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MAY NEWSLETTER

Pastor's Message



Dr. Jerry Neal
Senior Pastor

Dr. Dave Earley
Lead Pastor

Bryan Corbett
Associate Pastor

David Berna
Visitation Pastor

Jeff Bane
Outreach Pastor

Mike D'Attoma
Assistant Pastor

Robert Stroup
Business Administrator

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www.firstgc.org

Mike Latella told me his wife asked him to hand her the lip gloss. Instead, he gave her super glue. She hasn't spoken to him since. He is one of the funniest guys I know. Mike has served for many years as our Children's Pastor and our church loves him.

This week we voted to call Joshua Wright as our new Children's Pastor. Pastor Mike has retired, but he is still committed to work with our children and support Pastor Wright anyway he can. Joshua is from Greenville, South Carolina. He is married to Lindsay, and they have two children—Judson, age 2 1/2, and Jamison, 9 months. Their family is looking forward to making Grove City their home and will begin serving FBC June 1st.

Joshua has been serving in a church of 11,000 members. His responsibility has been supervising a staff of 5 full-time and 30 part-time workers. His leadership has extended across 6 campuses.

Pastor Wright preaches to groups of 150 children. He leads them to Christ and provides follow-up counseling. The Wrights are excited about their move to Grove City. Joshua is especially looking forward to getting more acquainted with "that Mike Latella guy."

Pastor Jerry



I hope by the time you read this, it is really spring! There is snow on the ground as I write this.

But this past weekend, it looked like spring had finally arrived. I am ready! I started

on my spring garage cleaning; it's amazing how covered with dirt things get over the winter months.

Part of the job included climbing on the stepladder to place some things up in the rafters. After coming down, I worked a while, but then when it came time to stop and close the garage door, it would not close. And the garage door opener light was off, too. But the other lights in the garage were still on.

Hmmm. How does the garage door quit working, but everything else still does?

After some pondering, I went inside to see if my wife had possibly tripped a breaker. But she hadn't. I was baffled, and came back out to the garage, afraid I was going to have to call a repairman.

Then I happened to look up where I had been on the ladder. And I remembered; our garage door opener is plugged into an outlet right up where I had been on the ladder. I climbed up again, and sure enough, the plug was loose in the outlet. I had brushed against it while on the ladder. I pushed it fully back into the socket, climbed down, and found the garage door worked again. That plug needed to be plugged in all the way.

Being in a Life Group is like that. We can be a member of one, but if we are not plugged in all the way, then it will not function as it should. The Apostle James tells us to confess our sins one to another and to pray for one another (James 5:16). Those are a couple aspects of being plugged in all the way.

Are you plugged in all the way in your Life Group? If not, what can you do to make that happen?

Pastor Andy Kovalchik,
Connections Minister

2018 Southern Gospel Music Concert Series

Friday, June 15th at 7 PM
The Whisnants

Friday, August 10th at 7 PM
Tribute Quartet

Friday, November 2nd at 7 PM
TRIUMPHANT

Individual: \$15.00 in advance and \$20.00 at the door

Members' Ministry

The enemy of our soul wants to use our past to chain us. He will remind you of the things you've done to keep you from doing the things God has called you to do.

Every person ever born is born with a sinful nature into a sinful world and comes with a past. But all people who come to the Lord and repent, and ask Christ to forgive them, He saves them, redeems them, and changes them.

God the Father doesn't ask us about our past (He already knows it). He says come, all who are bound, weak, broken-hearted—come to Me through Christ My Son, and see what I will do in you!

Our past should never drive us from serving God in the present or future. God takes what the enemy wants to use for evil and turns it into something good for us and for His glory.

The chains that once bound you and me are turned into the keys that set others free in Christ Jesus. When He said it is finished on the cross, He meant sin and death no longer had a hold on mankind.

The keys to freedom are held in His hands, and He who set you free wants to set others free with His blood and the word of your testimony.

Don't let the enemy steal your freedom or the freedom of others. Submit to God all that is His, (that is all of you) and let God determine who He will set free with the chains of your past.

God's word says this: *"Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus, because the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death."* **Romans 8:1-2**

"Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God. Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God. All things are lawful for me, but not all things are profitable. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be mastered by anything." **1 Corinthians 6:9-12**

See also John 8:34-36, Romans 3:23, Revelation 12:10-12.

In Christ,

Pastor Brian Kinnett,
Members' Minister

AWANA Calendar of Events

May 2—Thank You Leaders Night!

May 9—Awards Night! (Year-end closing ceremonies)

See You Again In August!!



MAY BIRTHDAYS

FRASHER, Dan	05/01
ROBINSON, Cathy	05/01
DOZIER, Jennifer	05/01
TARLTON, Terry	05/01
WILSON, Dale	05/01
WILLIAMS, Freda	05/01
WESTFALL, Tracy	05/02
O'NEAL, Avery	05/02
TIMMONS, Delores	05/03
CHAN, Phalla	05/03
SUTTLES, Betty	05/03
GUINN, Christina	05/04
MISHNE, Seth	05/04
ALLEN, Candice	05/04
BARTLETT, Amber-Lee	05/06
JOHNSON, Jim	05/07
PINKERTON, Ed	05/07
GRIFFITH, Scott	05/08
LOGSDON, Beverly	05/08
COX, Haley	05/08
WASHINGTON, Cari	05/09
MCCOY, Jessica	05/10
GRUBB, Gary	05/10
ALLEN, Nita	05/11
EARLEY, Andrew	05/11
CORBETT, Angel	05/12
CURRY, Beth	05/12
MORBITZER, Mindy	05/12
BURNELL, Paul	05/13
CARPENTER, Jeff	05/17
CARPENTER, Martha	05/18
FULTON, Chris	05/14
CLEMENTS, Abigail	05/15
HOLLINGSWORTH, Roberta	05/15
BALL, Mary	05/16
ROBERTS, Kasia	05/16
WADDLE, Keith	05/16
MORBITZER, Nicholas	05/16
BAYS, Jody	05/17
PENN, Lora	05/17
WAGNER, Vicki	05/17
PARSONS, Chloe	05/17
SHONK, Jeanine	05/17
STITH, Tim	05/18
FULTON, Ann	05/19
CLARKE, Miranda	05/19
BASINGER, Ted	05/19
BROTHERS, Melissa	05/19
WORLEY, Cathy	05/19
MCCLOY, Phyllis	05/20
DAVIS, Freda	05/20
JOHNSON, Louise	05/21
O'NEAL, Lori	05/21
CALDWELL, Jami	05/21
BRANSON, Tammy	05/22
BRICKEL, Linda	05/22
DANIEL, Christopher	05/23
BARBER, Sherrie	05/24
SWICEGOOD, Janet	05/24
DAVIS, Steven	05/24
THOMPSON, Kristin	05/26

GUINN, Jeff	05/26
BURBRIDGE, Thomas	05/26
CHAMBERS, Fred	05/27
ROUSH, Susan	05/27
WARNOCK, Natalie	05/27
BLACKBURN, Karen	05/27
CLEMENTS, Josiah	05/28
JONES, Abigail	05/28
ONEY, Alta	05/28
CASTO, Christopher	05/29
EGGERS, Amanda	05/29
SMITH, John	05/29
WELLS, Carla	05/30
HOHN, Robert	05/30
BRADSHAW, Fralin	05/30
HUFF, Brice	05/30
HUFF, Rachel	05/30
GRABILL, Mary Ann	05/30
GOLDSMITH, Samantha	05/31
JONES, Amy	05/31
PRINCE, Frank	05/31
PARISH, Shelly	05/31

FBC News and Notes

Congratulations to *David and Laura George* on the birth of a son. *Denver Alan George* was born March 19th, at 5:54 PM, weighing 6 lbs., 3 oz., and 20 1/2 inches long.

FBC Graduates will be recognized Sunday, May 20th, during the 10:45 AM worship service in the Neal Auditorium. Lunch will follow in Genesis Auditorium. Please RSVP to Pastor Mike at Mike@firstgc.org if you plan to attend.

Quarterly Giving Statements were recently emailed. If you did not receive one, please complete a connection card with your email address or contact the church office at 614-991-0205.

Student Camp is just around the corner. It's not too late to sponsor a student for camp in June. The cost per student this year is \$289. You could make an eternal difference in a student's life. Please speak with Pastor Mike D'Attoma for more information.

Prime Time luncheon reconvenes on Tuesday, May 8th, at 10:30 AM, in the FBC Fellowship Hall. Join us for a great time of fellowship, singing hymns, and a delicious meal (\$3.00). Our guest speaker will be Steve Teaford.

Soccer Friday Night Lights returns to FBC's Upward Fields on May 4th from 5:00 to 8:30 PM. Come enjoy Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Bounce Houses, and plenty of good fellowship. If you would be interested in volunteering for this event please call the church office at 614-991-0205.

Acts in Grove City day will occur Saturday, May 19th. Join over a dozen local churches as we demonstrate the no-strings attached love of Jesus to our community by performing a variety of service projects to those in need. Please visit the *Next Steps* kiosk for more information.

Lunch on the River

Thursday, June 14th



*The Ohio River
Cincinnati*

*Buffet-Style Lunch
Musical Entertainment*



*Motor Coach Transportation
Riverboat Tour
Buffet Lunch
Musical Entertainment*

All for \$65
"A Ministry of Prime Time"

Trustee Ministry Report

Spring is slowly attempting to show its face. Daffodils and Crocuses are up and blooming and, hopefully, jelly beans and Peeps were enjoyed and have long since departed their baskets.

Grove City had a power outage last month. The outage affected the FBC campus for over a week and KK Day Care for a few hours. Services were held at JC Sommer Elementary School—and brought back a lot of memories to those of us who walked those halls in the 50's for several years. The great thing about this is that we can still remember "walking those halls!"

A "Member Services" sign can now easily be seen on the John Deere Gator. The Gator is being used for transporting those needing assistance from the parking lot, security monitoring, snow removal, and miscellaneous jobs around the church campus. It is important that after each use, the individual using the Gator check the engine and fuel levels (leaving them replenished after each use), clean the windows, and insure the Gator is left in clean ready-to-use condition after each use. A "Gator Responsibility" label was installed on the inside dash of the Gator.

The church will not receive delivery of the much anticipated new 15-passenger bus for approximately another month due to our "small order" being delayed at the manufacturer. The hold-up is the bus chassis. The bus will be housed at KK Day Care during the week. The church will be granted priority use of the bus.

Discussion was initiated regarding the need for a new 4X4, three-quarter ton pick-up truck and snowplow which would be in addition to FBC's 2002 pick-up truck currently being used. It was agreed that the Trustees would work with the Finance Committee on obtaining approval for the purchase of a pick-up truck with snowplow.

The FBC church Audit Review organization is moving along. The Review has not yet been scheduled.

**Phyllis McCloy,
Trustee Ministry Secretary**

Notes of Appreciation

Thank you for the flowers, ham and buns, calls, cards, visits, and most of all, prayers for us in the death of our daughter on March 27th.

Ed and Shelah Hively

Thank you so much for your prayers for Terry through his surgery and recovery. God's healing hand was working through your prayers. Have a Jesus filled day!

Terry and Lori Filyaw

Women of FBC

Book Club: We will meet Thursday, May 10th, from 7:00-8:30 PM. We are meeting at Panera on Stringtown Road and will discuss the book, *A Place at Our Table*, by Amy Clipston. Please contact Kari Jones at 614-589-7557 for more information.

Craft Day: Friday, May 18th, from 9 AM-9 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a project, a snack to share, and a dish for dinner. We hope you join us. Please contact Janet Swicegood at 614-572-5659 for more information.

Surviving Grief with Hope: This is a group to support those who are dealing with the grief over the loss of a loved one, one's health, a marriage, a job, and more. Please contact Barb Lovingshimer at 614-875-4613 with questions.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors: Is a volunteer-based initiative to assist people in our area who are seniors and/or struggling with disabilities. We provide volunteers with a wide range of home maintenance abilities to work on projects that you may need help with. For more information, please contact Becky Grundei at 614-947-9296 or Sherri Love at 614-871-3053.

Next Ladies' Fellowship Breakfast: June 9th. No Fellowship Breakfast in the month of May due to the Mother/Daughter banquet.

Mother/Daughter Banquet: Will be Friday, May 11th, at 6:30 PM, in the Neal Auditorium. Some tickets are still available as of this publication date. Please check church office for availability.

Bible Studies:

- Mondays bi-weekly, at 1:00 PM, in Room C-154. Please contact Mindi Stith at 614-871-4812 for information.
- Depression Support Group. Monday mornings weekly, at 11:30 AM, in Room C-157. Please contact Carol Midendorf at 614-370-3480.
- Tuesday, at 7:30 PM, in Room C-156. We are doing a study of Psalm 107 by Lauren Chandler. Please contact Debbie Watts at 614-875-4201 for more information.
- Wednesday at 6:45 PM in Room K-117. We are studying the Seven Churches of Revelation. Please contact Ronda Kinnett at 614-313-7871 for more information.

- Thursday, at 9:30 AM, in Room K-117. We are studying *Why Do You Believe That* by Mary Jo Sharp. Please contact Kay Hardman at 614-323-6891 or kayhardman@gmail.com
- Sunday at 4:00 PM. Surviving Grief with Hope. Please contact Barb Lovingshimer at 614-875-4613 if planning to attend.
- Sunday at 4:30 PM. We are exploring a *Kay Arthur Precepts* study the Covenants in the Bible. Please contact Kari Jones at 614-589-7557 for information.

Kari Jones, Women's Ministry Director

FBC Family,

As many of you know, the end of April was incredibly difficult for our student ministry, and our church family—one of our church families in particular. A family we know and deeply love lost a son in a tragic accident. Justin Butcher was one of our adult volunteers within our student ministry, and he was a joy to be around. He loved the Lord, he loved our student ministry, and he loved those students. We miss him dearly, but we are thankful that Justin had a wonderful relationship with his Lord and now what we call faith has become sight for Justin. As we think about suffering and loss, and heartache in a fallen world, I want to give you from John Piper's *Desiring God*, 6 real quick reasons out of 1 Peter 4:12-19 on why we can rejoice in suffering:



I. We can rejoice in suffering because it was not a surprise, but rather the plan (v. 12).

II. We can rejoice in suffering because it is evidence of our union with Christ (v. 13a).

III. We can rejoice in suffering because it enhances our joy in glory (v. 13a).

IV. We can rejoice in suffering because we do not have to bear it alone (v. 14).

V. We can rejoice in suffering because to do so glorifies God (v. 16).

VI. We can rejoice in suffering because God is faithful to care for our soul (v. 19).

God is with us all of our days, and for all of our days God is with us. Please continue to pray for the Butcher family as they navigate through this tragic time.

It is a blessing to serve you, Church. Love you, Church.

Soli Deo Gloria,

**Pastor Mike D'Attoma,
Assistant Pastor**

Men's Corner

The next Men's Fellowship Breakfast will be Saturday, May 5th, at 7:30 AM. John Mowry and Nathan Rizer will both be sharing their testimony. The April Breakfast was cancelled due to the power outage related to the tornado, and so there is no testimony to share with you this month.

Classic Car and Motorcycle Show



Saturday June 2, 2018

Rain or Shine

**Classic Cars, Muscle Cars, Luxury Cars,
Motorcycles, Trucks, Tuners and more!**

Free Admission

**Contact Brian Kinnett 614-991-0205 or email
Brian@firstgc.org for more information.**

Notes of Appreciation

Dear Members and Friends of First Baptist,

I want to thank you all so very much for the lovely flower arrangement for momma's going home celebration. Momma would have loved them I know. Thank you, again, for your kindness and thoughtfulness and mostly, for remembering momma.

Robin Knapp Bennett

I wish to express my thanks for all the visits, calls, and food, and most of all for the prayers. We all know God hears and answers prayers (Jeremiah 33:3).

**Sincerely with Christian Love,
Fran Kinnett**

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

A few weeks ago, my daughter drove me up to the little college town she will soon call home. Although we had been on the "official" college visit weeks ago, this trip was simply to explore the area. At her insistence, I was keeping my eyes peeled for nail salons and church "possibilities."

I can't believe my first baby is now leaving for college. I started helping in the Nursery when she was an infant, and now I am watching her and the other "babies" leave for college. Her buddies then were Emily Tyler and Victoria Wymond. They remain friends and have been joined by new friends whose families have joined our church in the last 18 years.

It wasn't surprising to me that Haley wanted to find a church in Tiffin. Church has been such a huge part of her life, and we enjoyed discussing her options. Methodists—similar to Baptists. Buddhists—not so much. Some churches were well established and had soaring steeples while others are in the early stages of their capital stewardship campaign. At least we hope the Holy Believers want to outgrow their meeting spot at a hair salon.

We don't know what the future holds for our children. We give a solid foundation and rest in the knowledge that God loves our kids even more than we do. He loves kids like my daughter and her friends who seek Jesus and can't wait to find a college church. He loves kids like me who entered college hiding from Jesus and searching for the nearest college bar.

"Train up a child..." is what God promises. If we, as parents and children/teen ministry workers, make the introduction to our children, God will seek them out Himself. He will chase them, love them, and convict them. Trust me on this. Some of us may be a little slower to reach out to Him, but I thank God for *this* church and its help starting me and my children on the journey.

Congratulations to our graduates!

**Cindy Tryon,
Preschool Coordinator**



Notes of Appreciation

Our First Baptist Church Family,

We sincerely appreciate your generosity and care through this chaotic time. You have made us feel loved, supported, and lifted our spirits.

**Love Kastener, Brandon, Tiffany, Reis, and
Keaton Berger**