

The Courier

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



"Where everybody is somebody and Jesus Christ Is Lord"

February, 2010

"A Message From The Son"

I sat in the theater anxiously waiting to learn if my son had made it safely to his destination. It was a foggy, icy afternoon and he had three-hour trip to complete by nightfall. I enjoyed the movie, but in a nervous way, a way all parents know when waiting to hear from their children. Suddenly, my pocket vibrated wildly. At first it startled me, then a warm calm swept over me. I knew he had arrived safely. His email page was simple and sweet:

"Hey Dad. I am here. I left a message on the answering machine so you and mom have a good night alone tonight. I love you. Z-Man"

As I drove home, I told Donna how much I appreciated technology at times like these. Then we got to talking about how precious it is to hear from our children, especially when they are away and we still worry about them.

"Abba Father, all things are possible for you. Let this cup pass from me I pray, but not my will, but yours be done."

This was the Son's message to the Father. In a pre-technological world, the Creator of the universe received a message from his Son so urgent, so emotional, that the Son sweat great drops like blood. He had told his friends that he was overwhelmed with emotion, even to the point of death. It was such a powerful and trying moment, God sent angels to attend to his Son. But he also answered his Son, "No!"

In a world adrift in permissiveness, "No!" hardly sounds loving and attentive. But this "No!" was loving because God loved us enough to endure watching the torture of his Son so that we could become his children. It is one thing to watch your child suffer and not be able to do anything about it. It's quite another kind of suffering when you have the power to stop the suffering and do not. God had the power to end it and yet he didn't because he loves us and wants us as his children.

But there was more than one message delivered to God from the Son as he prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane. "Not my will..." Jesus had said. It was his way of saying, "If there is no other way to redeem them, no other way to save them, then Father, like you, I love them too much to live without them. I would rather bear the pain of the Cross, than to live and they be lost!"

No matter what Valentines we get this week, our ultimate Valentine is found on "a hill far away" where we find "an old rugged cross" and the ultimate message of love sent by God's Son, and our brother, Jesus.

—Phil Ware
Heartlight





American Baptist Women's Ministries

Blanket Sundays–Disaster Relief

Blanket Sundays will be February 7th and February 14th. In natural disasters (tornado, hurricane, flood, fire, mudslide, earthquake, etc.) many people are left with little or nothing. Church World Service furnishes initial emergency service with blankets, mattresses, tents, etc. Suggested donation for a blanket is \$8.00. Checks should be made payable to American Baptist Women.

Don't forget that in February we will be collecting items baby layettes. If you see a bargain, please bring it in and give to Bertha Campbell (893-9808) or give to a greeter.

Baby Kit (Layette)

- 4 Cloth Diapers
- 2 Shirts
- 2 Washcloths
- 2 Gowns or Sleepers
- 2 Diaper Pins
- 1 Sweater or Sweatshirt
- 2 Receiving Blankets
- (1 can be a knitted blanket)

Disaster survivors need essential items to reclaim their homes and lives. Through the White Cross you can help prepare special recovery kits that provide both tangible assistance to people in need and show that neighbors near and far truly care. The contents of these kits are small things but having or not having them can make a world of difference in an on-going development program or when disaster strikes. Would you help Church World Service build an inventory of baby kits?

–Bertha Campbell

February Missionary of the Month:

Democratic Republic of the Congo
Wayne & Katherine Niles

Bible Book of the Month Ruth

“But Ruth answered, ‘Don’t ask me to leave you! Let me go with you . . .’”

The book of Ruth is a short story. The characters all bear symbolic names that almost make it an allegory. Ruth means “companion”. Boaz means “strength” and Orpha means “disloyal”. The book has a simple message about true faith in Yahweh. It is not blood or

marriage that most matters—rather faith. Ruth, although a Moabitess, is a perfect example of Israelite faithfulness at its best. We are reminded of the famous statement of steadfast devotion, “*Entreat me not to leave you . . .*” (Ruth 1:16-17). From the marriage of Ruth and Boaz came the house of David.

PRAY for troubled teenagers that they may know the reconciling love of God. Pray for families in the church and community that provide Christian nurture and guidance for children and young people.

–Madge Walters

Young Women of Hope

The AB Girls' group enjoyed a visit with Kathy Reynolds, Sunday, January 10th. Kathy remembered the girls when they were little and knew many members of their families. The girls shared about their activities and plans, and Kathy shared memories of activities done in the past by the youth of First Baptist. We all enjoyed our time together.

In Christ's love,
Marilyn, Mindy, and Nancy



The next scheduled Work Day at Matthew 25 will be Thursday, February 25th. As usual, we would like to have a good working group to go. We will leave the church at the usual time, 8:30 a.m. Bring your sack lunch and beverage and be prepared for a good day of work and fellowship. Thank you.

–Pastor Bill and Bert Brantingham

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From the Pages of the Calendar

For many believers, Max Laced has become one of their favorite Christian authors. He is the creator of thoughtful books of theology, great short stories, gift books galore, and the proliferation of spin-off products—calendars, mugs, sweatshirts, greeting cards, CDs, etc. Not bad for one whose first love is simply to honor the Lord who gave Him love and eternal life—a wordsmith for the Kingdom.

Of the several gifts I received for Christmas, one sits on the shelf behind my desk at the office. It is one of those daily calendars which allows you a moment's reflection before you tackle the challenges of the day. Listen to the entries from several days in January and February:

Friday, January 1—New Year's Day

"Of all the unusual beginnings, there is not one more unusual than that of Christianity. The church of our Lord was begun by a group of reluctant followers in a second-story room in Jerusalem. They were timid followers, hesitant soldiers, speechless messengers. They didn't know what to do; they didn't know what to say; but they knew they could not forget the one called Jesus."

Saturday, January 2

"Oh, Father, for the surety that there is a truth in this world, we are thankful. For the assurance that there is a right and a wrong and you have always done what is right, we're thankful. We've all failed you; we've all taken wrong paths and made wrong choices. Guide us, Father. Enrich our conscience so that we may be faithful to the great and wonderful gift you've given us."

Thursday, January 7

"It's incredible that anyone could look at the kindness of God, the faithfulness of God, and the goodness of God and not feel any emotion of gratitude. (*"I will praise you, O LORD, with all my heart; before the "gods" I will sing your praise."* Psalm 138:1)

Saturday, January 9

"Where's our battleground in life? Is our battle against our neighbor? Is our battle against our family? No. The battle is with the invisible forces of evil, the dark one that has invaded the earth, whose goal is to win the battle within every Christian. Satan failed in his desire to control God, and it's only with God's help that we can defeat him." (*"For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities,*

against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms." Ephesians 6:12)

Sunday, January 10

"Indifference stirs the wrath of God—indifferent people who have grown spiritually dull, who are unresponsive, who see their own sinfulness and yet never fall to their knees and say, "I'm sorry, God."

Monday, January 11

"What do you need most today? Do you need just a word of hope? That's what we all need. And that's what the Word of God does that nothing and no one else can. The Word of God says to us that there is no hopeless situation, no hopeless illness, no hopeless marriage. If there were hopeless situations, then God would have given up long ago." (*Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassing never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. I say to myself, "The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him."* Lamentations 3:22-24)

Thursday, January 14

"When Jesus told the story of the missing sheep, some of the people who were listening wiped away a tear because they knew how it feels to be lost among the crowd. Jesus wanted us to understand that we have a Father who sees and cares for each one of his children, that we are equally valuable to him."

Thursday, January 21

"Regardless of what you've done, it's not too late. Regardless of how far you've fallen, it's not too late. It doesn't matter how low the mistake is, it's not too late to dig down, pull out that mistake, and then let it go and be free."

(From the Pastor's Heart, cont)

Saturday, January 23

“Most of the people in the world have never seen the Jesus of the New Testament, a Redeemer whose eyes would swell with tears and whose heart would beat with passion. Most people serve a Redeemer only when they need a favor, a sort of magic Lord who’s ignored except in times of crisis. We can’t imitate a magic Jesus. The tenderhearted Jesus of the New Testament demands imitation by those who follow him.”

*What do you need most today?
Do you need just a word of hope?
That's what we all need.
And that's what the Word of God does that*

Monday, January 25

“Do you want to simplify your life? Then clarify what your task is. What are the words, what are the concepts, what message do you want to transmit to your friends and family? The truth of Jesus Christ is the simple truth of His sacrifice.”

Wednesday, January 27

“Holy Father, you did not have to save us. You didn’t have to touch us. Who would have blamed you for turning your back on the mess that we’ve made out of this world and allowing us to spin off into oblivion? But when you saw our pain, you came. When you heard our cries, you hastened. Thank you, Father, for the great depth of your live that never ends.”

Sunday, February 14--Valentine’s Day

“I hope you receive a rose or a special card from that special person today. If you didn’t, and don’t expect to, remember that the one who loves you most has already sent you his very best.” *(This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. 1 John 4:10)*

What kind of encouragement and hope begins your day? Each of us needs to know that we are special in God’s eyes. And that He will always hold us close to His heart. Take some time each day to sense the Lord’s direction, encouragement, and blessing. There is nothing better than hearing clearly about His love and care for each one of us.

In this season of love and sweethearts, know that you are close to my heart as well. Pastor

Budget Status Report

The Month of December, 2009

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$68,643
Offerings	<u>81,737</u>
Over (Under) Budget	\$13,094
Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$71,250
Offerings	<u>81,737</u>
Over (Under) Actual	\$10,487

The Year Through December, 2009

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$738,618
Offerings	<u>674,272</u>
Over (Under) Budget	(\$64,346)
Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$728,730
Offerings	<u>674,272</u>
Over (Under) Actual	(\$54,458)

–The Board Of Trustees

New Parenting Class Study

Can you imagine your life without fear? With so much going wrong in the world, it seems hard to imagine living life with confidence and joy alongside daily news of layoffs at work, economic meltdowns, flare ups around the world, downturns in the housing market and a pervasive fear that somehow things will never be the same as they once were. imagine your life unaffected by the fears that haunt us every day, everyday where you could trust more and fear less.

Join the Parenting Class as we begin a study of Max Lucado's new book, "Fearless: Imagine Your Life Without Fear" on Sunday, February 7th. Books will be \$10.00 and contain a study guide in the back. If you have questions, see Stan Brown or Mike or Dale Braun.

--Mike Braun

**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.dinger@fuse.net or elliedinger@juno.com. Articles received after the 20th may not be in that month’s newsletter.

Haiti Relief Effort

We all have heard about the devastation caused by the 7.0 magnitude earthquake that struck Haiti on January 12th. The news reports at the time of this writing are still sketchy but what we don't know doesn't sound good. As a Missions Board we would like First Baptist to be involved in assisting in the relief efforts that will be on-going for several months forward and invite our entire church to partner with those who have suffered great loss in this calamity.

Matthew 25: Ministries of Cincinnati immediately shifted their relief operations into high gear and will be sending containers of relief supplies to Haiti for the foreseeable future. They have been involved in Haitian poverty relief for many years but after a devastating natural disaster such as this, the priorities shift to what is immediately needed to assist in keeping people healthy and free from the disease that often follows such disasters. We contacted Matthew 25 and they are accepting relief donations and requested we focus on gathering the following items:

- Cleaning supplies and disinfectants
- Disinfectant sprays (Lysol, 409, Fantastic, sprays with bleach)
- Hand sanitizing gel
- Cleaning fluids (Mr. Clean, etc.)
- Personal care items (soap, shampoo, toothpaste and toothbrushes, washcloths)
- Non-perishable foods, canned goods, packaged foods
- Blankets, blankets and more blankets

We will be gathering items here and will be forwarding them to Matthew 25 for them to pack and send to Haiti in their container shipments. Clothing will be needed eventually but Matthew 25 has asked donations to focus on the above items for the next few weeks. *Please deposit your donations in the marked boxes in the coatroom areas.* Thank you for your efforts.

--Missions Board

Help!! Moppet Workers Needed!

Moppet workers are needed each third Tuesday of the month to watch the children of the moms who are enjoying their MOPS program. Please call Karen Buchanan if you are willing to help - 863-1472.

--Karen Buchanan
MOPS Childcare Co-ordinator



We held our fifth meeting of the 2009-10 MOPS year on Tuesday, January 19th. Twenty Three moms enjoyed a morning of fellowship, conversation, crafts and of course food! : We also had the pleasure of welcoming Leanne Meyers, Director of the John Engel Christian Counseling Center, as our guest speaker. Leanne spoke to our group about dealing with insecurities and loneliness with a special focus on who we are in Christ. She was fabulous!

We also began our third Bible study on Wednesday, January 20th with fifteen ladies in attendance!!!! This group has grown from an idea to an awesome group of ladies who desire to grow their spiritual lives and have a more intimate relationship with Him. Friendships have blossomed along with a commitment of love and support for each other.

Please continue to pray for our MOPS group. That we will be a light in a world of darkness. That our numbers will continue to increase and that ultimately each mom present will feel His love, receive a blessing and renew or begin a relationship with Christ.

Plan our joining us at our February meeting as we host our Annual Pamper Fair - a favorite of everyone!

On Planet Mom but not alone-
Elise

Community Outreach Opportunity

Could you spare about an hour per week between the hours of 9:30 AM and 3:30 PM? If so, you could be part of an amazing volunteer opportunity at Ridgeway Elementary School on Wasserman Road in Hamilton. We are looking for volunteers to implement Repeated Reading with students. Research has shown this strategy to be very effective in increasing students' reading skills. The strategy is very simple; it only takes about 10 minutes per student. We will provide all of the materials and training. Ideally, you would volunteer two days per week for between 30 and 45 minutes to work with the same students. Come and show God's love to his children! For more information and to sign up, please call Aleesha Spence at (513) 374-4756.

--Aleesha Spence
Community Outreach Co-ordinator



Awana Club

Awana February Calendar

- 3rd - Store Night
- 10th - Valentine Theme Night
- 17th - Regular Club/Grand Prix Workshop
- 24th - Regular Club/Grand Prix Workshop

With silly socks, missions night and bringing friends January has flown by, look out for the above in February.

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

Annual Childcare Appreciation Luncheon

It's February! For some that means chocolate, cards, flowers, diamonds, even romantic getaways to far off places like England (yes, I know my husband reads this!). For Cheryl and I, it is a time to say thank you to all our childcare workers. Those tireless people who change diapers; read lift the flap books; teach a Bible lesson; make a craft; listen to verses; sing songs; play ball; and much more, these people do these things with a smile on their face and a love for all our children. To say thank you, we will be holding our annual luncheon on Sunday, the 21st, after service, in the Family Center. ANYONE who has taken a turn in nursery, Kinderchurch, toddlers, Kids church, Awana and helped in any other opportunity to take care of our children is welcome!

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



Summer Softball

Softball begins the week of April 19th! If you would like to play on the men's team (games on Tuesday nights), please see Jeremy Spence in the connector to sign up by Sunday, April 18th. All games are played at North End (Ford's Field).

–Rob VanMeter
Director of Sports and Recreation

Yada Sisterhood is... All about Him!

YADA is a Hebrew word meaning "to know," as in having intimate, experiential knowledge. The Biblical Old Testament word for **KNOWING GOD** means:

- To Perceive - to Learn
- To Understand - to Recognize
- To Believe - to Accept His Claims
- To Conform - to Be Willing
- To Perform - to Live and Serve
- To Obey - to See and Experience

YADA SISTERHOOD is simply a group of First Baptist Women who desire to have a more intimate relationship with the King of Kings. We meet on Sunday mornings from 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. in Room 111. The class is open to any woman who desires a deeper relationship with God. As Sisters in Christ, we are committed to linking arms and spurring each other on in our walk with Him.

Our goal is to reach out and meet the unique needs of women: to provide nourishment to body, mind, and soul; to create a place to belong; to serve with other women of our church; to fellowship; to encourage one another; to share godly wisdom and spiritual truths. Please come join us! If you would like more information, call Diane Wallick at 863-4227.

--Diane Wallick

Winter Reminder!



If Hamilton City schools do not open on a weekday because of snow or ice, the church will not be open that day either.



Carpenter's Hands Signs Of Love



Happy Birthday!



February 11 - Jack Wyant

Interpreter Schedule for February

Feb. 7	Jo Manson	Maria Miller
Feb. 14	Jo Manson	Maria Miller
Feb. 21	Jo Manson	Maria Miller
Feb. 28	Jo Manson	Maria Miller

The next **Silent Dinner** will be held on Friday evening, February 5th at Northgate Mall. See you there!

—Maria Miller
Director of Deaf Ministries

Corrections and Additions To The Directory

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

Benzing, Bob & Sharon (Braun)
86 Kelly Court
Hamilton, OH 45013
Phone # 833-5905

Griesinger, Bernie & Martha (as if 02/10/10)
1232 Deerfield Circle
Hamilton, OH 45013
Phone # 863-4465

Jones, Ralph & Florence Jan. - April
Riverside Club
1900 Clifford Street (701-A)
Ft. Myers, FL 33901
Phone # 239-334-7245

Wallace, Larry
Cell Phone # 375-9470

Women's Ministry Council News



Game and Puzzle Night

Ladies, put on your thinking caps and get your competitive motors running. On Friday, February 19 (6:30 –9:00 PM) in room 200 we will gather for a fun evening of board and card games, Scrabble and puzzle working. NO pressure or stress--you will be able to choose what activities you want to do and if you find you don't like your choice you can change and do something else. A light supper of soup and dessert will also be served. Please sign up at the table in the connector with members of the Women's Ministry team beginning February 7.



Single/widowed ladies.

We ran this information before and had some response BUT--HELP!! During December decorating and moving tables around our surveys disappeared and cannot be found. If you have expressed an interest, please redo the survey.

Would you be interested in forming a group for occasional socializing, dining out, travel, shopping or whatever? The Women's Ministry Council is considering sponsoring such a group and is wondering if there would be enough interest in our church family to do so. If this is a group you would seriously consider participating in, pick up a form on which to indicate your interest at the table in the connector. when you complete the survey return the form to the basket at that table.

Serve City In March

We are working on scheduling a date for taking dinner to Serve City. Watch for more information about this.

Ladies Retreat In April

Be on the lookout for more information about the Sweet Life Cafè coming soon!

--Women's Ministry Council



From The Heart Of Judy

College Corner

E-Mail From God

Go After Love

“Go after a life of love as if your life depended on it—because it does.”—I Corinthians 14:1 (The Message)

Valentine’s Day is a wonderful time to remember that our Father’s love never changes and His heart is always open to receive us. May our college students feel His special love this Valentine’s Day. Our college students would love to receive a loving thought of encouragement from their First Baptist Church family. The wintery days can get cold and long when you are on a campus and a card in their mailbox really will help to pick them up!

- | | |
|--|----------|
| | Birthday |
| Chad Allen (Wright State University)
1239 Springwood Lane Rm 406 B LAH
Fairborn, Ohio 45324 | 11/2 |
| Joey Braun (Ohio State University)
3140 Baker Hall West
129 West 12th Avenue # 41
Columbus, Ohio 43210 | 11/7 |
| Mark Braun (University of Toledo)
1848 Meadowlark Avenue
Toledo, Ohio 43614 | 4/11 |
| Andy Cain (Earlham University)
Bundy Hall 309
801 National Road West
Richmond, Indiana 47374 | 11/26 |
| Sara Cain (Northern Kentucky University)
Commonwealth Hall GL103
20 Campbell Drive
Highland Heights, KY 41076 | 11/26 |
| Brian Chamberlain (University of Cincinnati)
5028 West Scioto Drive
Fairfield, Ohio 45014 | 9/13 |
| Rachael Davis (Miami University)
2483 Sir Martin Drive
Hamilton, Ohio 45013 | 10/17 |
| Jeff Hazelwood (Ohio State - ATI)
1031 Franklin Ct.
Wooster, Ohio 44691 | 5/3 |

- | | |
|--|-------|
| Drew Helton (Wright State University)
1570 # 1 Reece Drive
Fairborn, Ohio 45324 | 5/17 |
| Samantha Hetterich (Penn Foster)
215 Country Club Drive
Oxford, Ohio 45056 | 11/16 |
| Teresa Hoff (Miami University)
9 Madeline Place
Hamilton, Ohio 45013 | 10/2 |
| Lauren Keith (Miami University)
Collins Hall, Room 140
Oxford, Ohio 45015 | 2/13 |
| Mara Krall (Miami University)
5198 Westgate Drive
Oxford, Ohio 45056 | 11/17 |
| Noah Krall (University of Cincinnati)
5198 Westgate Drive
Oxford, Ohio 45056 | 7/6 |
| Jennifer McKee (Evansville University)
1700 East Walnut Street Rm. # 206
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 |
| Nick Wilson (Miami University)
1401 Eaton Avenue
Hamilton, Ohio 45013 | 3/25 |

--Judy Wallace
College/Career Coordinator



Souper Bowl Sunday

Sunday, February 7th, is Souper Bowl Sunday. Please bring to church with you a can of soup or any other food item and \$1. Members of CREW will be collecting these items at the doors. Food items and money will be divided between New Life Baptist Mission and Serve City. Thanks for your participation!

—Jeremy Spence

Big Thank You!

Words can hardly express the feelings to say how I appreciate the many blessings received from the DVD's of the Sunday Worship services and the ones of Ron Gerth's Sunday school class. I want to thank all the ones that make this possible. Also, how much enjoyment the Carolers brought. We had such a good visit. It warmed my heart. Many thanks to the church ladies for the goodies and the hard work they did to provide them. What an awesome Church Family! Thank you!! Thank You!!

—Juanita Hazelwood

Rotary Revels Present Beauty And The Beast

March 17, 18, 19 & 20 at 8:00 p.m.
March 20 & 21 at 2:00 p.m.

At Parrish Auditorium
Miami University Hamilton

Tickets are \$15.00

Attention: KeenAgers! KeenAgers are going to Rotary Presents *Beauty and The Beast* on Thursday, March 18th, at 8:00 p.m. There are **only 30 tickets** available. Please sign the list on the bulletin board ASAP. The cost is \$15. All money is due Sunday, February 14th.

KeenAger February Meeting

The KeenAgers will meet at church on Monday, February 15th, with Carl Schwab speaking on the construction of the pipeline through Butler County. Lunch will be catered by Lisa Dulli. Make your reservations by February 10th.

—Bernie Griesinger,
KeenAger Activity Director



Free Tax Service

There will be free income tax service provided by IRS approved tax preparers under the supervision of AARP Tax Aide at Partners In Prime, 140 Ross Avenue, beginning February 9th through April 15th. Bring last years Income Tax returns between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., **Tuesdays and Thursdays**. Our own **Naomi Hoskins** has served as a counselor in the program for many years, and is a local coordinator. For further information see Naomi Hoskins (863-1873).

Presidents' Day



February 15th





Child Care Schedule

Nursery (Morning)

February 7 - Joey Sackenheim & Kathy Inloes
 February 14 - Chris & Claire Metzger
 February 21 - Kerri Miller & Teen Helper
 February 28 - Chris & Claire Metzger

One & Two Year Olds

February 7 - Judy, Amy, & Anna Wallace
 February 14 - Chris & Claire Metzger
 February 21 - Monica Rose & Hailee
 February 28 - Mike & Dale Braun

Kinderchurch

February 7 - Dorothy Hollowell & Vickie Baker
 February 14 - Brandi Emenaker & Teen Helper
 February 21 - Dorothy Hollowell & Vickie Baker
 February 28 - Brandi Emenaker & Teen Helper



Childcare Schedule

Many thanks to those who have answered our plea for help with our childcare schedule. For those who have volunteered to assist in KidsChurch, there is a little management information to share. After the kids are excused from the service, they line up to be counted before they head to Room 200. Please stand with the kids, and then lead them to the bathrooms for a quick break. After all of the students have returned to the line, please lead them to Room 200, where Karen will be waiting to begin the lesson and activities for the day. As an assistant, you will not need to do any lesson planning or leading of activities, unless you would like to! You will be a support for Karen, helping to set up snacks, manage a game, help with a craft, or whatever else Karen might have up her sleeve! Thanks in advance for your help with this growing group of children!

—Andrea Mardis
 Childcare Co-Ordinator
 Claire Metzger & Cheryl Motzer
 Co-Directors of Children's Ministries



Wednesday Family Dinners

February 3 - Pastor & Jeremy's Birthday Dinner
 Menu: Spaghetti Casserole, Tossed Salad, Bread Sticks, Carrot Cake
 Hosts: TNT (Seekers)

February 10
 Menu: Beef Stew over Hot Buttered Noodles, Cole Slaw, Rolls, Cherry Crunch
 Hosts: Keystone I

February 17
 Menu: Chicken and Dumplings, Peas and Carrots, Fruit Jello, Rolls, Loretta's Texas Sheet Cake
 Hosts: FOCUS

February 24
 Menu: Salisbury Steak, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Green Beans, Tossed Salad, Rolls, Peach Cobbler
 Hosts: Trustees

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

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

February Greeters

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





Pastor Jeremy's Think Tank

Telling Our Story

By now I am sure most of you are aware of my thoughts about storying and experiencing God through telling of our stories to each other and the world we live in. I am convinced this is one of the most powerful tools we have to engage people in discussions about God, Christ, and the practicality of following Him. In fact, the other night during Lifeline we were reviewing our previous story, which took place early in December, and our teenagers were able to recall the whole story and our conversations that took place, truly remarkable. This was another way God has used recently to encourage me concerning storying.

With that in mind, there are some of us who will travel up to Columbus for a conference, called Dare2Share, which will help us to learn how to share our story with friends and loved ones. It is geared to proclaim the Gospel of Christ to those who don't know Him, to train those of us who know Christ to share Him, and then to have us go out and share Christ with the world around us. I am excited about this conference and the students who are going with Aleesha and I. I hope that you will pray for the weekend: 1) God would show up in our group so much we can't help but want to share our story about God's love as seen in our life with others, 2) our students would come back on fire for Christ, and His Church, and 3) we would see many teenagers come to know Christ.

I am convinced that our county needs more of Christ and the fields are ripe for harvest, but we need workers (Matthew 9.35-38). I know our students are in the biggest mission field, their schools, this country may ever know and people are wanting to experience hope, love, joy, grace, and community. This is what we, the CREW and the Church, have to offer those in our world: a place where everyone matters and Jesus Christ is Lord. I pray you will help make this church a place where stories are told and Christ is glorified. I pray you will be so captivated by God's story you can't help but tell to others. I pray our lives will be filled with God so others may confuse us for Him. I pray you will join me in praying for the lost and for opportunities to share our story with them. I pray you will daily be looking for God.

Telling His Story through my life,
Jeremy

UPCOMING EVENTS:

5th-6th: Dare2 Share Conference in Columbus. Those who are going to Dare2Share please be ready to leave the church at 4:30pm on Friday so we can get to Columbus in time to maybe check into the hotel before the conference begins. We will return back to church Saturday night around 11:30pm.

7th - After the morning service we will be collecting money for the Souper Bowl of Caring drive. Canned goods will be collected as well at that time. The funds will go to help serve people in Hamilton who may be in need. This is a great way to help others by donating at least \$1. There is information elsewhere in the Courier for you to find out more. I need a couple of students to help collect the money. Please see Jeremy to sign up.

7th - 6:00 pm - CREW Super Bowl Party at the Miller's home!! Don't forget to watch the big game with your fellow CREW members starting at 6:00pm. A vehicle will leave the church at 5:45 to head out to the Millers and will return to the church around 9:30pm. Guys need to bring a snack/dessert item and the ladies need to bring a pop/drink to share with all.

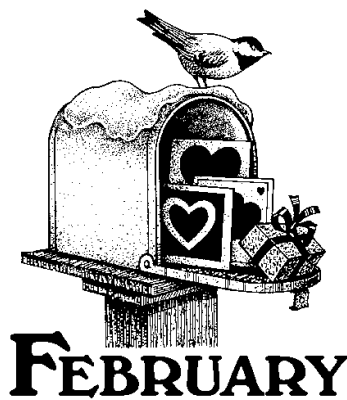
14th: Small Groups will resume. There will be a 7th-8th grade group, 9th-10th, and 11th and 12th. Get ready to join us for this great time or discussing how the Bible is vital for our everyday life. If you have any suggestions on different studies please see John and Ruthie Wallace, Mike and Dale Braun, or Jeremy Spence and Linda Wallace.

19th - 20th - Senior High Ski Outing to Perfect North Slopes. Cost will be \$30 per person. We will leave around 8:30pm and return early morning. It is important that you are ready to go by 8:30pm to allow ample ski time at Perfect North. Pick up or leave from church will be around 8am on Saturday.

Jr High Tubing Outing: If there are enough Jr Highers and their families that would like to go tubing at Perfect North we will take a trip there. If enough people want to go from our junior high families we will go on February 27 in the afternoon for a couple hours. Please see Jeremy now to sign up. Cost will be \$20 per person if we can get 15 people to go.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>February 2010</h1>						
	1	2 9:30 MOPS Steering	3 10:00 MOPS Bible Study 5:00 ABW 6:00 Family Dinner 6:30 Awana-Store Night 6:30 Lifeline 6:45 Bible Study & Prayer 6:45 Carpenter's Hands 8:00 Chancel Choir	4 9:30 Ladies Bible Study 5:30 Worship & Music 6:00 Upward Basketball 6:30 Ladies Bible Study	5 4:30 Dare2Share Conference in Columbus 6:00 Upward Basketball	6 8:00 Men's Prayer Gathering 9:00 Upward Basketball
7 Souper Bowl Sunday Blanket Sunday 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 5:00 Couples Bible Study 5:30 KingsKids 6:00 CREW Super Bowl 6:00 Cherub Choir 6:00 Evening Celebration	8 11:00 Women's Book Club at Fairfield Lane Library	9 10:00 Holloway Circle 10:00 Abell Circle 7:00 Smith Circle	10 10:00 MOPS Bible Study 6:00 Family Dinner 6:30 Awana-Valentine Theme Night 6:30 Lifeline 6:45 Bible Study & Prayer 6:45 Carpenter's Hands 8:00 Chancel Choir	11 9:30 Ladies Bible Study 5:30 Board of Trustees 6:00 Upward Basketball 6:30 Ladies Bible Study	12 6:00 Upward Basketball	13 9:00 Upward Basketball
14 Blanket Sunday 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 4:30 Board of Missions 5:30 KingsKids 6:00 Cherub Choir 6:00 Evening Celebration 6:00 Small Groups	15 10:00 KeenAger Meeting and Luncheon	16 9:30 MOPS-Pamper Fair	17 10:00 MOPS Bible Study 6:00 Family Dinner 6:30 Awana-Grand Prix Workshop 6:30 Lifeline 6:45 Bible Study & Prayer 6:45 Carpenter's Hands 8:00 Chancel Choir	18 9:30 Ladies Bible Study 6:00 Upward Basketball 6:30 Ladies Bible Study	19 6:00 Upward Basketball 6:30 WMC Game and Puzzle Night 8:30 Sr. CREW to Perfect North Ski Trip	20 9:00 Upward Basketball
21 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 12:00 Childcare Dinner 4:30 Diaconate 5:00 Couples Bible Study 5:30 KingsKids 6:00 Cherub Choir 6:00 Evening Celebration 6:00 Small Groups	22	23	24 10:00 MOPS Bible Study 6:00 Family Dinner 6:30 Awana-Grand Prix Workshop 6:30 Lifeline 6:45 Bible Study & Prayer 6:45 Carpenter's Hands 8:00 Chancel Choir	25 8:30 Matthew 25 9:30 Ladies Bible Study 6:00 Upward Basketball 6:30 Ladies Bible Study	26 6:00 Upward Basketball	27 9:00 Upward Basketball
28 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 4:00 C.E. Board 5:15 Youth of Praise 5:30 KingsKids 6:00 Cherub Choir 6:00 Evening Celebration						



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

1 -Geneda Cox
Sophie Wallace

2 -Mike O'Hara

3 -Sharon Brewer
LeiLing Brown
Mary Brown
Pastor Metzger

4 -Jacob Metzler

5 -Garry Day
Stephanie Mullins
Jeremy Spence

6 -Reva Hensley

7 -Betty Powell
Kasey Jenkins

8 -Chrissy Apgar
Betty Emenaker
Lainey Hanna

9 -Rosie Smith
Cleo Tiernan

10 - Matthew Farris

11 -Suzanne Garver
Ricky Jackson

12 -Carol Dawson
Adam Davidson
Ken Hendricks

13 -Chelsea Bowman
Kaye Haberthier
Beulah Hampton
Rick Jackson
Lauren Keith

14 -Noah Hampton
Sandy Morris
Nellie Roberts

16 -Debbie Gibson

17 -Daniel Gabbard
Rachel Harris
Everett Hoskins

18 -Jonathan Bell
Eric Dietrich

19 -Michelle Brackett
Emily Miller

20 -Cledith Humbach
Cathi Thomas

22 -Rod Anderson
Steve Cain

23 -Bettie Carmack
Miyoshie Jenkins
Jill O'Hara
Aleesha Spence

25 -Chris Forrest

26 -Rosemarie Emrick
Amie Gard
Allyson Payne

27 -Nikolas Acus
Betsey Kelly
Flo Gill
Helen Mullen

28 -Gerry Retherford

Note: Please call the church office if you notice that one of your family members has been inadvertently overlooked on the birthday calendar. We do not intend to overlook anyone but do not realize it unless you inform us.

First Baptist Church
1501 Pyramid Hill Boulevard
Hamilton, Ohio 45013
Phone: 513-868-1412



Personal Notes

From Diana Bueker

I'm so appreciative for the prayers for my cousin, Dick Heintzelman. He and Marty (his wife) have had a rough year following his bone marrow transplant. His slow improvement has tested our steadfastness, but we remain faithful because "we belong to God." Hebrews 3:13. We are grateful for your prayers. Thank you.

From Ray Chambers

Thank you for all the prayers and visits from friends, Pastor Bill and Pastor Den, during my recent colon surgery. I am feeling better and getting stronger every day. It means a lot to know that we have our church family that loves us and lifts us up in prayer. We hope to be able to be in worship and Sunday School class soon.

From Betty Cross

Thank you to Pastor Dennis and Pastor Bill for their kindness and concern; to the church for the cards and prayers; to Nancy Follmer for her special trip to bring tins of goodies and calenders for me; to dear Bert Brantingham who brought some their special Thanksgiving dinner. The broken ankle has improved and therapist comes to me. The weather hasn't helped so I need a little more time. Thank you all again.

From Betty Emenaker

Dear Prayer Warriors, thank you for your prayers on behalf of our granddaughter, Raegan Miles, and my friend, Belva Thomas. Raegan has excpected her helmet well and the doctors may remove her helmet earlier than expected. My friend, Belva, is in a leg brace four weeks early and able to return to work. This was a deep concern for she's the sole income earner. Belva is over the dietary at Russell Springs Hospital, Russell Springs, KY. Here we see two of God's daily miracles.

From the Fred Isaacs' Family - David, Jane, Barb, and Tom

Thank you so much for your kind thoughts and prayers. We appreciate the way that supported Dad through Mom's extended illness and this past year through our time of mourning after her death, Again this fall through Dad's courageous battle with cancer, your care and compassion were constant comfort in a time when there was little comfort to be found. We thank you for holding us up through this dark time.

From Evon Laubenstein

I would like to thank Pastors Den, Bill & Bert, & Nancy Follmer for their visits and prayers when my sister died. Thanks to all my church family for your phone calls, cards, and prayers for me and my family. Like Paul to the church at Philippi, I say, "I thank my God every time I remember you." God's continued blessing on each of you.

From Cheryl Motzer

I would like to thank my wonderful church family for all the prayers and cards during my recent knee replacement surgery. Thanks to Pastor Den for his visit in the hospital. I have relied on many of you my whole life as my teachers, mentors and friends. I know how much God can do in our lives with such a great church family.

From Sydney Wilson

Thanks to Pastor Den for his visit after I got home from my surgery for tonsils and adenoids. I had a very hard time at first, but I know a lot of people were praying for me. Thank you for all the cards that you sent, too. I am so happy to be able to come back to church!

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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