

The Courier

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



"Where everybody is somebody and Jesus Christ Is Lord"

November, 2016

Pass The Baton

You may have watched it last summer. At the Olympic games in Rio de Janeiro the U.S. women's 4x100 relay *dropped* the baton on the second exchange in the qualifying heats, knocking them out of the final. Allyson Felix said she was bumped by a Brazilian runner right before she got to the zone the replays confirmed. Brazil was disqualified, and a U.S. appeal was upheld.

But the Americans could not simply be advanced to the final, so there was a surreal scenario when the USA's 4x100 relay running alone. They had to run faster than 42.70, which would replace eighth-place qualifier China. The US qualified and went on to retain their title, and win gold in 4x100m relay.

Dropping the baton in a race is a devastating thing. We often use this metaphor of "passing the baton" to talk about sharing the gospel from one generation to the next. Even more devastating is to lose a generation who do not know Christ.

One of the saddest verses in scripture is Judges 2:10, *After that whole generation had been gathered to their ancestors, another generation grew up who knew neither the Lord nor what he had done for Israel. Somebody dropped the baton!*

The consistent command from God is to pass the baton of the gospel to the next generation. *"...we will tell the next generation about the glorious deeds of the Lord, about his power and his mighty wonders... so the next generation might know them - even the children not yet born- and they in turn will teach their own children. So each generation should set its hope anew on God, not forgetting his glorious miracles and obeying his commands."* Psalm 78:4,6-7

Psalm 71:17-18 *Since my youth, God, you have taught me, and to this day I declare your marvelous deeds. Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, my God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your mighty acts to all who are to come.*

"Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.' When he had placed his hands on them, he went on from there." Matthew 19:14

Paul commanded Timothy, *And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.* 2 Timothy 2:2

Our legacy as First Baptist Church of Hamilton is in passing the baton of the gospel to the next generation. We must resolve to do whatever it takes to share the love of Jesus so that they will receive His as their eternal Savior.

In his new book, [For a New Generation: A Practical Guide for Revitalizing Your Church](#), Lee D. Kricher challenges the church to be focused on passing the baton to the next generation. He says, "My definition of a next generation church is a church with attendees whose average age is at least as young as the average age of the community in which the church exists". Kricher is the senior pastor of Amplify Church and has four decades of leadership experience in both church and corporate worlds.

If we are going to pass the baton of the gospel... to whom are we passing it?

Look at the facts. The population of Butler County is 376,353. (Jesus said the fields are white for the harvest.) The median age in Butler County is 36.2. The median age of Hamilton is 35.3 years. According to Martha Griffin, and our records in REALM, the median of all FBC members/regular attendees/kids = 52.5.

In our data base, FBC has 340 people (members, regular attendees, and kids) age 40 and younger. We must intentionally reach into our church and our community where God has placed us to pass the baton to the next generation among us. There is nothing
(Continued on inside)



American Baptist Women's Ministries



It's that time of year again! Last year, ABW along with members of the congregation, worked together to fill many shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. Operation Christmas Child, a unique project of Christian relief and evangelism organization, Samaritan's Purse, delivers gifts to hurting children while also telling them about God's greatest gift—His Son, Jesus Christ.

We are asking you, every member of the congregation, to join with us again to make this exciting project a success again this year. With your help we can bring joy and hope to millions of children again this Christmas.

Nancy Whipple (863-2309) is the contact person. Please bring in your filled box by **Sunday, November 13th**. Here is a list of suggested gifts you can use in your box.

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

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

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

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

Do NOT include the following:

Used Items

War-related Items

Chocolate or Perishable Food Items

Liquids

Medicines: vitamins, cough drops, ointment, etc.

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

—Nancy Whipple

Missionaries for the Month of **November:**

Rev. Glen & Rita Chapman
Democratic Republic of Congo

Glen and Rita have been instrumental in moving the Kikongo pastoral training school up to university level. The new university has three majors: theology,

agriculture and teacher training. Glen is the academic dean of the school of theology and teaches Old Testament, Hebrew, and Baptist distinctives. Rita is in charge of the library, teaches English and works with the wives of theology students.

In his Powered Parachute ministry, Glen has helped transport audiovisual equipment to villages to show evangelistic and educational films.

The Chapmans are also active in conservation and environmental ministries. They are known for their work with the very rare and endangered Congo clawless otter. To promote economic development, they have introduced beekeeping, raised rabbits for agricultural training and planted trees for reforestation, lumber, firewood, charcoal and fruit.

Bible Book of the Month I, II, III John

“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

I John 1:9 (RSV)

I, II, III John comprise three short “general” letters. The first is a sermon or homily, the second a letter to a church, and the third a personal note to an individual. The aim of all three was to recall readers to their fundamental Christian loyalties, to discard “false prophets.” II John echoes the love teaching of I John, and III John offers good advice in matters of authority within the local church.

OFFER A PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING for faithful leaders in our churches who serve to carry out the mission of the church.

KeenAger November Outing

In Novembr the KeenAgers will be having lunch together at Bob Evans on Route 4 and the By-Pass on Monday, November 28th. Everyone will be ordering off the menu. Meet at the restaurant at 11:30 a.m. Please sign the list on the KeenAger bulletin board.

—KeenAger Activity Directors
Dave & Janet Hazelwood

The Courier (ISSN 383367-29)
November 2016
Published monthly by:
First Baptist Church
1501 Pyramid Hill Boulevard
Hamilton, Ohio 45013
Volume 51, Number 11

more important than passing the baton of the gospel on to them. Indeed, the fields are white for the harvest!

True heroes are the men and women who have left a legacy of character-building wisdom and knowledge which they have passed down to the next generation. The real champions of the world are those who make a positive difference in the life of another person.

The greatest gift a parent or grandparent or believer in Jesus Christ can give children, youth, and young adult is to introduce them to Jesus when they are young and then nurture their faith. When we are intentional and pass the baton of truth to the next generation, we give them a lifetime to grow in Christ and bear fruit. We must be inspired to invest our congregation's resources... time, energy, prayers, service and finances for our kids, youth and young adults.

Would you be willing *to change* if it meant passing the baton of the gospel to the new generation? Who is in your life who is younger than 35? Help the younger ones you love take up the mantle to know and serve Christ, and answer His call on their lives.

A baton has been placed in your hand. Now is the time to pass it on.

Be the Light!
Pastor Dan

November series: **Kingdom of God**
10/30 part 1: The Kingdom Promised
11/06 part 2: The Kingdom Initiated
11/13 part 3: The Kingdom Present, Now But Not Yet
11/20 part 4: The Kingdom Comes

Christmas series: **Christmas Changes Everything**
11/27 - part 1: Christmas Changes Our Future: A Forecast
12/04 - part 2: Christmas Changes Our Purpose: A Promise
12/11 - Adult Choir Cantata "Joy"
12/18 - part 3: Christmas Changes Our Priorities: A Dream
12/24 - Christmas Eve part 4: Christmas Changes Our Destiny: An Announcement
12/25 - Christmas Day part 5: Christmas Changes Our Family: An Heritage



The Month of September, 2016

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$78,504
Offerings	<u>53,806</u>
Over (Under) Budget	(\$24,698)

Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$77,647
Offerings	<u>53,806</u>
Over (Under) Actual	(\$23,841)

The Year Through September, 2016

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$628,903
Offerings	<u>548,321</u>
Over (Under) Budget	(\$80,582)

Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$623,641
Offerings	<u>548,321</u>
Over (Under) Actual	(\$75,320)

–The Board Of Trustees

Third Quarter Business Meetings

Advisory Board

The Advisory Board will meet Sunday, November 6th, at 4:30 p.m. to hear the report of the Nominating Committee, reports of boards and committees, and consider the proposed 2017 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 9th, at 6:30 p.m. Items of business include the election of officers who will begin their duties in January, 2017. The Trustees will also present the 2017 Proposed Budget for adoption.



We are still providing monthly meals to fill a need at the Serve City homeless shelter. We are preparing and serving a meal on the 3rd Monday of each month. First Baptist has many established groups that could possibly take a turn or two and we can also form groups of interested individuals. Please pray about this monthly endeavor. Contact Nancy Whipple (255-7783) or Dale Braun (726-4000) with any questions. With our large congregation and generous hearts, I know that we will be able to accomplish this.

–Nancy Whipple
Women's Ministry Team

Aaron's Attic

The Kingdom of God Series

Have you ever wondered why Jesus spent so much time talking about the Kingdom of God? It is, in fact, His most frequent topic of discussion throughout the Gospels. What did He mean and why was it so important to Him? Was His proclaiming of the Kingdom of God something that had long been promised? If so, where in the Old Testament is it discussed and how is it portrayed? If Christ is our King, then why is the world not fully under His reign yet? Where is our place in His Kingdom? How is His reign affected by a Donald Trump or a Hillary Clinton? What hope remains for us who try to serve the King of Kings in a world that mocks Him and rejects His reign? What does the full reign of God actually look like?

Yes, that's a lot of questions! In this month's series on the Kingdom of God, I will try to answer each of them. We will look at: 1) The Kingdom of God Promised (10/30), 2) The Kingdom of God Initiated (11/6), 3) The Kingdom of God in the Now-but-not-Yet (11/13), and 4) The Kingdom of God Come (11/20).

The Lord has been working His plan of salvation out over the course of human history and what that relationship entails is God being our only God and us being His faithful people. Or, in other words, having God fully reign over us as our true King.

By the grace of God, and the graciousness of Pastor Dan, for allowing me time to work on it, I was recently able to complete my thesis for my Th.M. from Gordon-Conwell. (A Th.M. is an advanced master's degree that one can add-on to his/her Master of Divinity. Valerie and I both completed our Th.M. in order that we would be qualified to train Master of Divinity students in the future.) The topic of my thesis was, "The Davidic Shepherd as Divine King in the New Jerusalem." I will, therefore, be pulling from some of my thesis research during this series to help us see the prominent theme of the Kingdom of God throughout Scripture and to enable us to hold tighter to the hope that we have in knowing that, even as we faithfully pray "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven," God is on the move in bringing about His Kingdom, His Reign, over the earth. And He chooses to do so through you and me as we faithfully serve Him and bear witness to His reign as our King.

Make a resolution to join us each Sunday in November and please pray for God to extend His Reign in each of our hearts.

For His Glory,
Aaron



Start Thinking Christmas

Although it is not yet winter officially, it is now Christmas season as far as flowers are concerned. Poinsettias to decorate the sanctuary are once again available for \$8 per pot. You can reserve the flowers in memory or honor of a loved one by obtaining an order envelope in the connector or office and placing it in the offering plate no later than November 13th. Orders after that date may not be filled. Make checks out to First Baptist Church.

—The Flower Committee

Harvest Party

Thank you for all who decorated a table for our Harvest party and for all the donations of candy (we may have helped our children to eat a few pieces!), as well as the smiles graciously given to our children and their families. With all the scary things happening in the world around us, its special to be able to remind not just children but each other that Jesus truly is the light of the world, and that even when it is dark He will never leave us nor forsake us. Yes we had a great time with fantastic food, but we feel that we were also able to celebrate Jesus with our friends so thank you!

—Claire Metzger & Cheryl Motzer

**The Open Door Pantry
Annual Benefit Concert
of Spiritual Music
Sunday, November 6th, 2016
3:00 p.m.**

**Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
212 South Front Street**

**Everyone is welcome!
Freewill offering**



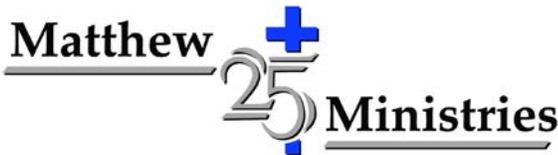
Matthew 25 Ministries Fight Hunger 5K

Join the First Baptist Hamilton Team in support of Matthew 25 Ministries! On Saturday, November 5th, Matthew 25 Ministries will hold it's annual Hunger 5K Run/Walk. This is for walkers or runners.

The Hunger 5K is a fun, family-friendly way for people of all ages to help those in need. Proceeds benefit Matthew 25: Ministries' work with the poorest of the poor in Greater Cincinnati, throughout the U.S., and around the world. The race also kicks off the Hunger Food Drive, which raises food products for local pantries and shelters.

You can join the First Baptist Hamilton Team by registering online at M25M.org. Registration is \$18. Participants will receive a t-shirt and goody bag, and a post race lunch. Start time is 8:30 AM.

Please see Laurin or Lisa Sprague (896-7911) if you are interested. Thank you for supporting Matthew 25 Ministries!



Matthew 25 Ministries is asking all churches to collect clean, used clothes. They will take all sizes for all seasons. Please bring them in between November 6th and 16th. Please place them in bags marked "Matthew 25".

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 17th. 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.



Opportunity To Serve Meal At Serve City

We are continuing to provide a meal at Serve City Shelter the third Monday of each month. Thanks to everyone and every group that helped provide meals each month. The congregations' generous monetary donations provided pizza and tacos in the past. If your Sunday School class, board or group would like to take a month, contact Nancy Whipple (863-2309) and continue to pray for this ministry.

-Nancy Whipple

Opportunity To Serve Meal At First United Methodist Church

First Baptist Church has been invited to partner with First United Methodist Church in feeding lunch to the hungry at First United Methodist Church, 225 Ludlow Street from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 26th. We are in need of 20 people to volunteer to serve in several capacities. Please sign the list in the connector. See Mike Gipson for further details.

Father's House Woodworking Party

There will be a Father's House Woodworking Party Thursday, November 3rd, starting at 9:30 a.m. at Laurin & Lisa Sprague's home, 27 Tabor Lane in Hamilton. We will be removing old varnish from wood trim using ammonia. Please bring heavy-duty rubber gloves. Lunch will be provided. For more information please call 543-1908.





Wow we are already in November! We are so encouraged by all the canned goods that have been given through the last few months in Awana and with our church family. We will be praying over them during our Sunday morning service at Thanksgiving, these will then be given to Laurel Avenue Church of Christ where they will be a blessing to those in need. How lovely that our children have been able to see their offering as more than just the coins they bring on a Wednesday evening, and we thank everyone who has donated.

Our November schedule is as follows, don't forget that any Sparks/T&T child that brings a shoebox will be given \$20 Awana Bucks as a thank you.

November Calendar

- 2nd - Regular Club Night/Canned Food Drive
- 9th - Regular Club Night/Canned Food Drive
- 16th - PJ Theme Night/Canned Food Drive/Awana Store Night
- 23rd - No Club (Thanksgiving Holiday)
- 30th - Regular Club

-Claire Metzger & Cheryl Motzer,
Awana Leaders

All Church Christmas Card

Once again we will be sharing our ENORMOUS church Christmas card in the connector. We will have previous years on display also. This is our Eighth year sharing our card, we encourage people to sign one giant card instead of sending individual cards to our church members and donate money that would have been spent on cards and postage etc. This money will be used to support the Salvation Army in providing clothes and gifts to needy families in Hamilton. Everyone that does donate will be given a limited miniature edition of the giant Christmas card.

Loving this Christmas Season,
Cheryl and Claire



From The Heart Of Marilyn

College Corner

Important!! We need all college students addresses as soon as possible. **This year we also need their email addresses.** Please call Marilyn Bowling 863-2435 or the church office 868-1412.

-Marilyn Bowling
Career & College Coordinator

Child Care

As we come to Thanksgiving we are reminded to say thank you for our blessings. So thank you to everyone that gives an hour (or more!) to love, teach, share with, change, encourage, listen and more to our children. It takes more than a village it takes a whole church!!! That being said, don't forget to look at the bulletin board outside the toddler and nursery rooms to see if you can fill a spot.

Loving our children,
Cheryl and Claire (and all of you!)
Co-Directors of Children's Ministries

Adopt-A-Child/Adopt An Angel For Christmas

The Salvation Army is once again sponsoring the Adopt-A-Child or Adopt-An-Angel program. We are asking the church family to become involved in helping the less fortunate. We need your kind hearts to help out the families that are less fortunate in our own community. There are many families in need. Without you this program would not be possible. The Salvation Army does a great job helping families in our local area, Butler County. That is very important!

We will have names available Sunday, November 8th. Please look for Mike Gipson in the connector to get your names.

Thanks for the past years that you have helped and let's make this a great year as we help those less fortunate families in Butler County!

-Michael Gipson

Prayer For Our Nation

“If my people
Who are called by my name . . .”
That’s us, Lord, your church
Your eternal flame.

“Will humble themselves . . .”
Yes, we’re down on our knees.
“And pray . . .” yes we’re praying,
Forgive us, Lord, please!

“And seek my face . . .”
Once again, as of old
When we kept your precepts
And stayed in the fold.

“And turn from their wicked ways”
Yes, we wish to repent;
We’ve broken each one
Of your ten commandments.

“Then I will hear from heaven
And will forgive their sin.”
Lord, we don’t deserve it,
But please forgive us once again.

“And will heal their land.”
May our stars and stripes still wave
O’er the land of the free
And the home of the brave.

II Chronicles 7:14

–By Florence Jones

**Please vote on Nov. 8 for the candidates and
issues that hold our Christian values.**

Donate A Coat For New Life Mission

Please donate a coat, new or gently used; any size as people are asking for coats at New Life Baptist Mission. These are people who do not have money to buy coats. We want everyone in our community to be warm this winter. Check your closet to see if you have coats that you have not worn for a year or two. Someone would love to have that coat that has been hanging in your closet.

Bring the coats to church with a note that says “New Life Baptist Mission” and place them in the coat room. Mike Gipson will take care of getting them to New Life Mission as he will be going once a week to deliver the coats. Thanks for blessing others!

–Mike Gipson

Two Sides Of Gratitude

Todah, the Hebrew word for “giving thanks” also means “admitting, confessing, acknowledging.” That might seem odd, but when we thank someone, we’re acknowledging we needed what they gave us. Rabbi Daniel Lapin explains we’re even confessing we were incomplete, or experiencing a shortcoming, beforehand.

Gratitude is so important for the Jewish life that the Hebrew root words for “giving thanks/confessing” and for “Jew” are closely related. A Jewish person, then, is “one who both confesses and gives thanks”—actions crucial to the well-being of the receiver, even more than for the giver.

Christians, too, treat confession and thanksgiving we significant aspects of faith, prayer and worship. While we confess that we wholly depend on God for our life and salvation, we offer daily gratitude to God for his countless blessings.

Sausage, Egg and Vegetable Casserole

Ingredients

1 1/2 pound pork breakfast sausage, casings removed (I used 1/2 sage and half regular sausage and only used 1lb)
1 small onion, chopped
1/2 large red bell pepper, seeded and chopped
1/2 large green bell pepper, seeded and chopped
4 ounces mushrooms, chopped
9 large eggs
3 cups milk (I used 1 cup heavy cream, 2 cups whole milk)
1 teaspoon salt
1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
3 slices white bread, torn into 1-inch pieces
1 1/2 cups shredded Cheddar (I used white Monterrey Jack (brick form and shredded it) and a couple handfuls of pizza style shredded cheese)

Preparation

Mist a 9-by-13-inch baking dish with cooking spray. If baking immediately, preheat oven to 350°F.

In a skillet over medium heat, cook sausage, stirring and breaking up chunks, until no longer pink, 5 to 6 minutes. Transfer to a bowl. Drain skillet of all but 1 Tbsp. fat. Add onion to skillet and cook, stirring for 3 minutes. Add bell peppers and mushrooms; sauté for 5 minutes. Transfer to a bowl; let cool.

Whisk eggs, milk, salt and mustard. Stir in bread, Cheddar, sausage and vegetables. Pour into dish. Bake until middle is set and edges have browned, 50 to 60 minutes, or cover with plastic and refrigerate for up to 24 hours, then bake.

–Submitted by Holly Harbert
MOPS Mom

Just-in Time's

November 4-6

Student Fall Retreat at Camp Kirkwood!! Pray for our students as they getaway for a weekend to spend time in community, grow through lessons, and get individual time to spend with the Lord. The theme of this trip is "Surrender." May our students come back refreshed and equipped in the Lord!

November 13

Leaders will be having a meeting after the service from 12PM to 2PM.

November 20

Tonight is a Family Night. We encourage you to spend time together today! Some of our student ministry leaders will also be in attendance at the Youth Specialities Conference from November 17-20.

November 27

No student ministries. Off for Thanksgiving break.

November 2, 9, 16, 30

This month we will launch our new series on Moral Boundaries. This might be one of the most important series we are seeking to build into our overall ministry teaching calendar. In a world so lost and confused, teenagers are left wondering about the topic of sex, dating, and morality in general. Many of them suffer to experience intimacy with God because their own sin leaves them feeling desolate. Pray that our students would journey down the hard road of making pure choices, remember that purity in their lives leads to intimacy with God. "It is God's will that you should be sanctified" (1 Thessalonians 4:3).

Note that we will be off on November 23rd for Thanksgiving break.

For further updates please follow our Facebook page. If you have any questions, call Justin at (513) 658-2277.

–Justin Davis
Youth Pastor

Corrections and Additions To The Directory

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

Gambrell, Mandy
235 Buckeye Street Apt. # 1
Hamilton, OH 45011

Nguyen, Simon & Heather
4712 Millikin Road
Hamilton, OH 45011

–Editor's Note: If you plan to go to FL, etc. for several months and would like to continue receiving the monthly Courier, please let me know. Thanks! Ellie

Welcoming Ministry

It is nearly time to prepare the 2017 schedule for our welcoming ministry. This ministry includes doormen, greeters and those manning the welcoming center. If you have been serving but would like to be removed from the schedule or, even better, would consider being involved in this important ministry please see or contact Johnnie Wallace.

Ladies' Sewing Ministry

Our sewing ladies are now the Tabitha Ministries. Tabitha (in Greek, Dorcas) was a seamstress and spent her time going good. She made shirts and coats—Acts 9:30-39. Paul referred to her as a disciple. We are now under the mission board and consider our talents as gifts to our missionaries who faithfully serve. We just packed 50 dresses to go back w/Ann Clemmer to the Congo.

We've also made lap quilts for our shut-ins as reminders we are praying for them. Those who recently received those are Bud Braun, Colleen Hefner, Lucille Lancaster, and Rosemarie Willey. Evelyn Belle Simpson got her own special quilt.

We meet in our sewing room on the 3rd sat. of month, but we will not meet again until January 21, 2017. There are kits available for dresses and britches hanging in the room, if you'd like to sew at home. Also, I am in the sewing room every Tuesday from 9:30 until 1:00. Join me!

–Diana Bueker, 942-4560

Joy!

At 10:30 Sunday morning, December 11th, the Adult Choir will present *Joy!* It's a wonderful time for us to celebrate Jesus' birth in song. You won't want to miss it.

—Laurin Sprague



Goodbye October Hello November

This year is certainly flying by too quickly for all that I would like to get done before my next birthday. We have already had 2 MOPS meetings and here we are, gearing up for November, meeting number 3. Wow! We had such an amazing meeting for October. Dr. Mike Brudzinski was our speaker and we were so blessed by all that he shared with us. Thank you to everyone who attended the meeting (about 25 moms and close 40 kids) and of course our Moppet workers for everything they do for the kids while the mothers have this time of fellowship. As I walked, dropped off my babies, and heard the frustrations of the kids who want their mommies, I know that it takes a heart for children and an understanding of the need for moms to fellowship to be a Moppet worker. May your reward be sweet in heaven!

November's theme is Thanksgiving and I have been in prayer over our verse this month, *Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.* 1Thess 5:18. How can I live a life, every day, of Thanksgiving? Giving thanks in all circumstances, really? I can only do this by taking a breath, thinking of being thankful that we are here, right now living this wonderful life, and knowing that this is not a mistake. Hence, knowing that God is doing some things in each of our lives everyday, we can either choose to not like it and fight it or we can trust in Him. Trusting him makes me thankful for my everyday experiences. Somehow it's like when I look in the mirror and I try to frown, it is so hard to frown when I look better happy and it just makes me feel better to smile. This is how choosing thanksgiving is; I cannot be ungrateful when I look at all of the good things that God is doing in my life and in the lives of others all around me. When I choose to give thanks instead of my dissatisfied responses I am happier.

November 15th, we'll have another guest speaker with us, Becky Culbertson, inspiring us to enjoy our life with our young families this Thanksgiving.

*As always we could use more Moppet workers, even if you just want to be on a standby list in the case of a cancellation, we want your service. Your commitment to these moms and the children is valued and greatly appreciated. Please get with me or Cathi Thomas if helping with children is your gift and you want to volunteer your time once a month to help.

Love and Blessings!

Heather Nguyen, MOPS Coordinator

Cherub Choir

The Cherub Choir will present their musical Christmas gift to Jesus, *Bedtime In Bethlehem*, during morning worship on Sunday, December 4th, the second Sunday of Advent. Chris Metzger will be reading a Christmas bedtime story. The Cherubs will then sing *He Come The Glory, Away In A Manger*, and *Baby Jesus, We Love You*.

—Marsha Helton & Sydney Wilson

★ Thank You! ★
★ THANK YOU! ★

From
Bowling

Marilyn

I want to express my sincere appreciation to Claire Metzger who planned the children's book shower on Sunday, October 23rd, to celebrate my 70th birthday. The various children's classes from ages 3 through 7th and 8th grade plus Ellie, presented me with 38 fantastic books plus other wonderful gifts. I will be taking these books to the families at The Father's House on South "D" Street as well as keeping some for the three year old classroom. It was a heartwarming surprise.

Love,
Marilyn Bowling

P.S. If anyone would like to donate a book or several books to this project, you can still do so by bringing them to the three year old classroom anytime.





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 2016.

Nursery/Toddlers

Marsha Helton

Ewan Metzger

Threes

Marilyn Bowling

Claire Metzger

Ciaran Metzger

Beginner/Kindergarten

Callum Metzger

Dakota Jackson

Jeremiah Jackson

Primary

Chase Jackson

Elizabeth Metzger

Junior

Isabel Brown

Homebuilders

Larry Bowling

Sandra Imhoff

Office

Linda Gibbs

FOCUS

Hank Miller

Dolly Houser

Carol Howard

Bob Laubenstein

Janet Lewis

Glenna McComb

Bill Roberts

Gary Swindall

Imogene Swindall

Parenting

Stan Brown

Keystone

Mary Petry

Walter Petry

Mary Walker

YadaSisterhood

Brenda Brown

Ruth Gaskins

Legacy Builders

Chris Metzger

Fall Back/Quarterly Breakfast

Sunday, November 6th

8:30-9:15 a.m.

The Fall Back Breakfast is sponsored by Sunday School again this year. You are invited to a breakfast of biscuits and gravy, bacon, cereal bowl for kids, and fruit. 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 Saturday night, November 5th!)

-Brian Begley and team
Sunday School Superintendent



Mitten Tree

It's time for our yearly Mitten Tree to appear! Please watch out for scarfs, gloves, hats and even coats on sale. The Mitten Tree will be in the foyer by the adult library. We are blessed to be able to clothe many families in warm gear and as the days get colder please spare a thought to continuing this great tradition at First Baptist Church. We will be able to gift these blessings to help local families stay warm this winter. Handmade stuff is always welcome too, so be you a knitter, crocheter, fleece creator or a shopper remember the Mitten Tree!



November 6th



November 11th



Child Care Schedule

Nursery (Morning)

November 6 - Krys Schramm & Sydney
November 13 - Linda & Larry Wallace
November 20 - Katie & Taylor Spradling
November 27 - Katie Hoskins & Teen Helper

Toddler

November 6 -
November 13 - Allison & Andrew Sommers
November 20 - Barb & Brian Begley, KK & Lyndsay
November 27 -

Kiddie Church

November 6 -
November 13 - Claire & Chris Metzger
November 20 - Sharon Brewer & Lauren Hampton
November 27 -

Kinderchurch

November 6 - Cheryl Motzer, Syd & Noellë
November 13 - Dorothy Hollowell & Jill O'Hara
November 20 - Dorothy Hollowell & Jill O'Hara
November 27 -



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 Claire Metzger (907-4375)



Wednesday Family Dinners

November 2

Menu: Pork Loin, Au Gratin Potatoes, Green Beans, Applesauce, Rolls, Jello Cake
Hosts: Trustees

November 9

Menu: Spaghetti Casserole, Tossed Salad, Bread Sticks, Ice Cream & Cookies
Hosts: Chancel Choir

November 16

Menu: Sliced Turkey, Sweet Potato Souffle, Mixed Vegetables, Cranberry Sauce, Rolls, Pumpkin Spice Cake
Hosts: Deacons

November 23

Menu: There will be no meal because of No Evening Programs

November 30

Menu: Hamburgers and Hot Dogs with all the trimmings, Potato Salad, Coleslaw, Pineapple Upside Down Cake
Hosts: Deaconesses

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 \$1.50 for children under twelve who eat from the hot dog table. 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.



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

November 2016

6

8:30 Fall Back Fellowship
9:15 Sunday School
10:30 Worship
3:00 Open Door Pantry Concert
4:30 Advisory Board
6:00 KingsKids
6:00 Evening Ministries

13

9:15 Sunday School
10:30 Worship
12:00 Realm Info Meeting
12:00 Student Ministry Leader Meeting
6:00 KingsKids
6:00 Evening Programs

20

9:15 Sunday School
10:30 Worship
12:00 Mission Trip to GA Mtg in Room 200
4:15 Missions, Diaconate, CE Boards in Rm 200
6:00 KingsKids
6:00 Evening Programs

27

9:15 Sunday School
10:30 Worship
6:00 KingsKids
6:00 Evening Programs

7

14

11:00 Women's Christian Book Club @ Fairfield Library

Operation Christmas Child Relay Center 11/14-11/21

21

5:30 Serve City Meal

28

11:30 KeenAgers lunch @ Bob Evans Rt.4 & By-pass
6:30 Cabinet Meeting

1

9:30 MOPS Steering Committee

8

Election Day!
9:30 MOPS Bible Study
10:30 Holloway/Abell Circle
6:00 Smith Circle

15

9:30 MOPS

22

7:00 Community Thanksgiving Service @ FUMC

29

2

5:45 Family Dinner
5:45 Awana/Canned Food Drive
6:30 Student Ministries
6:30 Bible Study & Prayer
7:00 Praise Team
7:30 Adult Choir

9

5:45 Family Dinner
5:45 Awana/Canned Food Drive
6:30 Student Ministries
6:30 3rd Qtr. Business Mtg.
7:00 Praise Team
7:30 Adult Choir

16

5:45 Family Dinner
5:45 Awana/PJ Theme Night/Canned Food Drive/Store Night
6:30 Student Ministries
6:30 Bible Study & Prayer
7:00 Praise Team
7:30 Adult Choir

23

No Wednesday Dinner/No Evening Programs

30

5:45 Family Dinner
5:45 Awana
6:30 Student Ministries
6:30 Bible Study & Prayer
7:00 Praise Team
7:30 Adult Choir

3

9:30 Father's House work day @ Spragues

10

5:30 Board of Trustees
6:30 MOPS Moms Only Room 113-114

17

8:30 Matthew 25

24

Thanksgiving Day! Church Offices Closed

9:00 Turkey Bowl

4

Student Ministries Fall Retreat @ Kirkwood

11

18

25

Church Offices Closed

5

8:30 Matthew 25 Fighting Hunger 5K
9:00 Men's Prayer Gathering

Student Ministries Fall Retreat @ Kirkwood

12

8:00 40 Day Prayer Covenant *Following Jesus Together* @ Princeton Pike Church of God

19

26



NOVEMBER

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>1 - Wesley Dickman
Michael Garver
Leonard Jerome Jenkins</p> | <p>14 - Nella Hurst
Blake Martin</p> | <p>26 - Andy Cain
Sara Cain Owens
Katie Fryer
Mason Sackenheim
Kaleb Sackenheim</p> |
| <p>2 - Chad Allen
Dennis Dudley
Ron Gerth
Bill Imhoff
Charlie Miles
Arlene Thomas</p> | <p>15 - Samantha Mason</p> <p>16 - Alayna Garver
Samantha Hetterich</p> | <p>27 - Allen McComb
Zachary Mullins</p> |
| <p>3 - Jimmy Smith, Jr.</p> | <p>17 - Earnie Huff
Mara Krall Elam
Wayne Miller</p> | <p>28 - Christian Acus
Charles Day
Gary Swindall
Dick Winkler</p> |
| <p>4 - Allison Sommers</p> | <p>18 - Marsha Helton
Benji Stanger</p> | <p>29 - Carol Howard</p> |
| <p>7 - Bert Brantingham
Joey Braun
Chloe Cochran
David Diedrichs</p> | <p>19 - Lindel Sapp
Ryan Schwab</p> | <p>30 - Janet Day
Kelli Fryer
Kevin Fryer
Jennifer Owen
Imogene Swindall</p> |
| <p>8 - Eugenia Sexton</p> | <p>21 - Debbie Allen
Lois Anderson
Nancy McAllister
Hope Renee Nguyen</p> | <p><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.</p> |
| <p>9 - Glenn Roddy
John Wallace</p> | <p>22 - Roger Chamberlain
RuthAnn Wallace</p> | |
| <p>10 - Brenda Brown
Mark Click
Thomas Owen</p> | <p>23 - Teri Horsley</p> | |
| <p>11 - Curt Bradbury
Beth Riczko</p> | <p>24 - Don Gingrich
Norma Setser
Beverly Proctor</p> | |
| <p>12 - Faye Baker
Adison Ebbing
Matt Schumm</p> | <p>25 - Barb Arnold
Darin Chamberlain</p> | |
| <p>13 - Kathy Chambers
JoAnne Diesbach
Brennan Graham</p> | | |

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



Personal Notes

From Curtis Bradbury and Family

To the Trustees and First Baptist Family. We will be forever grateful for your presence, compassion and prayers in the loss of our precious wife and mother, Jean Bradbury.

40 Day Prayer Covenant ***Following Jesus Together*** **A Prayer And Discipleship Event**

Saturday, November 12th
8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

At Princeton Pike Church of God
6101 Princeton Glendale Road
Liberty Township

The Following Jesus Together: A Prayer and Discipleship Event, is designed to bring churches together from all over our region, to address these faith challenges.

- If you want Jesus to be Lord of your life today and change you in new ways, then this event is for you!
- If you want to unleash the power of prayer in your life and for this needy work, then this event is for you!
- If you want to experience soul-satisfying and heart-nourishing fellowship, then this event is for you!

You may register online at: www.theprayercovenant.org/fjt

Registration Fee: \$15 per person, \$25 for families. Deadline November 5
Late registration: additional \$10

Community Thanksgiving Service

FBC has been invited to participate in community Thanksgiving Service on Tuesday, November 22nd, at the First United Methodist Church at 7:00 p.m. The theme of the service will be "*Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*" I Thess. 5:18. The FBC Praise team will be leading worship. Preachers will be Valerie Waibel, pastor Lindenwald United Meth Church; Craig Pinley, pastor Redeemer Church; Greg Andrews House of Deliverance Ministries, and John Lewis, pastor of The Presbyterian Church. An offering will be received for the Community Thanksgiving Meal to be hosted at Zion Lutheran Church on Thanksgiving Day for anyone to attend.

Please vote on November 8th for the candidates and issues that hold our Christian values.

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: Dr. 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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