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NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

Pastor's Message

Catching the Dream



From the book *Turning Members Into Leaders* by Pastor Dave Earley

Mike and Lois's group had bumped along for about a year and was just starting down the ugly process of becoming ingrown. Then Mike caught the dream of multiplication and began to pass it on to his group. He was very intentional about discussing the dream every single week, taking time to describe the vision of growth, health, and multiplication.

After some initial resistance, the group began to catch the dream. A few of the men began to meet with Mike for discipleship and training in leadership. Within a year, Tim and Rebecca launched a new group out of Mike's group with the same dream of multiplication. Soon there'll be three groups out of Mike's original group. Mike said it would have never happened if he hadn't regularly described the dream.

One of the most important tools in the tool kit of the multiplying leader is describing the dream. You can have a big, powerful dream of spiritually multiplying your life, but unless and until you pass the dream of spiritual multiplication on to someone else, you'll never multiply. The dream will end with you.

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Cell Group Resources, 2003

What's in your dreams?

Pastor Dave Earley,
Lead Pastor

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

Mike Latella
Children's Pastor

Robert Stroup
Business Administrator

Andy Kovalchik
Home Life Group Pastor

Doug Worley
Life Group Pastor

Brian Kinnett
Member Services Pastor

Cindy Tryon
Preschool Coordinator

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November is the perfect time to transform our gratitude to God into acts of generosity toward others. These don't always have to be big acts. William Wordsworth said, "*The best portions...*" of a good person's life are his or her "*little, nameless, unremembered acts of kindness and love.*" With some support from you, the children in your life can make a big difference in the lives of other people. Here are some ideas to encourage gratitude and service:

Make serving fun. Spend an afternoon raking up leaves for elderly neighbors. Afterward, dump a bag of the leaves on your own lawn and throw some wrapped candy into the pile. After children search for the candy, discuss what makes helping others feel so "sweet." Deploy kids for "undercover operations" by having them serve others covertly. For example, they can leave sidewalk-chalk messages for neighbors, deliver cards at a local nursing home, or pick up trash at their favorite park.

Start a conversation with your children about gratitude and servanthood by asking discussion-starter questions such as:

- What are some blessings God has given you?
- What blessings do you sometimes take for granted or forget to thank God for?
- How do you show God that you appreciate his gifts?
- How can we thank someone we can't see?
- When you're thankful, how does that make you want to act?
- Why does God want us to help and serve other people?

What better way to express our gratitude to God for His love and salvation than to emulate Him by teaching our children to sacrificially serve others?

**Pastor Michael Latella,
Children's Pastor**

Trustee Ministry Report

We are entering the season of autumn foliage. It is said that when leaves are slow to fall, we should prepare for a cold winter. The slower the leaves fall, the more blessed we are with the continuous explosion of beautiful colors.

The construction on Orders Road was completed last month. The FBC property used by Franklin County Roads to complete the project was reseeded. TruGreen Lawn Care was out and treated and fertilized the FBC campus.

Thanks to a great crew of volunteers, a trail was cleared around the east corn field to be used for wagon rides.

Continued on next column.

In honor of Barbara Riley, the Riley family gifted FBC with nine bleachers for the playing field behind the church. The Trustees are in the process of assembling them.

Blake Brothers serviced all of the doors of FBC.

Environmental Air serviced and repaired the freezer in the kitchen last month. Also, the room dividers in the Fellowship Hall have been repaired and are on schedule to be serviced annually.

A negotiated rate has been reached with Republic Trash reducing the monthly cost by \$40.00.

What a blessing to realize that when we have God, we have all we need.

**Phyllis McCloy,
Trustee Ministry Secretary**

MEMBERS' MINISTRY

Each of us must choose how we will follow Christ. After all, we are as close to God as we choose to be. We choose how much time we will pray, read His word, fellowship, attend a life group, and obey His will.

There come times in our lives when we press in closer, usually in times of trials, and times we pull away, usually in times of prosperity. We must each work out our salvation with fear and trembling (Philippians 2:12).

This is not anything new to God since mankind has been this way from the beginning. Even the disciples followed this pattern by walking closely with Jesus on the earth as long as things were good, but when Jesus was arrested, they fled and followed at a distance (Luke 22:54).

This I know. When we follow at a distance and try to walk with the world, when the time of trial comes, the world will always abandon us since there is no loyalty and no faithfulness from the world. But in times of troubles, in times of prosperity, in times of sadness, in times of joy, always and forever Christ Jesus is faithful, He is loving, He is with us, and He alone will never abandon us or leave us.

"Be strong and courageous; don't be terrified or afraid of them. For the Lord your God is the one who will go with you; he will not leave you or abandon you" (Deuteronomy 31:6).

Are you walking closer with Jesus now than ever before? Or are you following at a distance? How close to God are you willing to get?

In Christ,

**Pastor Brian Kinnett,
Members' Minister**

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

| | | | |
|--------------------|-------|---------------------|-------|
| STROTH, Linda | 11/01 | WASHINGTON, Cimone | 11/19 |
| WOLFE, Will | 11/01 | ZAVALA, Oscar | 11/19 |
| CARSON, Drew | 11/01 | GIBSON, Donald | 11/19 |
| JONES, Jenny | 11/02 | BROWN, Callie | 11/20 |
| PETER, Nuscrat | 11/02 | FRASHER, Becky | 11/21 |
| PENNY, Erin | 11/03 | SHOEMAKER, Bryant | 11/21 |
| DEARING, Mike | 11/03 | GREENE, Matthew | 11/21 |
| NEWCOMB, Emma | 11/03 | CLARK, Julie | 11/22 |
| NEISWANGER, Joshua | 11/04 | ROBERTS, Tim | 11/24 |
| HALDEMAN, Patti | 11/05 | SEELEY, Kevin | 11/24 |
| RAQUET, Fritz, Jr. | 11/05 | BOWMAN, Shirley | 11/24 |
| WHITE, James | 11/05 | COLEMAN, Carley | 11/25 |
| HENDERSON, T.J. | 11/06 | PARISH, Mike | 11/25 |
| RUCKER, Kristie | 11/06 | GENTHER, Jessica | 11/25 |
| VANWAGNER, Ray | 11/06 | MARCUM, Charles | 11/25 |
| WILLIAMS, KyleAnn | 11/06 | LINDSAY, Freda | 11/25 |
| YAKOUBIAN, Zana | 11/06 | KAUFMAN, Bonnie | 11/26 |
| SPURLOCK, Debra | 11/06 | HUSTON, Aaron | 11/27 |
| JOHANNES, Beverly | 11/07 | DOYLE, Scott | 11/27 |
| NICHOLS, Janice | 11/07 | WELLS, Holly | 11/27 |
| YOWELL, Kay | 11/07 | DOUGHTY, Raymond | 11/28 |
| CUMMINGS, Kammi | 11/07 | JOHNSTON, Roberta | 11/28 |
| BUTCHER, Jodi | 11/08 | MCCONNAUGHEY, Jared | 11/28 |
| ANGUS, Scott | 11/09 | MEYERINK, Tara | 11/28 |
| CORBETT, Michael | 11/10 | RAQUET, Hannah | 11/28 |
| CURTIS, Christian | 11/10 | ENTERMAN, Makayla | 11/29 |
| BROWN, Julia | 11/10 | MCGILL, Andra | 11/29 |
| REINDL, Barb | 11/11 | PULLINS, Lindsey | 11/29 |
| WARNER, Brooke | 11/11 | VALONE, Mary Lou | 11/29 |
| ROBINSON, Ray | 11/11 | DOLCH, Kerry | 11/29 |
| BEARD, Joy | 11/11 | STEELE, Shelley | 11/29 |
| BERRY, Dejavonna | 11/12 | NEAL, Sharon | 11/30 |
| BISHOP, James | 11/12 | SCOTT, Leah | 11/30 |
| SOTO, Robert | 11/12 | | |
| THOMPSON, Laura | 11/12 | | |
| GRUNDEI, Laura | 11/13 | | |
| LEHMAN, Michelle | 11/13 | | |
| MOORE, Alexander | 11/13 | | |
| SIMMONS, Jeffrey | 11/13 | | |
| MULLINS, Melanie | 11/13 | | |
| HILL, Brandon | 11/14 | | |
| HAUSER, Christine | 11/14 | | |
| BALL, Darrell | 11/15 | | |
| WHEELER, Roger | 11/15 | | |
| COLEMAN, Corrin | 11/15 | | |
| JOHNSON, Katrina | 11/15 | | |
| MAXSON, Lonnie | 11/15 | | |
| HAUSER, Christine | 11/15 | | |
| COBB, Tracie | 11/16 | | |
| WILLIAMS, Connie | 11/16 | | |
| MILLER, Aaron | 11/16 | | |
| HIVELY, Shelah | 11/16 | | |
| MILOVICH, Mike | 11/17 | | |
| WARNER, Lisa | 11/17 | | |
| SCHAIBLE, Emma | 11/17 | | |
| PERRY, Sherry | 11/18 | | |
| BURNELL, Jeremiah | 11/18 | | |
| EWING, Brenda | 11/18 | | |
| FISHER, Chris | 11/18 | | |
| CURRY, Brenda | 11/18 | | |

Ushers Needed!

Our Church is actively seeking both Men and Women who have an interest in serving as ushers in either the 9:15 AM or 10:45 AM Worship Services in the Neal Auditorium each Sunday.

Women are especially encouraged to serve in this capacity!

Please contact Head Usher Larry Knoll at 614-579-4058 for more information **OR** stop by the Church Office during the weekday office hours.

From Our Worship Minister

Daytrip

December 1, 2017, with the Primetimers



- We leave at 7:00 AM – Return around 8:00 PM.
- Lunch at the Amish Country Theater Restaurant (included in price).
- Shopping at Lehman’s Hardware and in Berlin.
- 3:00 PM show at the Amish Country Theater.
- \$75.00—for Theater ticket, meal, and transportation.



For more information, please contact Bryan Corbett, bryan@firstgc.org



Did you know that the Amish people do not have “life” groups? They have something different which we could call “lif” groups. Yes, you read that correctly. The final “e” is missing. And I bet you are wondering why . . .

My wife Karen and I went up to Sugar Creek to see a play when we were on vacation last month. The play, *Mennonite Girls Can Cook*, was hilarious, and the meal was great. But the real highpoint of the trip was the drive through Amish country on the way there and back.

It was a warm day, and we saw no less than three Amish one room schools. All the children were outside huddled around their teachers and all were dressed in brightly colored yet traditionally conservative Amish clothing. On our way home, we saw a one room meeting house with Amish women talking in the doorway, and I counted 12 buggies parked outside. And we saw Amish girls riding bicycles with full length dresses on. I don’t think I could do that!

It struck me how the Amish are very good at learning, interceding, and fellowshiping with *each other*. The first letters of those three words make up the acronym “lif.” But the last letter of *our* “life” groups, the e, stands for evangelize. And the Amish don’t do that.

The Amish are separatists. They don’t send out missionaries. They keep to themselves in order to not be contaminated with the world. Rather than being in the world yet not of it, they withdraw from it.

But Jesus does not give us that option. He says, “*Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature*” (Mark 16:15).

How is your life group doing with that final “e”?

Pastor Andy Kovalchik,
Connections Minister

Notes of Appreciation

Thank you for all the prayers and kind thoughts during Betty’s passing. Betty will be missed; however, she is celebrating in Heaven. Thank you for the ham and buns; it was turned into a great family meal.

(The Family of Betty Strawser)
Brad Strawser and Family
Brian Strawser and Family

Women of FBC

Book Club: Will be meeting on Thursday, November 1st from 7:00-8:30 PM, at Panera. We will be discussing the book *A Note Yet Unsung* by Tamera Alexander. Please contact Kari Jones at 614-589-7557 with any questions.

Craft Day: Is on November 17th from 9-9 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 with any questions.

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

Neighbors Helping Neighbors: Is a volunteer-based initiative to help 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 Fellowship Breakfast: Saturday, December 9th.

Bible Studies: There are some new studies being offered so please check them out!

- Monday afternoons at 1:30 PM in Room C-154 we have a bi-weekly study. Please contact Mindi Stith at 614-871-4812 for more information.
- Monday mornings weekly, at 11:30 AM in Room C-157. Please contact Carol Middendorf at 614-370-3480 with questions.
- Tuesday at 7:00 PM in Room C-156. We are studying *Entrusted* by Beth Moore. Please contact Debbie Watts at 614-875-4201 with any questions.
- Wednesday at 7:00 PM in Room K-117. We are studying the book of Ecclesiastes.
- Thursday at 9:30 AM in Room K-117. We are studying *David* by Nathan Buttery. For more information please contact Kay Hardman at 614-323-6891 or kayhardman@gmail.com
- Sunday at 4:30 PM. We are exploring a Kay Arthur Precepts study on the book of Ezekiel. Please contact Kari Jones at 614-589-7557 with any questions.

Kari Jones,
Women's Ministry Director

FBC Family,

Are you enjoying this beautiful fall weather or what? I love the warm weather, but I have to be honest—I am ready for a little bit cooler temperatures! It has been a beautiful fall up to this point as well! However, I anticipate the cold coming at some point, and I am afraid it might be a little colder than we desire!



It was a wonderful October around here at FBC! The Father-Son Hog Roast was amazing! I had so much fun with my son Titus as we watched the airshow, played a few games, enjoyed some awesome pork, and sat around the fire. It truly was a night we will remember for a long time!

Have you ever asked yourself what would happen if everyone came to church on the same day? About four months ago, in a staff meeting, Dr. Earley asked us that question, and we wanted to find out so we planned "I'll Be There" Sunday last month. And if you were there, you know how awesome it was! It may have been one of my favorite Sundays of all time! Not only that, but we had an incredible night of Trunk or Treat with hundreds of children walking around, picking out candy, and getting their photo's taken in all their costumes! It truly was a remarkable night! Thank you to everyone who helped serve at this wonderful event!

November is a big month for our student ministry because of our annual Disciple Now Weekend! DNOW is an incredible weekend for our students to grow in their faith, have a ton of fun, and eat really good food! We worship, we laugh, we cry, we play, we study the Word, and of course, we eat! This year, of course, we are bringing back The Justin Putnam Band from South Carolina. These guys are amazing! Our speaker this year is John Nix! John has spoken for our students several times at Summer Camp, and we are so excited to have him here at FBC! The weekend is scheduled for November 17th-19th, and is \$45 per student! If you can sponsor a student, or two, or three — that would be amazing! We could always use scholarships to help the students! Just contact me, and let me know how many students you want to sponsor!! It's truly going to be a life changing weekend!

It is a blessing to serve alongside you, Church.

Soli Deo Gloria,
Pastor Mike D'Attoma

AWANA Calendar of Events

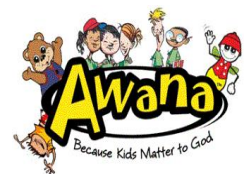
Nov. 1 - Shoebox Night!

Nov. 8 - Silly Hair Night!

Nov. 15-Books for Papua New Guinea Night!

Nov. 22-No AWANA-Have a Blessed Thanksgiving!

Nov. 29-Dues to "GO" Missions Night!



Men's Corner

The next Men's Fellowship Breakfast at FBC will be on Saturday, November 4th at 7:30 AM. Tim Suhayda will be sharing his testimony. Below is the testimony of Derrick Maynard from the September breakfast.

I was born into a family where my mother was a Christian and my father was not. My mother diligently dragged all three of her children to the First Baptist Church in West Jefferson. I remember walking up these old, tall steps to go inside the church. I was 8 years old when I accepted Jesus into my life, and was baptized at the new church location. When I was 13, my dad committed his life to Christ. He became very involved in the church and serving like he had so much to make up for by serving hard.

As a teenager, I was truly blessed to have the Holy Spirit guiding me through the bad choices teenagers can make. I ran around with non-Christian friends, and I know my parent's prayer of protection help me avoid trouble.

After graduation, I spent lots of my time chasing money, searching for a better job each time. I worked long hours with a train disaster recovery team. I realized when I was getting ready to turn thirty I needed a stable job because I wanted a wife and family. I took a job at the West Jefferson Concrete Company since they offered normal working hours, like a family man should have.

I spent the next couple years searching for the dream girl whom I had imagined God was preparing for me. I figured she would be younger than me, a college graduate, and have a desire for a husband to take care of her. God had other plans. Every time I would search, God would send me encounters with Ronda. She was an independent, godly lady, raising two little boys on her own. I kept saying, "She doesn't have any of the things on my list." But God kept placing her in my life; we were in the same Sunday school class, and the longer I knew her, the more I realized God was giving her to me.

Married life was a whirlwind from the minute I said, "I do." God blessed us with the two little girls to go with our two little boys. I couldn't have been more content. Four children made life exciting, but I wouldn't have changed any of it. Children teach you how to lean on God for everything.

One of our best adventures was 30 days on the road to Colorado and Mt. Rushmore. We took our camper and camped all the way there and back. On our way through Kansas, we noticed a strange smell and pulled into a gas station. The rear end was shooting oil all over the front of the camper. By the grace of God there was a Chevy dealer down the road. They confirmed the ring and pinion gear was overheating. We asked the service technician to put synthetic gear fluid back, and we would pray our way through the next 29 days of vacation. We truly taught the children the power of God's sustaining grace. They daily prayed for the van's health. We enjoyed a fabulous vacation and immediately had the van serviced when we returned. Our mechanic could not believe it held together for all those miles.

God has always provided and protected us, even when bad things were happening. I count everyday as a blessing and an adventure waiting to see God's hands at work in my life. With twenty-three years of marriage, four children, and now two grandchildren, there is never a dull moment. God is still on His throne and nothing catches Him by surprise.

**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

It's never a dull moment when you have children. Parents continually encounter new territory as our kids grow. As I worry about one child's impending sprint from the nest, I am concerned the other may never leave his room on his own accord. There is an inexplicable smell in that general area of my home. It is a combination of cheap men's cologne and little boy "funk." Yes, we are barging into a new phase—one where I am required to check for chin hairs while simultaneously binding his wounds with a super hero bandage. My pre-teen son managed to schedule an Uber ride for himself. After tipping the driver for a ride that was never going to happen, I walked into see him pouring cereal into a colander. Fortunately, I grabbed the milk right before it hit his breakfast and everything else on the kitchen counter.

Every step of parenthood is fraught with love, frustration and hope. Let's continue to faithfully pray for our kids and each other. Our children may not all be going through the same stage, but our prayers are similar. May all our children know the Savior Who binds our wounds and multiplies our joys.



**Cindy Tryon,
Preschool Coordinator**

New Five Session Women's Study Coming

- Beginning Wednesday, November 1st at 7:00 PM in Room K-121.
- We will be studying *War Room* by Stephen and Alex Kendrick.
- Exploring the power prayer can have on marriages, parenting, careers, friendships, and other areas of life.
- Contact DeeAnn Brown at 614-314-7847 for more information.