - Brenda Brown
Thomas Owen | 21 - Debbie Allen
Lois Anderson
Nancy McAllister | |
| 11 - Curt Bradbury
Beth Riczko | 22 - Norbert Baker
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 | |

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Personal Notes

From Betty Eicher

It's no fun being sick but the cards and calls and especially the prayers made it a lot better. Thank you to everyone. I also want to thank Pastor Bill for his nice visit. It's so nice to be missed! Nothing's better than being a part of "First Baptist.". God Bless you all!

From Martha Frickert

Thank you so very much for including Phil in your prayers for the many past years.

From Florence Jones

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers and cards during my recent illness. It's wonderful to be back in circulation with my church family again. I love you all.

From Luella & Norbert Lerch

We want to thank everyone for the prayers for my nephew, Greg Reece. He passed away, Wednesday, October 7th. He fought a long hard fight to overcome ALS. His mother and father gave him complete care for over 2 years. Also we want to thank Pastor Bill for his visits and everyone for the phone calls and cards we received. It wonderful to have the support of all of you.

From Mary & Don Lewis

We want to thank the church family for prayers, visits, and cards when my brother, Robert Harris, passed away. We thank Pastor Metzger for visiting our home. We sure miss being able to attend church. We have a wonderful church family. Thanks again for everything.

From Ronnie & Kristina Miles: Ronnie and I wanted to say that we

appreciated the flower that you presented to us honoring the birth of our daughter, Raegan Elizabeth Maxine.

From Helen Mullen

I want to thank you on behalf of my family for keeping my granddaughter, Brenda Campbell, and her family in your prayers when her husband, Roland, was very ill. It meant so much to Roland knowing you all were praying for him. It was a very difficult time. Roland went home to be with the Lord on September 15th. Please keep the family in your prayers especially Brenda and her children. With love in Christ.

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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