

# 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"*

*November, 2015*

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## Thanksgiving

I have been thinking about thanksgiving. Not the turkey and the trimmings, but the heart of thanksgiving. What am I thankful for at this point in time?

November 1 will mark one year as pastor of First Baptist Hamilton. I still think it is a miracle and by the grace of God that I am here. I am happy and proud to be the pastor of FBC and believe that God is doing a marvelous thing among us. I am well aware we stand on the shoulders of those faithful servants who have served before us. And, we look forward to God's unfolding will for this next step in the life of this great congregation.

I am thankful for a new home. Deb and I have had the privilege of building our first home. 6624 Creekside Way is going to be our home for the next several decades, God willing. And, we are grateful to be closer to our children and grandchildren. We feel blessed.

I am thankful for the miraculous way we have experienced God's movement among us in the calling of Justin Davis as Youth Pastor and Aaron Osterbrock as Associate Pastor. When I look back over the search process of 2015 and how we came to create two positions and call these two fine men (and their wonderful wives) to lead us into future ministry, it is nothing short of a miracle of God's hand.

I am thankful to serve God with such a dedicated and gifted staff of ministers. Ellie Dinger has served us at FBC faithfully for 19 years as administrative assistant. She has been invaluable to me as I have begun my pastorate here. Claire and Cheryl lead a great team of children's ministers to teach and love our kids to Christ. Roger and Laurin are gifted and seasoned worship and music leaders who understand the heart of worship and faithfully bring us into the presence of God in worship (with the assistance of a company of musicians, praise team, choirs, and media technicians). I am excited to add a new team member with our office assistant who will help us in serving

our congregation and community. And, I have so appreciated our "retired" Pastor Bill Brantingham who has cared for and prayed for our congregation endlessly.

I am thankful for an outstanding group of lay leaders. This year I have had the privilege to sit with the officers and chairpersons of our ministry boards on the Cabinet. We have had many open and honest conversations about the present and future of FBC. We have sought together to understand what God's vision for FBC is. FBC is a light on the hill with a heart for the community and the world. These leaders have faithfully led our boards of gifted men and women to oversee and deliver a variety of excellent ministries and services. I am grateful for the youth ministry team who continued the ministry of our students as we searched for a new Youth Pastor. Thank you God for our leadership.

I am thankful for the people who have come to know the Lord Jesus Christ as their Savior, Lord and Friend this year through our ministry. There are many who have been baptized, transferred their membership, and recommitted themselves to be faithful disciples. We have in many ways been TRANSFORMED and have made a lasting PRAYER COVENANT to be true to our calling as followers of Jesus.

I am thankful for the financial blessing FBC has enjoyed over this past year and years. We minister in and from a wonderful facility and grounds. This year we have seen a 12.5% increase in giving over 2014. We have been the beneficiaries of several very generous bequests which will allow us to shine the light from the hill brighter and further than expected. We have begun several renovations and innovations in our building with a new Student Center and expanded technology in our sanctuary.

I am thankful!

Dan



# American Baptist Women's Ministries



The filled shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child must be at church by **Wednesday, November 18th**. Envelopes for the \$7.00 shipping charge and tags for the boxes are available in the church office and on the table in the connector or contact Nancy Whipple at 863-2309. Please

include this inside your box. Makes checks payable to **Samaritan's Purse** with a note on the memo line that the gift is for Operation Christmas Child.

This is a fun shopping event and also an opportunity to serve. We have seen the video of the faces of the children receiving the boxes and their expressions are priceless!

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

## Giving Opportunity

We would like to thank each family who has donated personal care items, cereal, tuna, and peanut butter to local food banks over the past few months. As we expected, the response has been tremendous! For the month of November, we encourage you to donate to Awana's Annual Food Drive. For December, we will collect canned gravy, instant potatoes, cake mixes and

canned frosting for New Life Baptist Mission. These items will be used in their Christmas food baskets. 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."

Missionaries for the Month of **November:**

**Rev. Glen & Rita Chapman**  
Democratic Republic of Congo

Glen and Rita live at a rural church center in the Democratic Republic of Congo. They are involved in evangelism and leadership training. Glen teaches pastoral students at the Kikongo Pastor's Institute where he is professor of Old Testament, African religions, and Baptist distinctives. Rita develops and improves course materials for the pastors' wives. She teaches illiterate women to read, and also serves as an active member and counselor of the parish women's fellowship.

**Bible Book of the Month . . . . . Haggai**

*"My spirit abides among you; fear not."*

Haggai 2:5 (RSV)

The people of Israel had returned from exile under the leadership of Zerubbabel and Joshua. They tried to rebuild the Temple of God which the Babylonians had destroyed. It proved to be a difficult and discouraging task which resulted in the people seeking after their own interests and building houses for themselves.

The prophet Haggai arose and denounced the people for not starting to restore the temple. Then he roused them and Zerubbabel and Joshua, their leaders, to begin work on the house of the Lord. He gave them courage to believe that the temple would again rise in splendor, and spoke the promise that God's Spirit would remain with them.

**PRAY** for the missionaries under National Ministries that they might be given wisdom and encouragement as they feel our prayer support.

The Courier (ISSN 383367-29)  
November 2015  
Published monthly by:  
First Baptist Church  
1501 Pyramid Hill Boulevard  
Hamilton, Ohio 45013  
Volume 50, Number 11

**Aaron Osterbrock Ordination Service**  
**Sunday, November 15th**  
**6:00 p.m.**

Aaron Osterbrock will be ordained Sunday, November 15th, in a special service of ordination at 6:00 p.m. A reception will follow in the Family Center. Few congregations have the opportunity to ordain a person for a lifetime of gospel ministry. There will also be special guests from across the Miami Baptist Association who will be participating. Please plan to worship at this special service.

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**Third Quarter Business Meetings**

Advisory Board

The Advisory Board will meet Sunday, November 8th, at 4:30 p.m. to hear the report of the Nominating Committee, reports of boards and committees, and consider the proposed 2016 Budget. All elected officers are members of the Advisory Board.

Third Quarter Business Meeting

The Third Quarter Business Meeting of the church will be held Wednesday, November 11th, at 6:30 p.m. Items of business include the election of officers who will begin their duties in January, 2016. The Trustees will also present the 2016 Proposed Budget for adoption.

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**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

**Budget Status Report**

The Month of September, 2015

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$65,508
Offerings	<u>52,462</u>
Over (Under) Budget	(\$13,046)

Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$63,411
Offerings	<u>52,462</u>
Over (Under) Actual	(\$10,949)

The Year Through September, 2015

Projected (Budgeted) Spending	\$507,472
Offerings	<u>522,952</u>
Over (Under) Budget	\$ 15,480

Actual (Budgeted) Spending	\$491,461
Offerings	<u>522,952</u>
Over (Under) Actual	\$31,491

–The Board Of Trustees

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**KeenAger November Outing**

In November the KeenAgers will be having lunch together at Symmes Tavern On The Village Green in Fairfield on Monday, November 9th. Everyone will be ordering off the menu. Meet at Symmes Tavern at 12:00 noon. Please sign the list on the KeenAger bulletin board.

–KeenAger Activity Directors  
Dave & Janet Hazelwood



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

## Rededicating the Chapel as the Prayer Chapel

This month we will be rededicating our "Chapel" as the "Prayer Chapel" and I thought it best to use this opportunity to communicate how and why this came about.

Around a month ago, I was working in my office in the afternoon and I had a thought come to mind that I believe was directly from the Lord: "You need to have a dedicated prayer space in the church." I was not thinking about prayer at the time nor had I any agenda to create a prayer space. I simply believe that the Lord spoke to me and so I responded by walking around the upper level of the Family Center. After walking the loop, I saw Pastor Dan in the hallway and asked if we had a dedicated prayer space in the church. He said that we have the chapel but it is typically underutilized. From there I proceeded to the chapel and remained in there for a while praying and trying to envision what making the chapel into a dedicated prayer space would look like. As an aside, I must say that the chapel is a beautiful space and any refurbishing that we do to the room will be done with the mindset of maintaining the integrity of such a beautiful space.

Before I discuss what the new layout will look like, I want to field a couple of questions and comments that must be respectfully addressed. 1) The major change that we will be doing to the chapel is to remove the pews and to replace them with around a dozen chairs; this is important to address because the pews have plaques on them commemorating church members who donated money to build the chapel. I want to make sure that these people continue to be honored and I brought the issue before the Trustees. I was informed that the names of the people on the pews did not mean that they donated money for that specific pew but that they donated money to build the chapel. Pastor Scripture wanted to make sure that they were honored, so he placed plaques on the pews. We will relocate these plaques next to the other plaques that are on the wall on the left side when you enter the chapel. 2) The chapel is sometimes used for small weddings or small funeral services. We will continue to have the chapel be available for small weddings or small funerals. We will be able to refurbish the room for such occasions by setting up chairs and the podium. 3) The chapel is sometimes used for meetings. The primary meeting that takes place in the chapel on a monthly basis is the Deaconesses. I have spoken with Carol Howard and that meeting will be moved to another available room on the upper level. The only meetings that take place in the chapel going forward should be meetings specifically for prayer.

So what will the prayer chapel look like? It will be

equipped with four prayer stations (tables strategically placed around the room) as well as prayer cushions and a couch so that people may pray comfortably for an extended period of time. The four prayer stations will be set up accordingly:

1. Our World - this will be a station with information on all the missionaries whom we support and their recent prayer updates (I will manage keeping this up-to-date on a monthly basis). It will also have information about the persecuted Church whom we should be in constant prayer for. We will also pray for all of those in the world who don't know Jesus.

2. Our Community - this will be a station where we pray for leaders in government (federal, state, and local), specific community needs, our schools (students, teachers, staff, and administrators) and, especially, for those within our social circles who do not yet know Jesus Christ as Lord.

3. Our Church - this will be a station where we pray for our prayer list, needs of congregation, as well as opportunities to pray for our staff, vision for the church, and various ministries.

4. Ourselves - this will be a station where we pray through: Scriptural devotions (Oswald Chambers, John Piper, etc.), prayers from throughout Church history, and/or prayer books such as Valley of Vision or A Diary of Private Prayer by John Baillie. These resources will be available at the station, but you are welcome to bring your own to the chapel, as well.

I am extremely excited about how the Lord is leading this process. I have met with the Trustees, Deacons, Deaconesses, and Staff to present this idea and it has been received well. I believe that our agreement in this shows the leading of the Lord. Prayer is vital to the Christian life and our church is a praying church. Rededicating the prayer chapel to be a place primarily devoted to prayer will communicate this deeply held value. Our sermon series on the 40 Day Prayer Covenant has certainly helped us continue in a rhythm of prayer and I am excited to see what the Lord will do through our church as we continue to pray consistently. If any of you has been in a prayer room before, you know that it is often a place where you can feel the Presence of God in a special way. The prayer chapel will be a space conducive to praying comfortably for an extended amount of time and equipped with updated prayer requests and needs for our world, our community, and our church.

When the prayer chapel is rededicated this month, I challenge you to prayerfully consider a time during the week where you can come spend thirty minutes or an hour in prayerful communication with our Lord in the prayer chapel. The time spent will benefit you, it will benefit our church, and, most importantly, it will bring glory to God as we prayerfully and obediently seek His Face.

—Aaron Osterbrock, Associate Pastor

# Matthew Ministries

We will be making our monthly trip down to Matthew 25: Ministries for a wonderful day of fellowship, fun, and WORKING FOR THE LORD Thursday, November 19th. We will leave the church at 8:30 a.m. returning at about 3:00 p.m. Come dressed to WORK - bring your own sack lunch and beverage. Remember - this is NOT just for the KeenAgers. Everyone is welcome to be a part of this ministry.

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## 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 15th. Orders after that date may not be filled. Make checks out to First Baptist Church.

—The Flower Committee

*Thank You!*  
**THANK YOU!**

Thanks for everyone who helped prepare for the Harvest Party, we had over 225 people (we lost count after that) and so much fun and lots of yummy food. Imogene won the chili/soup cook off and Karen Buchanan claimed the first prize for her ice cream cake. YUM! Andrew Sommers Sunday School class claimed the coveted pumpkin prize for the most interactive table with the 5th & 6th (joined with the 3rd & 4th right now) for a close second place. For a full list of costume winners please see the bulletin board outside of the children's office. There is also an answer key to the invention game and the close up photo contest!

—Claire Metzger & Cheryl Motzer

**The Open Door Pantry  
Annual Benefit Concert  
of Spiritual Music  
Sunday, November 1st, 2015  
3:00 p.m.**

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

**Everyone is welcome!  
Freewill offering**

## Matthew 25 Ministries Fight Hunger 5K

Please join or support  
the *Hamilton 1st Baptist Church Team*  
as they walk/run in the

Fighting hunger 5K  
Benefitting Matthew 25 Ministries

**When:** Saturday, November 7, 2015 @ 8:30 a.m.

**Where:** Matthew 25: Ministries 11060 Kenwood Road, Cincinnati, OH

(Participants, please note: We will be taking church vehicles to the 5K. The time to meet at church will be announced.)

To register go to: [www/hunger5k.org](http://www/hunger5k.org) can click on participant registration, agree to the waiver, click Join a Team, type in Hamilton 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church and enter your information. Registration is \$18 and must be done by **November 4th**.

To donate, go to [www.hunger5K.org](http://www.hunger5K.org) and click on Sponsor a Participant and type in Laurin Sprague. This will be credited to the 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Team.

Registration fees for all participants include a long-sleeve Fighting Hunger 5K t-shirt, a goody bag, and access to the post-race party with food galore, live music, and chocolate fountains!

Please contact Laurin or Lisa Sprague (896-7911) for additional information.

Thank you for supporting Matthew 25:Ministries!



With the Thanksgiving season upon us we want to say THANK YOU for all those who help in Awana, without you this ministry wouldn't work. For some clubbers their time in Awana is the only time they see a Bible and the only time they hear about God's love.

Our schedule is as follows for November, the only reminder is that during the PJ theme night our offering will be going to something special. We have decided to fill drawstring bags (thank you Diane Bueker for creating these) with a soft toy, a blanket and a book to be given to our local homeless shelter. These will then be given to children who stay at the shelter so they can feel loved and know that someone cares about them. Please join us in filling these bags if you can, we aim to fill ten and help ten children.

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### **November Calendar**

- 4th - Regular Club Night/Canned Food Drive
- 11th - Regular Club Night/Canned Food Drive
- 18th - PJ Theme Night/Canned Food Drive/Awana Store Night
- 25th - No Club (Thanksgiving Holiday)

-Claire Metzger & Cheryl Motzer,  
Awana Leaders

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### **GIANT Christmas Card**

Once again we will be sharing our GIANT church Christmas card in the connector. We will have previous years on display also. This is our sixth 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 Becky**

#### **College Corner**

**Important!!** We need all college students addresses as soon as possible. **This year we also need their email addresses.** Please call Becky Scripture 856-7177 or the church office 868-1412.

-Becky Scripture  
Career & College Coordinator

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#### **Child Care**

There are many vacant spots in our childcare schedule. You might ask why should I help? As a church family we want to allow families to attend services, so we offer childcare and class for newborns all the way through to sixth grade. We have various numbers in each age group and can have around sixty children during one Sunday morning. All it takes is a smile and a willing heart!

Loving our children,  
Cheryl and Claire (and all of you!)

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#### **Christmas Shoebox Wrapping Party!**

We invite the church to join our children to pack, wrap and decorate Christmas Shoeboxes on Saturday morning, November 7th. We will provide shoeboxes, paper, smiles and a FREE WAFFLE BREAKFAST!!! We encourage everyone to attend and help spread God's love through this fantastic ministry. We will meet in the gym at 9:30 and conclude at 11:30. Any donations for filling the box are definitely welcome and can be left in Ellie's office.

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

## Just-in Time's

As I start my first Courier article to my new family at FBCH, I would be misled if I were not to first thank each and every one of you for your support of both Elizabeth and me. We have felt extremely loved by all of you and we appreciate your generosity to us on all levels. You have made us feel as though this truly is our home in the midst of rather large life transitions. We are grateful to be a part of this family of believers and pray our work together would be fruitful for generations to come.

It has already been three months since arriving at FBCH and in that time I have given much thought as to what I would like to say now.

In about eight years of following Jesus-not having grown up in the church, coming to know the Lord outside of the local church, and having served the Lord in a para-church ministry for about four years-I have tasted and seen what the Lord Jesus is to the American teenager beyond the walls of the church; however, I was a teenager who was brought into the local church in high school and it was there that I began to see the importance of the local church to Christian longevity.

I give much credit to those men who came before me for my spiritual formation. By God's grace, the Spirit used them to instill in me a faith that did not rest at baptism (which actually came many years after my profession of faith), but a faith that was passionate about Jesus' great commission and that passion continues on to this day. My time in student ministry with the para-church was formative, but God has issued me a new decree: "Go and make disciples, who make disciples, teaching them to obey everything I have commanded, so that they will be able to follow me for a lifetime." And he has called me to do so with his beautiful bride, the local church. So here he has placed me, at First Baptist Hamilton, to answer his order issued by the Holy Spirit.

My prayer is that my story would be the story of the students at FBCH. That we as a church would come alongside these young souls with the intentions of presenting them mature in Christ in the same way that those before me walked with me. May each of us be disciples who answer Jesus' call to "come follow" because he wants us to become "fishers of men" (Matthew 4:19). We have the privilege as a body of believers to impart on this young generation the importance of being in a personal relationship with the

God of the Universe. Without someone coming first to me and explaining the things of God, I too would be lost in this world. God's call is to "go," "make disciples," "baptize them" and "teach them to obey everything I have commanded." Let's go.

—Justin Davis  
Youth Pastor

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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 so that everyone can update their directory.

**Clemens, Dr. Dan & Debra**  
6624 Creekside Way  
Hamilton, OH 45011  
Cell Phone: 513-341-1965  
Email: [dclemens53@gmail.com](mailto:dclemens53@gmail.com) (Personal)  
[dan.clemens@firstbaptisthamilton.org](mailto:dan.clemens@firstbaptisthamilton.org)

**Davis, Justin & Elizabeth**  
806 S. College Avenue  
Oxford, OH 45056

**Ford, Joe & Juli**  
Cell Phones: Joe - 382-5157 (No landline)  
Juli - 910-8465

**Osterbrock, Aaron & Valerie**  
24 Beverly Court  
Hamilton, OH 45013  
Theophilus

—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

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*I will*  
**PRAISE**  
**YOU**  
*more and more.*

PSALM 71:14, NIV

## **A Visit To The Open Door Food Pantry**

A group of us from First Baptist toured the Open Door Food Pantry on Thursday, Oct. 15th at 4:30 p.m. The pantry is located at 800 South Front Street in Hamilton and it was open - so we got to see it in operation. Sandy Sanders from their Board of Directors; Gary Chapman, their director; and a number of support staff and volunteers showed us around. It was a busy and exciting place!

When people arrive they form a line. Overhead a video about nutrition is running. The food pantry encourages healthy food choices. In the office clients have their ID cards scanned. The pantry uses Virtual Case Management Software which is shared with other food pantries in the area to help insure that real needs are being met. Clients can visit this food pantry once a month but a number of other food pantries are available in our area. For each food pantry they need to show their ID cards. Each visit is documented on computer. Criteria for assistance includes income and other factors. New clients need to bring photo IDs and proof of residence and income.

Each client, once registered, gets to shop with a Food Pantry volunteer. Food groups are color coded and according to how many people in each family, clients get to select their own grocery items by food groups. This ensures that individuals leave with products their families will use and enjoy. It also helps them learn about healthy food choices.

The Open Door Food Pantry has been serving needy families in the Butler County area since 1981. 90% of the food comes through Shared Harvest, a southwestern Ohio network that solicits and distributes surplus marketable and wholesome grocery products to a network of food pantries, soup kitchens, and similar organizations. Most bread comes from Krogers. We learned that the food pantry can purchase food cheaper than we can. So they welcome donations of cash but they are always happy to accept food as well. They are totally funded by tax-deductible donations. They do not receive money from United Way.

An average of 1,800 people per month receive resources from the Open Door Food Pantry. In August alone, the Open Door Food Pantry provided food for 2,268 individuals. Special Thanksgiving food is available for those who sign up.

Would you like to help? There are three committees helping the pantry: 1) building and equipment, 2) operations and 3) resources. You can attend their fundraisers like their annual concert. You can help with client services or maintenance. If you

would like to volunteer please contact the Pantry at 513-868-3276 or 513-720-8639 or visit their website <http://www.opendoorfoodpantry.org/how-you-can-help/>.

Our mission board recently voted to donate \$1000 to the Open Door Food Pantry on behalf of our congregation. When we visited we saw that our donation is being put to very good use! People in our community are really being helped!

– Ann Brown,  
Mission Board

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## **Blessed Be The Name!**

At 10:30 Sunday morning, December 13th, the KingsKids and Chancel Choir will come together to present *Blessed Be The Name!* It's a wonderful time for us to celebrate Jesus' birth in song with special guest musicians. Katie Simpson and Laurin Sprague will be co-directing this very special musical event. You won't want to miss it.

–Laurin Sprague

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## **Cherub Choir**

The Cherub Choir will present their musical Christmas gift to Jesus, *I Played My Drum For Him*, during morning worship on Sunday, December 6th, the second Sunday of Advent.

–Marsha Helton & Sydney Wilson

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## **Pianos Available**

There are a limited number of pianos in various conditions around our church that need a good home. If you are interested in one, please see or call Laurin Sprague, 543-1908.

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**November 11th**



MOPS had record numbers in October having 6 new moms and 31 moms total attend our meeting. Attendance at the MOPS Bible Study is also up too. God is at work in MOPS, and it's exciting to see the impact He is making on moms. Thank you for supporting the MOPS ministry. As we continue to minister to more moms, help is needed to watch children at our meetings. Please contact me if you are able to help with childcare at monthly MOPS meetings.

Our next meeting is scheduled for November 17th from 9:30a.m.-11:45a.m. Our topic is *Fearless Freezer Cooking: Once a Month Meals*. As moms, our lives are busy and it can be challenging to provide healthy, home-cooked meals for our families. A representative from Once a Month Meals will be speaking to us on how a single day of cooking can result in a freezer full of meals ready to enjoy when we want providing more time for what matters most.

Several fun MOPS events are planned in November. Families will be participating as a Hamilton MOPS team at the Fighting Hunger 5K on November 7th at 8:30a.m. at Matthew 25 Ministries in Blue Ash. The MOPS Bible Study, *A Fierce Flourishing*, will continue on November 10th from 9:30-11:30a.m. at First Baptist Church. Moms will enjoy a night out at La Cazuela Mexican Restaurant in Fairfield Township on November 12th at 7p.m. Lastly, moms and children will gather for story time and painting at The Pottery Place in White Oak on November 24th 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



## First Baptist Is Assisting With Bible Translations

Did you know that over 1 billion people on planet earth are still Bibleless? First Baptist is supporting a Wycliffe Bible Translators Affiliate group called The Seed Company. Their goal is to reach that billion Bibleless people in the next 10 years.

Our mission board recently voted to donate \$9989 to the Seed Company that was matched. The \$19,978 went to finish off the financial support for three projects of Bible translation.

The first two were in Nigeria in West Africa. One was an Old Testament for the Ngas people. Most are Christians, but so far they have had access to the whole counsel of God only through languages other than their own. They long to be able to read the history of God's dealing with His people before the coming of Christ, and to be able to worship God with the Psalms in their own language.

The other was for the Bekwarra community in Nigeria. Many people are church-goers but they still practice African traditional religion, which reveres ancestors and offers sacrifices to spirits. Many people are nominal Christians, because they don't understand what the Bible really teaches. The translation team has translated the Old Testament and revised the entire New Testament published in 1983. The translated book of Luke will be used to prepare and produce the "JESUS" film. The New Testament will be recorded for audio distribution. These four tools in the Bekwarra language will help build a vibrant New Testament church.

The third Seed Company project we helped finish off was in Papua New Guinea in the Pacific. The Aruamu have had a New Testament since 2005. The translation team is moving forward with a translation of the Old Testament, starting with the Psalms and a Lectionary, a book of readings used in worship services. The project will also use audio recordings of the Aruamu New Testament played on digital audio players, on mobile phones and in listening groups. These scriptures will encourage churches in their worship and believers in their walk with God, and it will be a tool for evangelizing the community at large. 10,000 people will be directly impacted.

The Seed Company has the goal of ten prayer partners for each of their translation projects. You can commit to pray on their web site: [theseedcompany.org](http://theseedcompany.org). You can read more about these three projects and others. The people so appreciate getting their hands on Bibles!

It is a great opportunity to be a part of making God's word available to people on the other side of the world. "People do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4 NLT).

—Ann Brown,  
Mission Board



## 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 2015.

### Threes

Claire Metzger  
Ciaran Metzger

### Parenting

Stan Brown

### Beginner/Kindergarten

Genie Sexton  
Callum Metzger

### FOCUS

Bud Braun  
Dolly Houser  
Janet Lewis  
Hank Miller  
Joyce Purdy  
Bill Roberts  
Bob Stanger

### Primary

Carolyn Dudley  
Elizabeth Metzger

### Junior

Emma Imhoff

### Keystone

Isabell Johnson  
Margie VonStein

### Senior High

Alex Hendrickson

J.K. Walker  
Mary Walker

### Homebuilders

Wallace  
Bill Imhoff

YadaSisterhood Jerry  
Brenda Brown  
Ruth Gaskins

### Office

Linda Gibbs

## Fall Back/Quarterly Breakfast

Sunday, November 1st

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, October 31st!)

—John Motzer 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 1st





## Child Care Schedule

### Nursery (Morning)

November 1 - Cheryl Motzer, Syd & Noellë  
 November 8 - Linda & Larry Wallace  
 November 15 - Carolyn Dudley & Teen Helper  
 November 22 - Barb & Brian Begley, KK & Lyndsay  
 November 29 - Carolyn Dudley & Teen Helper

### Toddler

November 1 - Debbie Miller & Megan  
 November 8 - Cheryl Lambertson & Emma Imhoff  
 November 15 -  
 November 22 - Ruthie Wallace & girls  
 November 29 - Cheryl Lambertson & Emma Imhoff

### Kiddie Church

November 1 - Angie Inloes & Ashley  
 November 8 - Claire & Chris Metzger  
 November 15 - Sharon Brewer & Lauren Hampton  
 November 22 - Debra Clemens & Anna Wallace  
 November 29 - Amy Wallace

### Kinderchurch

November 1 - Dorothy Hollowell & Jill O'Hara  
 November 8 - Lois Anderson & Helper  
 November 15 - Dorothy Hollowell & Jill O'Hara  
 November 22 - Cheryl Motzer, Syd & Noellë  
 November 29 - Lois Anderson & Helper



## 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 4

Menu: Pork Loin, Au Gratin Potatoes, Green Beans, Applesauce, Rolls, Pineapple Upside Down Cake  
 Hosts: Chancel Choir

### November 11

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

### November 18

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

### November 25

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

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 2015

**1** 8:30 Fall Back Fellowship  
 9:15 Sunday School  
 10:30 Worship  
 3:00 Open Door Pantry Concert  
 6:00 KingsKids  
 6:00 Evening Programs  
 7:00 Praise & Worship

**8** 9:15 Sunday School  
 10:30 Worship  
 4:30 Advisory Board  
 6:00 Student Ministries Bonfire  
 6:00 KingsKids  
 6:00 Evening Ministries

**15** 9:15 Sunday School  
 10:30 Worship  
 4:30 Diaconate  
 6:00 Student Ministries Brinner & a Movie  
 6:00 KingsKids  
 6:00 Aaron Osterbrock Ordination Service  
 7:00 Reception

**22** 9:15 Sunday School  
 10:30 Worship  
 4:30 C.E. Board  
 6:00 KingsKids  
 6:00 Evening Ministries

Student Ministries Retreat

**29** 9:15 Sunday School  
 10:30 Worship  
 6:00 KingsKids  
 6:00 Evening Ministries

**2**

**9** 11:00 Women's Christian Book Club @ Fairfield Library  
 12:00 KeenAgers to Symmes Tavern on The Green

**16** 5:30 Serve City Meal

**23**

**30**

**3** Election Day!  
 9:30 MOPS Steering Committee

**10** 9:30 MOPS Bible Study  
 10:30 Holloway Circle  
 10:30 Abell Circle in Library  
 6:00 Smith Circle

**17** 9:30 MOPS

**24** 7:00 Community Thanksgiving Service

**4** 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 Chancel Choir

**11** Veterans Day!  
 5:45 Family Dinner  
 5:45 Awana/Canned Food Drive  
 6:30 Student Ministries  
 6:30 3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr. Business Mtg.  
 7:00 Praise Team  
 7:30 Chancel Choir

**18** 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 Chancel Choir

**25** No Wednesday Dinner/No Evening Programs

**5** 6:30 Ladies Bible Study

**12** 5:30 Board of Trustees  
 6:30 Ladies Bible Study

**19** 8:30 Matthew 25  
 6:30 Ladies Bible Study

**26** Thanksgiving Day!  
 Church Offices Closed

9:00 CREW Turkey Bowl

**6**

**13**

**20**

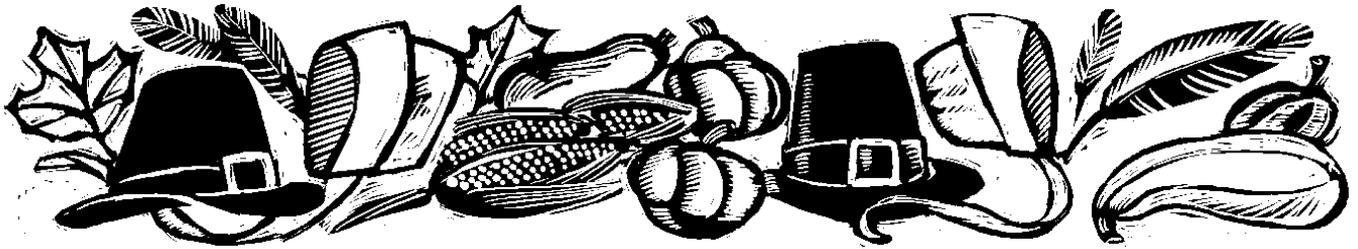
**27** Church Offices Closed

**7** 8:30 Matthew 25 Fighting Hunger 5K  
 9:00 Men's Prayer Gathering  
 9:30 Shoebox Packing Party & Waffles

**14**

**21**

**28**



## NOVEMBER

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| 1 - Wesley Dickman<br>Michael Garver<br>Leonard Jerome Jenkins   | 14 - Nella Hurst<br>Blake Martin  | 26 - Andy Cain<br>Sara Cain<br>Katie Fryer<br>Mason Sackenheim<br>Kaleb Sackenheim   |
| 2 - Chad Allen<br>Dennis Dudley<br>Ron Gerth<br>Bill Imhoff<br>Charles Victor Louis Miles<br>Arlene Thomas | 15 - Samantha Mason   | 27 - Zachary Mullins   |
| 3 - Jimmy Smith, Jr.   | 16 - Alayna Garver<br>Samantha Hetterich                                    | 28 - Christian Acus<br>Charles Day<br>Gary Swindall<br>Dick Winkler  |
| 4 - Gloria Faber<br>Allison Sommers  | 17 - Earnie Huff<br>Mara Krall Elam<br>Wayne Miller                         | 29 - Carol Howard  |
| 7 - Bert Brantingham<br>Joey Braun<br>Chloe Cochran<br>David Diedrichs                                     | 18 - Marsha Helton<br>Benji Stanger   | 30 - Janet Day<br>Kelli Fryer<br>Kevin Fryer<br>Jennifer Owen<br>Imogene Swindall  |
| 8 - Eugenia Sexton   | 19 - Lindel Sapp<br>Ryan Schwab   | <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. |
| 9 - Glenn Roddy<br>John Wallace  | 20 - Mae Hill   |  |
| 10 - Brenda Brown<br>Mark Click<br>Thomas Owen   | 21 - Debbie Allen<br>Lois Anderson<br>Nancy McAllister<br>Hope Renee Nguyen |  |
| 11 - Curt Bradbury<br>Beth Riczko  | 22 - Roger Chamberlain<br>RuthAnn Wallace                                   |  |
| 12 - Faye Baker<br>Adison Ebbing<br>Matt Schumm  | 23 - Teri Horsley   |  |
| 13 - Kathy Chambers<br>JoAnne Diesbach<br>Brennan Graham   | 24 - Don Gingrich<br>Norma Setser<br>Beverly Proctor                        |  |
|  | 25 - Barb Arnold<br>Darin Chamberlain                                       |  |

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



## Personal Notes

### From Rae Ann Baumann (Ladies-Night-Out Volleyball)

The Tuesday night volleyball league is very appreciative of you allowing us to use you Family Center. Please accept this \$400.00 donation as our thanks for the privilege of playing our twelve week season in your facility. Thank you very much!

### From Leah Cohen for all the Cohens (Jews For Jesus)

It is such an encouragement that we are family in Christ! Your “praying for us” card was a blessing. Please pray for this transition time—especially for Micha as he misses working. Pray that I am alert to his needs and a blessing to him. Pray, too please, for Selah and Tiki as they navigate these changes from a child’s perspective. Thank you!

### From Martha Griesinger

I want to thank everyone from First Baptist for their prayers and cards of concern and encouragement following my recent surgery. I’m doing well and glad to be back worshipping with you all.



## Community Thanksgiving Service

FBC will host a community Thanksgiving Service on Tuesday, November 24th, in our sanctuary at 7:00 p.m. We will invite Hamilton Church to join FBC in giving God thanks for His blessing and goodness. There will be congregational singing, scripture reading, special music will give God praise, and several pastors will bring the Word regarding “Thanksgiving Past, Present and Future”. We will receive an offering for the Open Door Food Pantry and invite people to bring a can or box of food to share. We will be inviting city officials, police, and fire-fighters to come that we might have a time of special prayer for them. It seems only appropriate that as we as a country celebrate a holiday of Thanksgiving we ought to have a special time of community expression of worship and thanksgiving.

**Please vote on November 3rd for the candidates and issues that hold our Christian values.**

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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: 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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