

# The Courier

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



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

*April, 2015*

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## From Daniel's Den

### ***Why The Resurrection Matters To You!***

(adapted from an article written by Bill Bright)

There is a growing interest in the historical person of Jesus of Nazareth. So why do His life and teachings still generate such interest today? To begin with, everything about Him was unique: The prophecies of His coming. His birth. His life. His teachings. His miracles. His death. And especially His resurrection. It is history's most significant event.

The **validity of Jesus' claims about Himself rests on the Resurrection** -- whether He rose from the dead or stayed in the grave. When confronted with the facts, those who are intellectually honest have been forced to admit that the Resurrection is an historical event based on irrefutable proofs. Several evidences help us reach the conclusion that Jesus is indeed who he says he is.

#### **Evidence for the Resurrection**

**1st, Christ predicted His resurrection.** (Matthew 16:21) Even though His followers did not understand what He was telling them at the time, they remembered His words and recorded them.

**2nd, Jesus made numerous appearances to His followers.** 1 Corinthians 15:3-8 records that Jesus was seen by more than 500 at one time. Some may argue that a few people could have agreed to a deception, but how can one explain the collaboration of 500 people?

**3rd, the unrelenting faith of the disciples convinces me of the Resurrection.** Those disciples who were once so afraid that they deserted their Lord now courageously proclaimed this news, risking their lives to preach. Their bold and courageous behavior does not make sense unless they knew with absolute certainty that Jesus had been raised from the dead.

**4th, the growth of the Christian church confirms the Resurrection.** Peter's first sermon at Pentecost (Acts 2), which dealt with Christ's resurrection, stirred people to receive Him as their living Savior. Today, there are hundreds of millions of believers.

**Finally, the testimony of hundreds of millions of transformed lives through the centuries shows the power of the Resurrection.** The most conclusive proof for the resurrection of Jesus Christ is that He is living within believers today in all of His resurrected life and transforming power.

**The Resurrection sets Christianity apart.** No other religious leader has broken the power of death and conquered sin.

#### **Significance of the Resurrection**

**The Resurrection confirms that Jesus is who He claimed to be.** Let us consider the magnitude of this event:

**The Resurrection proved that Christ was divine.** The fact that Jesus Christ died on the cross does not prove in itself He is God. Jesus proved His deity by fulfilling the prophecies of His death and by His return from the grave (Romans 1:4).

**The Resurrection proved Christ's power to forgive sin.** By rising from the dead, Jesus proved His authority and power to break the bonds of sin and to assure forgiveness and eternal life to all who accept His gift of salvation (1 Corinthians 15:17).

**The Resurrection revealed Christ's power over death.** "Christ rose from the dead and will never die again. Death no longer has any power over him" (Romans 6:9, TLB). The Resurrection secured our victory over death.

**The Resurrection defeated God's enemy.** From the moment of his original rebellion until the day of the Cross, the devil fought viciously and cunningly to overthrow the kingdom of God. The Cross was heaven's triumph. When Jesus Christ arose, the power of sin and death was forever shattered. Christians need never fear Satan or death again.

(Continued on the inside)



# American Baptist Women's Ministries

**Reminder:** April is Love Gift month.

## April Missionaries of the Month:

Mexico

Timothy & Patricia Long

Nicaragua

Drs. Anita & Rick Gutierrez

**Patti and Tim Long** serve in Baja California, Mexico. **Patti** ministers as special education teacher and resource specialist at the Monte Horeb Baptist Grade School in Tijuana, a school that reaches out to the most vulnerable of the city's young population, its children with special needs. She also coordinates the STEP scholarship program for students at the school.

**Tim** serves in leadership development through the Baja Baptist Seminary, teaching present and future church leaders, both at its Mexicali campus and extension centers located throughout Baja California. He also coordinates a scholarship program for seminary students.

Family doctors, **Anita & Rick Gutiérrez**, train and equip local churches, pastors and missionaries to combat life-style related diseases like HIV/AIDS, heart and artery disease, diabetes, and malaria. They incorporate portable rapid screening tests and ultrasounds into weekly neighborhood health classes held by trained health builders. Through in-home sessions, they provide friendship evangelism and Bible study opportunities. They are continuing to develop a health education DVD series that can be studied individually or in small groups. Their vision is to train two or four health builders in each participating church.

Bible Book of the Month . . . . . Zephaniah

*“The Lord your God is with you; His power gives you victory.” Zephaniah 3:17a (TEV)*

Zephaniah speaks at a difficult time in Judah's history when Judah's kings were supporters of “false gods”. The single major theme is the “coming of the Lord”, a day of divine judgement and destruction against sinners if the people did not repent. Zephaniah speaks of the corruption at every level of society and declares that the whole earth, including Judah and the enemy nations, shall be consumed by evil (1:2-3:8). But immediately he includes a promise of hope that God will purify Israel, restore all who have been sent into exile, and give peace to the land (3:9-20).

**PRAY** that more and more special needs students come to the Tijuana grade school each semester as word spreads of the acceptance, care and progress of so many otherwise neglected children.

**PRAY** also for Rick and Anita as they continue to develop more health education and health builder skills training videos.



## Giving Opportunity

For the months of March and April, we are collecting **peanut butter, canned green beans and boxes of cereal** for the food pantry at Laurel Avenue Church of Christ. Place your donations in the box labeled “Food Pantry” in the coat room outside the Family Center. Thank you for all the ways you serve “the least of these.”



The next scheduled Work Day at Matthew 25 will be Thursday, April 23rd. 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. Your reward for this ministry will be recorded in heaven. Thank you.

## KeenAger April Outing

The KeenAgers are going to attempt to attend the outdoor drama “*Tecumseh*” in Chillicothe, Ohio on June 30th. But wait, you can go with us if you are a KeenAger or a teenager or anywhere in between. Come and join us as we travel by charter coach. See Dave Hazelwood for more information and an itinerary.

–KeenAger Activity Committee  
Dave & Janet Hazelwood  
Bert Campbell

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(Continued from front - Daniel's Den)

### Completion of Redemption

For 40 days after His death and resurrection, Christ appeared many times to His followers. On one occasion, He gathered His remaining 11 disciples on a mountain in Galilee and gave them His Great Commission (Matthew 28:19,20).

Later, Acts says on the Mount of Olives, Jesus admonished His disciples to wait in Jerusalem until they were filled with the Holy Spirit and then to take His message to Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the world (Acts 1:4,5,8). Immediately after, He rose skyward and disappeared into the clouds, leaving the disciples staring after Him in amazed wonder. **The ascension of Christ was the final act in the drama of redemption.** His mission completed, Jesus Christ was exalted to His former glory.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ ranks as history's most revolutionary event. One cannot deny that He shook the world in His day. But His life just as dramatically has shaped the course of history in our time. The Resurrection is the final proof that Jesus Christ is who He claimed to be.

Starting Easter Sunday, we will be focusing on the period from the Resurrection to the Ascension 40 days later, to Pentecost 50 days later. What was Jesus doing for that time, and why does it matter? Do not miss this revealing journey through the most amazing 50 days of all time.

—Pastor Dan Clemens

**April 5th** - Resurrection Sunday Morning Worship Service - *"Jesus And The Women"* 10:30 a.m. No Evening Service.

**April 27th** - Spring Trip to Oneida

## Looking Ahead

**May 17th** - Cherubs Sing in Morning Worship

**May 17th** - KingsKids' Present *Back To The Cross* - 6:00 p.m.

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## Come, Walk The Way Of The Cross

Pastor Dan will be participating in the *Come, Walk The Way Of The Cross* Friday, April 3rd. It begins at 12:00 noon. The walk gives all people in the community, regardless of their denomination, a chance to walk the walk of Jesus and get a better understanding of his pain and suffering along the way.

A drum will beat a steady cadence along the route that dozens of people will follow starting at the old county courthouse and ending back at the same spot after a walk for many blocks through downtown Hamilton. People will make seven stops along the way at churches and the Butler County Government Center. The experience featured music, scripture, and prayer.

Dr. John Lewis, pastor at the Presbyterian Church in Hamilton, started this tradition. He said they wanted to walk through the heart of downtown to demonstrate their faith in Christ. "This day is very significant to us. This is the day Christ died on the cross for us. So Heaven is open for us. We come together as a community of faith regardless of denomination and it's really just a wonderful time to build that sense of community." Everyone is invited to participate.



### Don't Miss These Important Events!

**March 29th** - Palm Sunday-*"Jesus And The Church People"* 10:30 a.m.

Palm Sunday Evening - *"Jesus: The Passion"* - 6:00 p.m.

**March 22nd - April 4th** - Communion to Shut-Ins

**April 2nd** - Maundy Thursday Communion Service - *"Jesus And Betrayers"* 7:00 p.m.

**April 3rd** - Good Friday, Hamilton Prayer Walk, noon, Courthouse, *"Come Walk The Way Of The Cross"*



### Community Sunrise Service

Everyone is invited to a Community Sunrise Service at 7:00 a.m. on Easter Sunday morning, April 5th. It will be held at the RiversEdge Amphitheater next to the Marriott Hotel. Please bring your own lawn chair. In case of rain the service will be held at the Presbyterian Church, 23 S. Front Street.

## Budget Status Report

### The Month of February, 2015

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$ 48,895
Offerings	<u>52,258</u>
Over (Under) Budget	\$ 3,363

Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$47,723
Offerings	<u>52,258</u>
Over (Under) Actual	\$ 4,535

### The Year Through February, 2015

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$110,135
Offerings	<u>101,740</u>
Over (Under) Budget	(\$ 8,395)

Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$105,618
Offerings	<u>101,740</u>
Over (Under) Actual	(\$ 3,878)

–The Board Of Trustees

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## First Quarter Business Meetings

The Advisory Board will meet on Sunday, April 12th, at 5:00 p.m. All elected officers of the church are members of the Advisory board and are urged to be in attendance at this meeting. In addition to items of business on which recommendations will be made to the church, reports will be heard from the boards and staff.

The First Quarter Business Meeting will be Wednesday, April 15th, at 6:45 p.m. Reports will be heard from the boards and staff.

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## Looking Ahead



Saturday, May 2nd

## Sunset in Reverse

I've always loved the sunset  
At the closing of the day.  
I've marveled as I've watched  
That blood-red ball just slip away

And leave behind an after-glow  
Which takes my breath away.  
I sit in awe and praise my God  
For sunsets at close of day.

One morning, facing east,  
A new phenomenon I see:  
A tip of sun emerging,  
Which grows as it greets me.

The sky, aglow with pink and red  
Brightens and turns to gold,  
As a sunset in reverse  
My eyes are privileged to behold!

I ponder this dichotomy -  
So alike, yet so diverse.  
A sunset marks an ending,  
But not a sunset in reverse!

Then I think of crucifixion;  
How Christ died on Calvary.  
Good Friday marked an ending . . .  
A Sonset final as could be,

But then on Easter morning,  
The Son rose just for me!  
A Sonset in reverse . . .  
A resurrection victory!

How I praise my Maker,  
For He thwarted Satan's curse!  
God gave us the Sonset  
So we could have it in reverse!

By Florence Jones



## Women's Ministry Opportunities

### Beth Moore Coming to Cincinnati

Popular speaker and Bible teacher Beth Moore will be presenting a week-end conference at US Bank Arena in downtown Cincinnati on Friday evening, June 26 and Saturday, June 27. The Women's Ministry Team would like to provide an opportunity for a group from FBC to attend.

Because of the close proximity we plan to take the church bus on both Friday evening and Saturday morning. But we also realize that some women might like to join forces and stay the night in a downtown hotel. Some hotels are offering special rates for event attendees.

The cost for the week-end conference is \$69 and hotel prices range from about \$100-\$200 (for a room that sleeps 4). We will take orders for tickets and arrange for transportation. For those wanting to stay overnight in Cincy we will provide information about hotels but will ask for those people to make their own arrangements.

We would like to have tickets purchased by the end of May. Watch the table by the gym for more information on tickets and other arrangements as we get closer to the date.

### Thursday Evening Bible Study To Resume

We will be resuming the Thursday evening Bible Study on April 9th in room 113-114 at 6:30. We will be working through Beth Moore's study on Paul's letters to the Thessalonians titled "*Children Of The Day.*" All ladies are invited. For more info contact Lois Anderson (894-1216, text 237-0091 or e-mail [randerson26@cinci.rr](mailto:randerson26@cinci.rr).)

### Priscilla Shirer Simulcast

Stop by the table by the gym to pick up a flyer with information about speaker and teacher Priscilla Shirer latest simulcast. An option for home viewing is offered.

## "Lemonade"

Have you ever heard the old saying "*When life gives you lemons, make lemonade*"? Join us on the first Saturday in May as we look at a fun and fresh way to bring women together for a time of refreshment...not only with lemonade but with God's message of new life. This zesty event uses the popular concept of "upcycling" (if you don't know what that is come and find out!) to start the conversation about the new life we have in Christ. Stop by the table by the gym for more information and to purchase tickets (\$5 to cover the cost of refreshments and supplies).

**What:** LEMONADE - a fun event for women to celebrate spring, be refreshed and enjoy a time of fellowship.

**When/Where:** Saturday, May 2nd, from 9:00 a.m. to noon in room 200

**Why:** For a refreshing time of fellowship

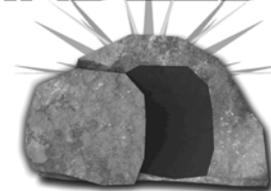
**Cost of tickets:** \$5 to cover supplies and refreshments. Please purchase at the table by the gym by April 26.

**Bring:** A clean, old t-shirt for "upcycling" (it doesn't matter color or size) and a pair of sharp scissors if you have them.



*"Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone, a new life has begun."*  
2 Corinthians 5:17

**He Is  
RISEN  
INDEED!**





The March MOPS meeting was great! We had 25 moms attend, including one mom who joined us for the first time. Everyone was excited to be back at MOPS especially after having cancelled February's meeting due to weather. We are particularly grateful for your prayers and for those of you who faithfully watch our children month after month. Thank you for being a part of the MOPS ministry!

Our next meeting is scheduled for April 21st from 9:30a.m.-11:45a.m. Our topic is *Super Survivor: Women's Health*. Courtney Halloran from Oxford Health and Wellness will be speaking to us on women's health issues. As moms, we are constantly caring for others, but do we remember to take care of ourselves too? The book of 1 Corinthians teaches us how our bodies are God's temple, and we are instructed to honor God by taking care of our bodies. By taking care of ourselves, we are not only better equipped to care for others, but we ultimately are honoring God.

April is filled with several additional MOPS events. A Moms' Night Out Craft Night is planned for Thursday, April 9th, at 7p.m. at Desi Culbertson's house. The MOPS Bible Study will meet on Tuesday, April 14th from 9:30-11:30a.m. at First Baptist Church. Moms will also be preparing and serving dinner at Serve City on Monday, April 20th. Lastly, a mom/child outing to the Hamilton Police Department for a tour is also scheduled on Tuesday, April 28th at 10a.m. Please contact me at [allison\\_sommers@yahoo.com](mailto:allison_sommers@yahoo.com) if you have any questions or if you want to get involved in MOPS.

Serving Him,  
Allison Sommers



## Pathway To Hope Campaign

First Baptist again will be participating in a fundraising event with Pathway to Hope Women's Center. Pathway to Hope is Hamilton's community Pregnancy Care Center located in the New Life Mission. The Center offers help, hope, and healing by empowering women to choose life for themselves and their babies. Members at First Baptist can be a part of this vital ministry by participating a very simple fundraiser. On Sunday morning, April 12th, we plan to make available baby bottles that boldly proclaim God's word on the outside to members of the congregation who wish to participate in the fundraiser. They are to be filled with coins, currency, or checks by church members and returned to the church on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 10th. This can be a great way to become involved in this vital ministry dedicated to saving the lives of unborn children and making an eternal difference in the mothers' lives. Our church family enthusiastically embraced this project last year by donating approximately \$1,600.00. The Smith Circle will be First Baptist's liaison with the Center. If you wish to have further information concerning this project, please call Thelma Stanger at 895-3062.

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## Spring Trip To Oneida, KY

Jerry Hampton, Jim Baker, and Mike Gipson will be making the spring pilgrimage to Oneida Baptist Institute on Monday, April 27th. The campus has approximately 450 teens grades 6 through 12 and are in need of all help possible. Please bring any good used clothing, coats, shoes, toys, etc. that you would like to donate to the building and place them in the coat room after April 12th. Please put the items in plastic trash bags and mark them for Oneida. (Please, because of storage problems - NO donations after Sunday, April 26th.) Anyone is welcome to ride along with them. Donations for gasoline are appreciated.

# Camp Kirkwood Chili Spaghetti Dinner

5:00 to 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 25th

Family Center at First Baptist Church Hamilton

You are invited to an event promoting Kirkwood Camp & Conference Center, which hosts ABC Ohio youth summer camps. We'll eat chili spaghetti, watch a short video about the camp, have a campfire sing-along, and hear testimony.

Those who have never been to Kirkwood will have the opportunity to learn about the various camps. People who have been to Kirkwood recently and in past years are encouraged to come and learn about the Friends of Kirkwood support program. Please wear your Kirkwood T-shirts if you have them.

Those interested in attending camp will be able to register during this event. We will provide registration and health forms as well as ABC Ohio scholarship forms. As the camp continues its ministry, donations are sought to keep it viable for years to come. Those interested in making a contribution may do so at this event, or by joining the Friends of Kirkwood program.

People who plan to attend may register on a sign-up sheet that will be in the connector near the family center. We encourage members of the youth group to attend and bring friends!

For more information on camping at Kirkwood or how to rent the grounds, see Brian Chamberlain, Mandy Gambrell or Tim Swicegood.

First Baptist Church pays part of the fees for members wishing to attend camp. See Brian for a scholarship application.

[www.campkirkwood.net](http://www.campkirkwood.net)

[facebook.com/kirkwood.camp](https://www.facebook.com/kirkwood.camp)

## Volunteer Day At Camp Kirkwood

You have been invited by Camp Kirkwood to sign up for the April 11, 2015 Volunteer Day at Camp Kirkwood. More info: [www.campkirkwood.net](http://www.campkirkwood.net)

To sign up, go to:

[www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0B4DA4A922A7FF2-april/26266401](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0B4DA4A922A7FF2-april/26266401)



## Kirkwood Camp Schedule 2015

ABC/OHIO summer camps at Kirkwood will be:

June 14-19 - Junior High Camp Grades 7 - 9 Director: Linda Miller	\$310.00
June 21-26 - Junior Missions Camp Grades 4 - 6 Director: Kara Barton	\$310.00
June 28 - July 1 - New Adventure Camp Grades 3 - 4 Director: Tim Lee	\$225.00
June 28 - July 3 - Senior High Camp Grades 9 - 12 Director: Bethany Atchison	\$310.00
July 10 - 11 - Beginner Camp Grades Kindergarten - 2nd Director: Kim Flach	\$135.00

**Early Registration Discount \$10 if postmarked by  
April 1st**

**First Time Camper Discount \$10**

**Bring-a-Friend (attending camp for the first time!)  
Discount \$10**

**Family Discount (2nd, 3rd, 4th ... member to register  
this summer) Discount \$10**

The Board of Christian Education decided that the church would pay  $\frac{1}{2}$  **up to \$150** of the fee of **those who attend First Baptist regularly** to attend ABC camps.

For additional information or registration forms, contact Camp Co-ordinator Brian Chamberlain, 256-9384 or see him at church.

—Brian Chamberlain  
Camp Coordinator





VBS 2015  
*Journey Of The Map!*  
July 13 - 17  
9:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m

Hopefully we have left all of the snowy weather behind!!! We will be celebrating Easter this month in our various Awana clubs, we will also not have club the first Wednesday in April due to Spring Break for Hamilton City Schools. We are continuing to work on memorizing our verses and realize that there are not that many weeks left at all! We are still in need of people to come and listen to our children share their verses from 6:30 - 7:00. Typically adults are paired up with a small group or an individual child to work with them on reviewing their verses, this is a privileged time to be with these precious ones and we need committed people to take on this role in order for Awana to continue successfully.

**Awana April Calendar**

- 1 - **NO CLUB** (Spring Break - Hamilton)
- 8 - Regular Club Night
- 15 - **Neon Night Theme Night**
- 22 - Regular Club Night
- 29 - Regular Club Night

Our Grand Prix had 12 clubbers racing and 7 adults racing. With a few reruns and disagreements on whether someone had put a car down backwards or not we were able to get our winners. For the clubbers with design Lydinsay Begley came first with her car "*Monkey Moblie*", second was Cameron Chaney with "*Bruuuuce!!*" and third was Makayla Witmer with the "*Black Ninja*". For speed Trevor Allen came first with his "*Thor*" car, while Conner Bowling (represented by Riley as he was sick) came in second with "*Texas Lightning*". In third place was Isaiah Witmer with "*Bullet!*". With the adult racers, Brian Dickman won best in design with his "*Sound Board Bandit*" while Brain Begley came first in speed with "*Ice-cycle*". We couldn't not mention the "*Church Lady's Car*" which if she had been able to have confetti and glitter shoot out when it raced would have perfectly matched its creator Marilyn Bowling.

For the Cubbies race, with the fantastic loop de loops (thanks Mike!!!) Lauren Brudinski came in first, Ciaran Metzger (honorary Cubbie for the night as he heard there was free food!) came in second and Wes Dickman came in third. The adults also raced I'm unsure who won but remember that the SPAM car did not make it as its wheels were wonky!

-Claire Metzger & Cheryl Motzer,  
Awana Leaders

Its never to early to think Bible School! We are scheduling our class teachers and starting to plan out all the different areas. Please see us if you can help, we averaged 113 children last year and around 90 teachers. This may seem a lot of help for the children but when you consider the different ages we always need more help.

This year we are traveling to the Rainforest to learn in uncharted territory how to understand that obedience to God can lead to beyond the expected. We will toss the map, stick close to our guides, and prepare to listen for God's direction in this journey that is unknown to us, but known by Him. Our motto is, "*This is the way. Walk in it.*" Our key verse coming from Isaiah 30:21, "*And whenever you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear this command behind you: 'This is the way. Walk in it.'*"

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

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**Sunday School Breakfast**  
April 12, 2015

The Sunday School Breakfast will be April 12th starting at 8:30 a.m. in the Family Center. Biscuits and gravy, breakfast casserole, cereal for the kids, and fruit will be served.

-John Motzer  
Assistant Sunday School Superintendent

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**Childcare Luncheon**

Thankfully the weather permitted us to enjoy our childcare luncheon in March, we were hoping to fill up our childcare schedule but we still have some blanks. Please see us if you can take a Sunday. We do ask that parents of children in these groups do take a turn watching and teaching them as well.

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



## From The Heart Of Becky

### College Corner

#### E-Mail From God

#### Let It Go

*“Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.”*  
–Matthew 5:44

Dear Child,

When you cut yourself or get a bruise, your body eventually heals. Your body doesn't say, "I hate you, sticker bush! You injured me, and I'll never forgive you. I'll carry this cut around with me forever to remind me of how evil you are!" Your body knows that type of unforgiving behavior just hurts itself. Staying cut is not going to affect the sticker bush one way or another.

Likewise, if someone cuts you down with mean words, don't carry those words around. You're only hurting yourself. One of the best ways to heal from an emotional wound is to pray a blessing on the person who hurt you. I know it sounds crazy, but praying for your enemies keeps their mean words from controlling you. I want you to love everybody. I'll help you do it.

Your Healer,  
God

–Serving in His name,  
Becky Scripture  
College/Career Coordinator



Softball season is upon us and we are looking forward to a fun-filled season of sportsmanship and camaraderie. Games are played on Tuesday nights beginning in April at North End (Ford's Field) in Hamilton. Must be 16 years of age. Please contact Brian Chamberlain at 256-9384 or email me at Bchamberlain@deloitte.com for sign up information. Looking forward to seeing you all at the ball field.

God Bless,  
Brian Chamberlain  
Director of Sports and Recreation

## Youth Spotlight

**Kalynne Schuermann** was recognized as a 2015 Cincinnati Difference Maker - Youth Honoree at a celebration held recently at the Cincinnati Museum Center. Kalynne was nominated by her principal in recognition of a service-oriented group that she created at her school, John Paul II Catholic School. **S.E.R.V.E.** (Students Engaged in Rewarding Volunteer Experiences) is a 100% student-driven organization that stays busy looking for ways to make a difference in their local, national, and global communities.

Since its inception in the Fall of 2013, **SERVE** members have volunteered at Matthew 25 Ministries and Hands Against Hunger. They have also held numerous canned food drives benefitting the FreeStore Food Bank and Mt. Healthy Food Alliance. **SERVE** has enjoyed bringing fun activities into the halls of JPII with the purpose of raising money for organizations. Some of those activities include: Rock the Socks, Mustache Monday, Photo Booth Friday, Boys vs. Girls Penny War, Power of Pink, and Ugly Christmas Sweater Day. **SERVE** also works to help others with longterm projects including the Bags to Blankets, Go Bananas!, and Funding Factory campaigns, and by collecting Cancelled Postage Stamps and Egg Cartons. **SERVE** has also organized a school-wide letter-writing campaign for our country's veterans in Operation Gratitude and is putting the final touches on a campaign where the monetary donations will be directed to Tri-State Honor Flight.

**SERVE** members are working hard to show their classmates that little things matter and that each person, young or old, has an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of someone else. Kids might be small, but the impact of their actions can be mighty!

Kalynne is the daughter of Andy and Kim Schuermann and the granddaughter of Charles and Teene Campbell. Kalynne is an 8th grader at John Paul II Catholic School in Cincinnati, and will be attending Ursuline Academy in the fall.





## Child Care Schedule

### Nursery (Morning)

April 5 -

April 12 - Linda & Larry Wallace

April 19 - Brianne & Thomas Ellison

April 26 -

### One & Two Year Olds

April 5 -

April 12 - Billie Gipson & Teen Helper

April 19 -

April 26 - Barb & Brian Begley

### Kiddie Church

April 5 - Claire & Chris Metzger

April 12 -

April 19 - Vicky Baker & Sharon Brewer

April 26 -

### Kinderchurch

April 5 - Dorothy Hollowell & Jill O'Hara

April 12 - Cheryl Motzer, Noëlle, & Syd

April 19 - Dorothy Hollowell & Jill O'Hara

April 26 - Cheryl Motzer, Noëlle, & Syd



## 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 childcare 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 Co-Ordinator: Cheryl Motzer (868-1888). Thanks for volunteering as a child care worker and may you always know how much we appreciate you!

-Cheryl Motzer  
(868-1888)

Childcare Co-Ordinator



## Wednesday Family Dinners

### April 1

**There will be no dinner because of Easter break and Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service**

### April 8

Menu: Spaghetti Casserole, Tossed Salad, Bread Sticks, Brownies with Ice Cream

Hosts: Yada Sisterhood/Men's Class

### April 15

Menu: Chicken and Dumplings, Peas and Carrots, Fruit Jello, Rolls, Pineapple Upside-Down Cake

Hosts: Keystone

### April 22

Menu: Scrambled Eggs, French Toast, Sausage, Biscuits & Gravy, Hash Brown Casserole

Hosts: FOCUS

### April 29

Menu: Oven Baked Pork Loin, Au Gratin Potatoes, Green Beans, Cole Slaw, Carrot Cake

Hosts: Trustees

Reminder: Adults should contribute \$5.00 per person for the meal (including children who eat from the main table), \$15 per family (those living in the same household, and the cost for children under 12 years old who eat at the "Hot Dog" table is \$1.50. 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.

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## April Greeters

Nancy Follmer, Mike Gipson-Sub, Evelyn Mesler,  
Jerry Hampton, Sandy Keller,  
Mary Petry, & Gary Swindall- Sunday School





2015

**In Loving Memory Of**

**By**

Elden & Jane Anderson . . . . Lois & Rod Anderson  
Ed & Effie Avance . . . . Mike & Deborah Thacker  
Willie Baker . . . . . Jim & Mag Baker  
Robert P. Borden . . . . . Bob Borden  
Wade Ezekiel Bowling . Marilyn & Larry Bowling  
Margie Braun . . . . . Paul Braun  
Howard & Peggy Burtis . . . . Neil & Rosie Burtis  
Roger Day . . . . . Janet & Josh Day  
Guy Gessendorf, Sr . . . Ruby Gessendorf & Family  
Monette Gheesling . . . . . Ina Flo Gill  
Alice Gibbs . . . . . Jim & Mag Baker  
Zeke Gipson . . . . . Darlene Gipson  
Zeke Gipson . . . . . Dave & Jane Gipson  
Zeke Gipson . . . . .

Lauren, Nathan, Graham & Hannah Gipson  
Cletus & Ruth Goble . . . . . Merle & Lois Grubbs  
Ronnie Grimes . . . . . Ruby Gessendorf & Family  
Toni Grubbs . . . . . Merle & Lois Grubbs  
Ken Hendricks . . . . . Barbara Hendricks  
Gene Howard . . . . . Carol Howard  
Jack Maddox . . . . . Evelyn Maddox  
June & Georgianna Marcum . . Neil & Rosie Burtis  
Joy Metzger . . . . . Claire & Chris Metzger  
Lawrence & Cecilia O'Hara . . Mike & Jill O'Hara  
Albert & Flo Potter . . . . Marilyn & Larry Bowling  
Courtney & Anna Profitt . . . Lois & Rod Anderson  
Kathy Reynolds . . . . . Bob & Thelma Stanger  
Wayne & Ruby Reynolds . Bob & Thelma Stanger  
Andrew Schramm . . . . . Krys & Sydney Schramm  
Thomas Schroeder . . . . . Deb Clemens  
Leona & Robert Shawver . . . . Jim & Mag Baker  
Earle & Esther Stanger . . . Bob & Thelma Stanger  
Kelly Stanger . . . . . Bob & Thelma Stanger  
Bill & Mag Thacker . . . . Mike & Deborah Thacker  
Mildred Tipton . . . . . Mike & Deborah Thacker  
John & Jane Tyra . . . . . Jerry & Loretta Hampton  
Paul VonStein . . . . . Margie VonStein  
Iggy & Gladys Witkowski . . . . . Bette Ruth  
Zachary Witmer . . . . . Chuck & Lisa Witmer  
Loved Ones Who Have Gone On

. . . . . Jerry & Carole Busch  
Our Beloved Parents . . . . . Jean & John Riczko  
Our Parents . . . . . Carolyn & Earl Gabbard

**In Honor Of**

**By**

A.J. Baker, Alexis & Alivia Ankrum . . . . .  
. . . . . Jim & Mag Baker  
Tom & Peggy Avance . . Mike & Deborah Thacker

Marilyn & Larry Bowling . . . . . Evelyn Maddox  
Zeke & Jewell Bowling . Larry & Marilyn Bowling  
Pastor Bill Brantingham Ruby Gessendorf & Family  
Beulah Hampton . . . . . Jerry & Loretta Hampton  
Jack & Judy Young . . . . Krys & Sydney Schramm  
Jack & Judy Young . . . . . Jill & Mike O'Hara

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**Corrections and Additions  
To The Directory**

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

**Boyd, Justin & Courtney**  
1258 Cleveland Avenue  
Hamilton, OH 45013

**Gipson, Mike & Billie**  
Cell Phone: Mike - 265-1296

**Krastins, Erla**  
Fairfield Pavilion  
5251 Dixie Highway # 301  
Fairfield, OH 45014

**Thomas, Tom & Cathi**  
Cell Phone: Tom - 907-4548  
Cathi - 907-1264



We continue to provide a meal at Serve City on the 3rd Monday of each month. The MOPS moms are making the meal Monday, April 20th. Call Nancy with any questions at 863-2309. Your support is greatly appreciated.

-Nancy Whipple  
Women's Ministry Team



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

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

# April 2015

**5 Resurrection Sunday!**  
 7:00 Community Sunrise Service @ RiversEdge  
 9:15 Sunday School  
 10:30 Worship  
 12:00 Annual Easter Egg Hunt

**12**  
 8:30 Sunday School Breakfast  
 9:15 Sunday School  
 10:30 Worship  
 5:00 1st Qtr. Advisory Bd  
 6:00 KingsKids  
 6:00 CREW Lifeline  
 6:00 Evening Service

**19**  
 9:15 Sunday School  
 10:30 Worship  
 4:30 Diaconate  
 6:00 KingsKids  
 6:00 CREW Lifeline  
 6:00 Evening Service

**26**  
 9:15 Sunday School  
 10:30 Worship  
 4:30 Diaconate  
 4:30 CE Board  
 6:00 KingsKids  
 6:00 CREW Lifeline  
 6:00 Evening Service

**6**  
 11:00 Women's Book Club at Fairfield Lane Library

**20**  
 5:30 Spring Trip to Oneida

**7**  
 9:30 MOPS Steering

**14**  
 10:00 MOPS Bible Study  
 10:30 Holloway Circle  
 10:30 Abell Circle  
 6:00 Smith Circle

**21**  
 9:30 MOPS

**28**

**1**  
 No Wednesday Dinner/No Evening Programs

**8**  
 6:00 Family Dinner  
 6:30 Awana  
 6:30 CREW Lifeline  
 6:45 Bible Study & Prayer  
 8:00 Chancel Choir

**15**  
 6:00 Family Dinner  
 6:30 Awana-Neon Night  
 6:30 CREW Lifeline  
 6:45 1st Qtr. Business Mtg  
 8:00 Chancel Choir

**22**  
 6:00 Family Dinner  
 6:30 Awana  
 6:30 CREW Lifeline  
 6:45 Bible Study & Prayer  
 8:00 Chancel Choir

**29**  
 6:00 Family Dinner  
 6:30 Awana  
 6:30 CREW Lifeline  
 6:45 Bible Study & Prayer  
 8:00 Chancel Choir

**2**  
 7:00 Maundy Thursday Communion Service

**9**  
 5:30 Board of Trustees  
 6:30 Ladies Bible Study

**16**  
 6:30 Ladies Bible Study

**23**  
 8:30 Matthew 25  
 6:30 Ladies Bible Study

**30**  
 6:30 Ladies Bible Study

**3**  
 12:00 *Way Of The Cross Walk* at Hamilton Courthouse

**10**

**17**

**24**

**4**  
 9:00 Men's Prayer Gathering

**11**

Volunteer Day at Camp Kirkwood

**18**

**25**  
 5:00 Chili Spaghetti Dinner for Camp Kirkwood in Family Center



# April

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- |      |  |      |  |      |  |
|------|--|------|--|------|--|
| 1 -  | Monica Bowling<br>Rosemary Thompson  | 13 - | Glenn Winkler  | 25 - | Allen Hampton<br>Kathy Inloes<br>Jon Whipple                     |
| 2 -  | Eris Cappelli<br>Carolyn Dudley<br>Katie Scott<br>Jake Yates                                 | 14 - | Diana Bueker<br>Callum Errol Metzger<br>Elizabeth Rose Metzger<br>Katie Rankey<br>Krys Schramm | 26 - | Becky Blanchard<br>Josh Farmer                                   |
| 3 -  | Melynda Caswell<br>Bo Stanger  | 15 - | Ashley Inloes<br>Marcella Walter   | 27 - | Conner Bowling<br>Carol Rose                                     |
| 4 -  | Joey Fryer<br>Karen King<br>Brad Tamplin<br>Savannah Yates                                   | 16 - | Benjamin Bowling<br>David Gabbard  | 28 - | Chris Campbell<br>Dale Thomas Dawson<br>Brad Gerth<br>Don Kellum |
| 5 -  | Marian Allen   | 18 - | Michelle Owen  | 29 - | Linda Arnold   |
| 6 -  | Valerie Ashcraft<br>Hailey Mardis<br>Manuel Sanchez<br>Don Grimes                            | 20 - | Dean Minnich<br>Jean Riczko  | 30 - | Nick Emenaker<br>Anna Wallace                                    |
| 7 -  | Beth Hanna   | 21 - | Stacy Dickman<br>Camden Lamb   |      |  |
| 8 -  | Elizabeth Joy Wallace  | 22 - | Stan Brown   |      |  |
| 9 -  | Kim Gingrich<br>David Hollowell<br>Merle Kimble<br>Shelby Martin<br>Jim Powell<br>Jane Thiel | 23 - | Linda Hoover<br>Ashley Lakes<br>Wayne Simpson  |      |  |
| 10 - | Irene Schilling  | 24 - | Sharon Click<br>Andrew Huff<br>Ruth Metzger<br>Corbin Garrett Strunk                           |      |  |
| 11 - | Mark Braun   |      |  |      |  |

**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 Bertha Campbell

Thank you for being a caring church. It was wonderful to have visitors, cards, and knowing you were praying for me.

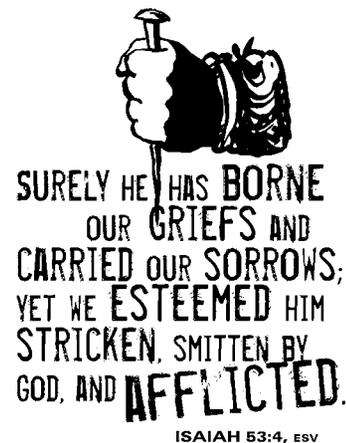
### From Carol Lauden (sister of Brenda Abney)

I would like to take this time to say, "Thank you, thank you" for your prayers, thoughts, and cards during my surgeries. As you know this was supposed to happen in December but had to cancel due to having some teeth pulled. They were finally able to do this January 26th and 27th. This was a trying time for us as my husband lost his 83 year old mother on the 27th. Your thoughts and prayers really, really touched my heart. It is so wonderful to have such great people, the family of God, praying for me. I really believe in prayer and I know it does work. When I was having the tube put into my kidney I was awake and it was very painful. I thought, "I can't do this" but the doctor kept saying to me "I'm almost done, I'm almost done." Then I thought of Jesus and what he had to endure for me. I know my pain was not near the pain and agony he went through to die on that cross for my sins and shed his blood for me. Oh, His precious blood. And when I think of this I get so emotional I shed my tears for Him. He is my Lord and Savior and no one can take that away from me. I don't know where I would be without Him and I really don't want to know. He takes good care of me and I'm really blessed. He is my awesome friend and most of all He's my awesome God. I give him the praise and glory every day! Again, thank you from the bottom of my heart for all your prayers. May God bless you and keep you through your walk of life!!!

### From Jeanette Schwab

Thanks to one and all who has sent and are still sending get well wishes while I was in Beaufort, SC. May I also give thanks for the out pouring of PRAYER of so many while I was recovering from a fall which broke my left hip. I was very fortunate that it was only a partial replacement (ball). On our trip home I developed delirium (making no sense) and spent four nights in Mission Hospital in Asheville, NC, as a result of dehydration and a blood infection. We finally arrived home just beating the last big snow

that swept across central Kentucky. A very special Thanks must be given to my cousin, Norm Phelps, for allowing me to heal in his home. A five day visit that turned into forty five days. Carl was an excellent care giver. "Be still and know that I am God." Psalm 46:10.



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The Courier is a monthly publication of The First Baptist Church of Hamilton, Ohio. Deadline for articles to be submitted is the fifteenth day of each month. The Senior Pastor: Dan Clemens; 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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