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JUNE NEWSLETTER

Pastor's Message



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Lead Pastor

Bryan Corbett
Associate Pastor

David Berna
Visitation Pastor

Jeff Bane
Outreach Pastor

Mike D'Attoma
Student Pastor

Mike Latella
Children's Pastor

Robert Stroup
Business Administrator

Andy Kovalchik
Life Group Pastor

Doug Worley
Life Group Pastor

Brian Kinnett
Member Services Pastor

Cindy Tryon
Preschool Coordinator

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My wife bought outdoor flower pots last year. She was so proud of them until strong winds turned them over, spilling her potting soil. This year she dragged me to every gardening store in the area to find heavier flower pots. Plastic and porcelain would not do, even though there was an abundance. Concrete seem to be the right fit, but none fit her taste. Then she saw three concrete pots in our daughter's backyard. Bottom-line, our son-in-law trucked them over to our house and placed them in our backyard and filled these special pots with fresh flowers. Happy Mother's Day!

Our mothers deserve a special day to be honored and doted on — even spoiled. They work hard, sacrifice all, and give their hearts to make our lives healthy and happy. If your mother is still alive, I hope you had something special for her this past month.

Sharon's gift from our daughter begs the question, that each Sunday is the Lord's Day. Have you thought about what you have in your home or in your heart that He would like to receive as a gift? Have you ever thought about your TV? He isn't interested in your flat screen, but He would truly enjoy some of the time you spend watching it to be given to the Bible and prayer. Your recliner is another place you spend time that He would enjoy so much if some of that time were to be given to witnessing to your neighbors. And how about all those recreational toys on which you spend money that could be given to missions and ministries?

The next big family holiday is Father's Day. Dads are special and we want to brag on them. We owe them. But our heavenly Father is the One Who created us and sustains our lives on this planet. He has prepared a place for us that's even more beautiful than this planet.

May I suggest giving your heavenly Father the best things you have in your heart. Give Him your praise and worship—make it a special gift by not missing one Sunday this whole summer — be in our church or another somewhere worshipping Him.

Sharon has enjoyed her gifts so much that she forces everybody to stop and admire their beauty. This year's present has been so cool that secretly she and I are beginning to look at other things in our children's home that would make good Mother's Day gifts for next year. What an idea? What's in your house?

Pastor Jerry



Members' Ministry

The pull of technology.

As a children's pastor, I understand the importance of time management when it comes to dealing with kids. Children covet our attention and making time for them in our demanding lives is important. However, it seems that despite our best intentions, time with our kids tends to take a backseat to the busyness of life.

One of the biggest drains of our time is technology because of the access it gives us to a virtual life. Our lives revolve around this access, and its pull on us is strong. There's always email to check, texts to respond to, statuses to update, images and videos to see or post (ironically, many involving our kids), and they must be done right away (or so we think)—putting everything else on pause.

No doubt, technology provides many benefits to our lives. But we can't be naïve to the consequences, including primarily its impact on our person-to-person relationships. It entices us away from face-to-face contact and real authentic connections. Often, it's a time waster. It sucks us in and consumes hours. We think we are logging in to check one thing and an hour later, we finally come up for air. The limited granules in the sand of our life's clock trickle down while our fingers swipe and click our days away. How much of real life is missed when our eyes are glued to the screen of our virtual life?

Technology, like anything good, can turn sour when our hearts distort its role. The ability we have to read emails, texts, and status updates gives us a rush. It is fun, and we just keep going back for more. But time is too valuable. It is a treasure in its own right. And make no mistake — the inordinate use of technology lusts for our time. It subtly moves in and tries to prop up the idol of self, attempting to convince us that the virtual world is more important than the real life happening right in front of us.

In Matthew 10:18, Jesus cautions: "*Be careful. Don't think these little children are not important. I tell you that these children have angels in heaven. And those angels are always with my Father in heaven.*" (ERV).

In our world today, the virtual existence afforded by technology is beneficial, but it should never intrude on our real-life relationships with our children.

Mike Latella,

If you grew up in the 80's and 90's, you probably remember the show *Cheers*. The theme song for the show goes like this: "Making your way in the world today takes everything you've got, taking a break from all your worries sure would help a lot. Wouldn't you like to get away? Sometimes you want to go where everybody knows your name, and they're always glad you came. You want to be where you can see, our troubles are all the same. You want to be where everybody knows your name."

As people, we are wired not to be alone or to do life alone, yet week after week there are many who come to our Church Campus and never seem to connect. And the more people who come in through the doors on Sunday and Wednesday, the more chance there are some who go out without anyone ever knowing their names or knowing we were glad they came. They come and go and do life alone. Life is too short to live this way. There is more out there and in here than this.

This is one reason we promote Life Groups so people can belong to something bigger than their problems, and people can make it to the next day and know that they are not alone and that their troubles are all the same. And they learn together with God's grace and help, we are more than conquerors in any situation.

Maybe you are one of those who like to slip in and out, and maybe you feel like nobody knows your name. Well, I want to know your name, and I want you to be in a group that fits into your schedule. We have Life Groups that meet every day of the week, as well as groups that meet on Sunday morning. Come see us at the *Next Steps Kiosk* on Sunday and let us help you find a place where you can take a break from all your worries, where you will be welcome with open arms, and everyone will know your name!

**Pastor Brian Kinnett,
Members' Minister**

Trustee Ministry Report

The warm weather and the rain are keeping the crew busy with lawn care; what beautiful fields we see around God's house. Wyman Westfall and David Haler have recently joined the volunteer team to help with lawn care.

Trustees and volunteers are adding an additional 1 3/4 acre of church land to the playing fields. This playing field is a joint venture with Grove City High School who will utilize the field for Frisbee contests. Pastor Jeff Bane is fostering the relationship with the school with the plans to introduce more adults and students to our church and to tell them how Jesus can change their life.

We trust that you are enjoying the beautiful sunshine. May God continue to richly bless you; stay in His Word daily and pray often.

**Alice Thompson,
Trustee Ministry Secretary**

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

JONES, Jo	06/01	HILER, Debby	06/22
UPTON, Misty	06/01	CROPPER, Chris	06/23
HUGHES, Jeff	06/01	MEYERINK, Robert	06/23
BARBRE, Josiah	06/01	WILLS, Gary	06/23
HAUGHN, Raymond	06/02	EVANS, Barbara	06/23
KINNETT, Faith	06/02	O'DONNELL, Donald	06/24
KUHLMAN, Richard	06/02	WILLS, Marlene	06/24
LOVE, Sherri	06/02	GRAVES, Paul	06/24
WELCH, Hayden	06/02	BERTRAM, Mary	06/25
BURGE, Nathan	06/02	HIGGINS, Melissa	06/25
BISHOP, Hope	06/03	EBERST, Minerva	06/26
GIFFORD, Lee	06/03	HEIBY, Joe	06/26
FRITTS, Tracy	06/03	BURNELL, James	06/26
HILER, Geoff	06/03	FOIL, Mark	06/26
WARNER, Jeffrey	06/04	KNAPP, Shirley	06/28
BERRY, Brenda	06/04	WARD, Dwight	06/28
STENGER, Deanna	06/04	WEISS, Kevin	06/28
HILYARD, Bethany	06/04	GREEN, Don	06/28
KISOR, Margalyn	06/05	HEJDUK, Katie	06/29
DUNCAN, Leigh-Anne	06/06	CAIN, Chase	06/29
HOLLINGSWORTH, Greg	06/06	CHADWICK, Robert	06/30
RATLIFF, Audrea	06/07	GEBHARDT, Sophie	06/30
MCCONNAUGHEY, Brett	06/08	GRIFFITH, Dawn	06/30
STEWART, Desiree	06/08	GRIFFITH, Olivia	06/30
SHOEMAKER, Kason	06/08	GRIFFITH, Julia	06/30
TYLER, Emily	06/09		
SPEAKMAN, Hope	06/09		
JAMES, Rachel	06/10		
LANE, Miles	06/10		
MARTIN, Ron	06/10		
STEWART, Judith	06/10		
ANDREWS, Lucas	06/10		
GRAHAM, Glenn	06/10		
VERNON, Debi	06/10		
ROSS, Sylvia	06/11		
HAMMOND, Jane	06/12		
PRINCE, Linda	06/12		
GAMMELL, Charlene	06/12		
LEHMAN, Scott	06/13		
NORTH, Adrienne	06/13		
VIRGIN, Jeremy	06/13		
CRAMER, LeeAnn	06/14		
GABRIEL, Ron	06/15		
KINNER, Joanna	06/15		
ELLIOTT, John	06/16		
STOLL, Avery	06/16		
LEETH, Gene	06/17		
LOGSDON, Ron	06/17		
BOSWELL, Carla	06/18		
MCFARLAND, Jim	06/18		
DOLCH, Michelle	06/18		
CARSON, Sarah	06/18		
BARBER, Aaron	06/19		
WILHELM, Valerie	06/19		
SOSA, Jeremy	06/20		
ROBERTS, Aubrey	06/21		
PULLINS, Betty	06/22		
BARTLETT, Garv	06/22		
ZEMBITZKY, Mindy	06/22		

Notes of Appreciation

Thank you for the beautiful flowers you sent for our mom and grandma, Bertha Ison. We are so thankful for brothers and sisters in Christ who comfort our sorrow. We love you all!

Lance and Carla Boswell and family

I want to thank all of you for your prayers for me and my family. I also want to thank my Lord and Savior for always being by my side and for His healing powers. All prayers were answered. I do not have cancer. I got this great news last week. I also want to thank the two gentlemen that installed my storm door. God bless all.

**Your sister in Christ,
Kay Huggins**

Missions Ministry

By the time you read this, school is probably out for the summer (funny how what once was your favorite time of year can change when you have kids!). And summer vacation can mean only one thing . . . time to get ready for football in the fall! And in our case, soccer as well.

Thanks to many of you who joined the Upward Sports ministry as Team Encouragers this past season. Our desire is for every team in our league to have a strong connection to FBC through relationships being built as coaches, officials, or encouragers. It is one thing to get hundreds, or even thousands of people on our property, but quite another thing to help them get connected here and taking their next steps toward or with God. In reality, those next steps only take place in the context of relationships. And so, our job is to build relationships with our community in order to be in a position to walk with them as they take their next steps.

So, as we gear up for this coming season (Flag-football and Cheerleading for age 5 through 8th grade) (Soccer for age 4 and 4th-8th grade), would you consider becoming one of our Coaches, Officials, or Team Encouragers? Contact Pastor Jeff if your answer is yes (or even maybe!).

**In Christ,
Pastor Jeff Bane**

From Our Music Minister

Question: "Do angels sing?" Answer: It may seem strange to ask if angels sing, because conventional wisdom says, "Of course they do."

Probably the clearest passage on this issue is Job 38:7, which says that, at the creation of the world, "*the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy.*"

Revelation 5 is another passage that may indicate that the angels sing. Verse 9 speaks of beings that "*sang a new song*" in heaven.

What about the Christmas story? Luke 2:13-14 says, "*Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God . . .'*" Note, again, that the words of the angels are "said," not specifically "sung."

In short, the Bible does not give a definitive answer as to whether the angels sing. But one thing we know for sure. When we sing "Amazing Grace" or any song about redemption, Angels are silent. They have no testimony of

[Continued in next column]



It's fascinating to me how everyday events provide illustrations of spiritual truths.

Karen and I recently had some electrical work done in our home. We have an older home which did not have installed ceiling lights — much too dark to be cheerful! So we hired a dear brother to install some recessed light fixtures in the ceilings.

The eight lights in the living room were connected in a daisy chain fashion, that is, they were all connected to one another in a loop. When the installation was done, we turned the power back on for the test. Six of the lights came on, but two did not. A quick check of those two fixtures revealed a couple of loose wires, and after some tightening, behold, our living room was bright as day.

So what kind of spiritual truth does a couple of unlit lights teach us? When your Life Group meets, are you careful to notice if someone is not "on?" If we are practicing the life group principles of praying for another person and being prayed for every week, and if talking and being talked to every week, we will notice if a member of our group is not "on." Then you need to act.

As soon as we saw two of our lights were not working, we searched for and fixed the problem. The practice of weekly concern for all the members in your Life Group ensures group members are cared for right away if they are not "on."

But you need to be in a Life Group first. Are you in one yet?

**Connections Minister,
Pastor Andy Kovalchik**

Music Minister continued.

salvation. God's mercy was extended to fallen sinners. We were lost, but now found. We were blind but now we see. We were dead and were made alive. Now that's something to sing about.

If you are interested in joining the Celebration Choir ministry, please come talk to me.

**In Christ,
Pastor Bryan Corbett**

Women's Ministry

Book Club: Will meet Thursday, June 1st, from 7-8:30 PM at Cimi's. We will be discussing the book *The Sisters of Sugar Creek* by Cathy Liggett. Please contact Kari Jones at (614) 589-7557 with any questions.

Craft Day: Will be Friday, June 16th from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your unfinished project, a snack to share and a dish for the potluck dinner. Please contact KyleAnn Williams at (614) 440-5953 or Janet Swicegood at (614) 572-5659 with any questions.

Women's Prayer Breakfast: Will be Saturday, June 17th, at 9:00 AM, in the Fellowship Hall. We are in need of some of supplies: needle threaders, thread holders, stitch rippers, foldable scissors, small measuring tapes, and felt pieces to put the needles in. All items will be placed in medicine bottles and put in the boxes. There is a box on the women's ministry kiosk for donations.

Surviving Grief with Hope: Is a resource available to support those who are dealing with the loss of a loved one, health, a marriage, a job, and many other losses. Please contact Barb Lovingshimer at (614) 875-4613 if you would like to set up a meeting.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors: A volunteer-based initiative to help people in our area who are seniors and/or are struggling with disabilities. We provide volunteers with a wide range of home maintenance abilities to work on projects that you may need help with. Guidelines and applications are located on a small table near the Café. We are also looking for more volunteers to help with projects. If you are interested, please contact Sherri Love at (614) 871-3053 or Becki Grundeit at (614) 871-8926.

Bible Studies: There are some new ones starting soon, so check them out!

- Monday, at 1:00 PM, in Room C-154. This is a bi-weekly study. We will be studying Godly women past and present. Contact Mindi Stith at (614) 871-4812.
- Monday night at 7:00 PM. We will be beginning the study *Uninvited* by Lysa Terkeurst. We will begin on May 22nd. Contact Carol Middendorf at 614-370-3480.
- Tuesday night, at 7:00 PM, in Room C-156. We are studying *Glory Days* by Max Lucado.
- Wednesday night, at 6:45 PM, in Room K-117. We are studying *Basic* by Francis Chan.
- Thursday morning, at 9:30 AM, in Room K-117. On June 8th, we are starting the study, *Sermon on the Mount*, by Jen Wilkin

**Kari Jones,
Women's Ministry Director**

FBC Family,

As I was studying Scripture this month, specifically going through the Psalms, this verse continually jumped off the page at me!



"He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken." (Psalm 62:2, ESV)

Christ alone is our rock, and our salvation! He alone is our fortress—we cannot be shaken. When Christ is our rock—we cannot be shaken! What a beautiful and glorious truth!

You know, I love the month of May but it always feels like it comes and passes so quickly. Perhaps because it's baseball season, perhaps because our family is in the middle of moving out for renovations to move back in, perhaps because Titus is as busy as ever now, but whatever the reason, it has been good to wake up each day and camp out in Psalms. The constant reminders of key truths about who God is and how God operates and interacts with His people are overwhelming and encouraging. I challenge you this summer to spend a month or two in the Psalms. It will surely bless you! He alone is our rock, our safe place, and our foundation!!

This past month, we had our summer kick-off and it was incredible! We had an awesome night with our students, and it was just an incredible time. Not only that, but we honored our graduation class of 2017! We are so proud of these graduates!!! I cannot wait to see and hear all about what God is going to do in each of them and through each of them!

Coming up in June is Crossings Summer Camp! We are taking 85 people to camp this summer! Our biggest number yet! We sold out this year's camp in less than a week. WOAHH! We are expecting God to do HUGE things at camp. Please pray for us—we will be leaving on Wednesday, June 14th, and returning Saturday, June 18th!!

It is an honor to serve with you, Church.

Love you, Church!

**Soli Deo Gloria,
Pastor Mike D'Attoma**

Men's Corner

The next Men's Fellowship Breakfast at FBC will be on Saturday, June 3rd, at 7:30 AM. George Holinga will be sharing his testimony. Below is the testimony of Tracy Westphal shared at our May breakfast.

When I was growing up, I had two brothers, 10 and 12 years older than I was. My mom and dad were great parents. I played with friends and had a great childhood.

When I was a teenager, I played sports and had a dream about being a professional wrestler or football star. After I got out of high school, I was headed to the Promised Land, Columbus, Ohio, in order to get out of the small town. Then I got in a car wreck and was in the hospital for about six months. When I got out, I couldn't walk. The day I came home, a police officer showed up at my door and said I was being charged with vehicular homicide. I was crushed. I found out when I was in the car wreck that someone was killed. Later I found out, there was another car involved that I didn't know about and that driver was at fault.

After a year, I went to school at OSU. I went to be a broadcaster in communications. While I was in school, I met my beautiful wife Rhonda. I finished school and Rhonda and I eloped and moved to Florida. After a while, we moved back to Columbus. I started working a job, and we had a daughter named Lindsay. I was doing well on my job and making a good living, and then after a while things changed. I started to become hateful and started hating everything and everybody. I lost a great deal, so I thought, and the bottom dropped out. I didn't want to be married anymore. I told Rhonda I wanted a divorce, and she talked me into reading the book of Revelation. I thought, "too many things to think about."

We were going to my parents for Easter. I thought, "When I get back home, it is over between us." God saw it differently. I was full of hate and bitterness. I just wanted out. On the way back home, it was about midnight when we passed Findlay, Ohio on Route 23. When I saw a light in the distance, I thought that it was something because there was nothing with that kind of light after Findlay. I looked at Rhonda and said, "Do you see that light?" She said she didn't. The light was still getting brighter. It was making me nervous. I looked at Rhonda and asked again, "Do you see the light?" She again said, "No." I said, "It's getting brighter." She said, "Are you crazy too?" About that time, the light was starting to be all around us. I looked at her and said, "I've been awful to you, and whatever is mine now belongs to you." She asked what I meant. I said, "God is going to take my life." By that time, the sky was fully lit. Rhonda could not see it, but I saw it for miles all around me. I told Rhonda and she said, "Drive faster." But the car wouldn't go any faster. There was about two minutes of light. I thought about all the bad I had done. About that time, in a split second, everything went back to nighttime. I was thinking it was over as the car would not go any faster. I was scared. About one minute went by and the sky lifted. It was daylight again.

I told Rhonda goodbye again, but she told me to command Satan to go away. I said, "Satan leave me" about 20 times.

Every time I told him to leave, starting with my feet, he would inch up my body like fire burning every inch until it reached my head. I thought I was going to explode. Then my hair stood straight up. Rhonda was freaking out and so was I. The last time I said, "Satan, leave my body," my hair fell back down. A peace came over me like I have never felt before. The light went back to darkness but just before that happened, I heard a voice say, "Peace, be still. I love you."

I returned home and went to work. I looked for answers for this and was told of a church that could help. A pastor led me down "Romans Road" and I gave my life to Christ. Its so wonderful that He forgave me all of my sins including the past, present, and future.

Thank God for His son, Jesus Christ, my Lord!

Tracy Westphal

**God Bless,
Pastor Dave Berna**

My View From The Back Of The Pew

*"Train a child in the way he should go,
and when he is old, he will not turn from it."
Proverbs 22:6*

The change of seasons means the end of one sport usually followed by the beginning of another. My son only has a couple weeks left in Lacrosse. It's a new sport to us, and I'm learning the rules and some of the jargon. Sometimes, though, it is an hour of watching children run around hitting other children with sticks.

We recently played in a tournament at a nearby church, and several members of the congregation prepared a cook-out for the teams. Later, I stopped by the food tent to tell the volunteers how much we appreciated their thoughtful gesture, and one guy asked if I attended church anywhere. When I told him I was a member at First Baptist, he smiled and said, "Well, you know where we got this idea then, don't you?"

How awesome to be part of a church that is known for outreach and hospitality! There are so many opportunities here to serve, we sometimes take for granted the difference we may be making. Or we wonder if our cheerful (but imperfect) service will further His Kingdom at all. I think God just asks us to be willing. Our little offering in the hands of our big God can make all the difference.

**Cindy Tryon,
Preschool Coordinator**
