

Oct/Nov/Dec 2009

Insights

Quarterly Magazine of Friendship Baptist Church www.cfriendshipbc.com



Our 1st
**Founding
Father's Vision**
for evangelism

Mark Your Calendar

Sunday School	10:00 AM
Sunday Morning	8:45 & 11:00 AM
Sunday Evening	6:30 PM
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00 PM
Teen SWAT (Wed)	7:00 PM
Awana (Wed)	7:00 PM

October

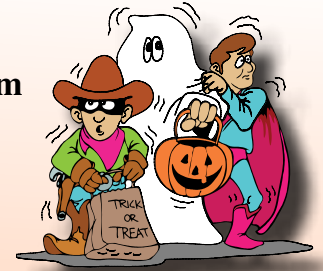
Upward

Starts Thursday, October 22
from 6-8 for cheerleading and
basketball evaluation.

Trunk or Treat

October 29th – 6:30 to 8:00 pm

- Free to the public
- Bring some candy for the kids
and park your car in the lower
parking lot.



November

“WALKING THROUGH THE WORD ON WEDNESDAY”

Join Bro. Phil & Bro. Rick as they teach through the books of Leviticus
and Numbers in November and December

Thanksgiving Eve Service

November 25th

Time of testimony and song.

December

Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 20th at 6:30 pm
Full Cantata Choir and Sign Choir



Children’s Christmas Cantata - “What Child Is This”

Sunday, December 13th at 11:00 am

“Happy Birthday Jesus Party”

**December 12th
9:00 to 11:00 am**



This is the new “breakfast with Santa” name.
This party is for all parents and kids
up to 5th grade.

January

Youth Group Events

Lock-In - Mercy Healthplex
January 15-16 • 6th – 12th grade

Youth Rally

January 30th • 6th – 12th grade

KidCity

**Winter - Pastor’s Pal for the
month of January**



Kids that make it to Sunday School for all
5 Sundays in January will get to stay for
“Crazy Olympics” on February 7th
(Beginners – 5th grade).

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Our 1st Founding Father's Vision for evangelism

As we approach the Thanksgiving and Christmas season let us look back on our rich Christian heritage in America.

That this westerne discoverie will be greatly for thine enlargement of the Gospell of Christe, whereunto the principals of the reformed Relligion are Chefely bounde, amongst whom her [Majesty] principall. – Richard Hakluyt

Summer 2007 we celebrated the 400th anniversary of the American people, it is important to remember that behind great national movements in history there is often found the sword, the purse, pulpit and the pen.

The sword is the guardian and the final resort of free people against tyranny from within or oppression from without. The purse represents the financiers who subsidize the work of liberty. The pulpit proclaims the theological mandate for the mission. And the pen is the voice of influence and reason poised to rally men to noble action.

During the War for American Independence, the sword was courageously carried by George Washington, the purse was generously offered by John Hancock, the pulpit was militantly occupied by clergymen like John Witherspoon, and the pen of influence was artfully wielded by Thomas Jefferson.

In the case of the founding of America at Jamestown, all four of these roles were filled by unlikely, but remarkable individuals each united by a common vision to see America become a bulwark of reformation Christianity and a beachhead for Gospel evangelism.

John Smith was the sword. Rev. Robert Hunt was the pulpit. The men of the Virginia Company formed the purse. And an ordained Gospel minister, cartographer and prolific author named Richard Hakluyt was the pen.

Of the above individuals, no man had more influence on the founding of America as a distinctively Christian and English nation than Richard Hakluyt.

The great historian Samuel Eliot Morison observed that Hakluyt “did more than any other man of his generation to invigorate the efforts which eventually bore fruit in Virginia and New England.”

In his unique biography “Hakluyt’s Promise,” author Peter Mancall sums up the life mission of this relatively unknown but profoundly influential Founding Father of America by explaining that his purpose in life was “to advance the cause of reformed religion and enrich the realm and encourage colonization.”

Hakluyt’s writings reached the most influential leaders of his day with the urgent call that “the people of America crye out unto us their nexte neighbours to come and to helpe them, and bringe unto them the gladd tidinges of the gospell.”

It was Hakluyt who in 1584 presented his “Discourse on Western Planting” to Queen Elizabeth. There he argued that the principal reason for colonization in Virginia was the Great Commission of Holy Scripture:

Wee shall by plantinge there inlarge the glory of the gospell, and from England plante sincere relligion, and provide a safe and a sure place to receave people from all partes of the worlds that are forced to flee for the truthe of Gods worde.

As a keen observer of the history of exploration and overseas missions, Hakluyt noted that several efforts at colonization had failed precisely because they were not about God’s business. He argued that successful colonization presupposed that the advance of the Christian faith be a primary consideration. Hakluyt wrote that:

[I]f past attempts had not been led with a preposterous desire of seeking rather gaine than God’s glorie, I assure myself that our labours had taken farre better effecte. But wee forgotte, that Godliness is great riches, and that if we first seeke the kingdome of God, al other thinges will be given unto us, and that as the light accompanieth the Sunne and the heate the fire, so lasting riches do wait upon them that are jealous for the advancement of the Kingdome of Christ, and the enlargement of his glorious Gospell: as it is sayd, I will honour them that honour mee. I trust that now being taught by their manifold losses, our men will take a more godly course, and use some part of their goodes to his glory: if not, he will turn ther covetousnes to serve him, as he hath done the pride and avarice of the Spaniards & Portingales, who pretending in glorious words that they made their discoveries chiefly to convert infidelles to our most holy faith (as they say) in deed and truth sought not them, but their good and riches.

Hakluyt’s argument won the day. Jamestown would be a colony dedicated to the primary objective of Gospel evangelism.

Once authorized by the Crown to settle Jamestown, the Virginia Company adopted a charter in 1606 that would serve as the mission statement for the fledgling colony as well as the rule of law under God for the people. As a member of the body that would draft the Virginia Charter of 1606, Hakluyt’s dream became a reality as the following words became the law of the land:

We greatly commending, and graciously accepting of, their Desires for the Furtherence of so noble a Work, which may, by the Proviencie of Almighty God, hereafter tend to the Glory of his Divine Majesty, propogating of Christian Religion to such People, as yet live in Darkness and miserable Ignorance of the true Knowledge and Worship of God, and may in time bring the Infidels and Savages, living in those parts, to human Civility, and to a settled and quiet Government. ...

Much has been said about the motivation for settlement at Jamestown, but the written record is the final arbiter of the truth. That record speaks with boldness and clarity. Herb Titus, former dean of Regent Law School puts it this way: “So, the express purpose and the only one written in the Charter, was to establish colonies in the new world as a Christian evangelical witness to the native peoples.”

And so it was that a simple scholar and preacher who would never see the soil of Virginia became the principal visionary behind the founding of America at Jamestown. This Founding Father should be remembered as “the pen” behind the birth of this nation in 1607.

Author Bill Potter sums up the story nicely:

Hakluyt believed that books could sway the English people to support colonization. To that end, he dedicated his life to that form of communication and prayed that God would use his words to expand His kingdom to the New World and beyond. He was a scholar par excellence who left the adventures to hardy, fearless and sometimes feckless souls who in the end got all the press and whose images adorn the history texts. Nonetheless, without the gifted and motivated translator and writer, the USA might stand for United Spanish America.

- Excerpt from Doug Phillips, Vision Forum Ministries

OPENING **the** **Lines of** COMMUNICATION BETWEEN U AND UR TEEN

One of the things I remember as a teen was my mom's advice before I'd walk out the door to go somewhere. Whether or not it was the store, a youth activity, a school function or church it didn't matter, mom's advice was always the same, "Be careful and call me if you're going somewhere else." To be honest it never really bothered me that much. It made sense that my mom would want to know where I was and what I was doing. After all, I still lived at home and I still was under the authority of Ephesians 6:1, "Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right." This was even before the days of cell phones and texting which made it more inconvenient for me to try to contact my mom. But it seemed like a small price to pay in light of everything else. My parents gave me freedom, as long as I kept the rules. This is an important concept to teach our kids today. Obedience brings freedom!

When we consider the communication aspect of rules, for some reason today this is burdensome to teens. Can I suggest a reason why it may be this way? Maybe mom and dad smother the teens. Another reason may be that the teens don't want mom and dad to know what they are up to, because they wouldn't approve. Relationships are difficult. Any healthy relationship takes effort and you cannot cut corners in the area of communication.

Let's suggest some ways that we can open the lines of communication between teens and parents.

1. Teens must realize that they are still under the authority of the mom and dad. Go back to Ephesians 6:1. Parents, stick your ground when it comes to keeping the rules at home. If your teen is disobedient and disrespectful, rigid punishment is warranted, but not without explanation. Punishment has two desired results: a) to teach consequences for disobedience and b) an opportunity for the parent to exhibit proper behavior. Dad and Mom, you will not get anywhere with your child in punishment if you do not teach! Teach them a lesson. Proverbs 22:15 says, "Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him." Explain to your teen why they were punished and exhibit a proper attitude yourself while punishing. Blowing up at the teen (especially in public) is embarrassing and uncalled for. Lovingly, but firmly correct them. Teach them what you expect.

2. Parents must realize that they are still responsible for their child until they leave the home. One of the worst things parents can do is wipe their brow and wash their hands clean of child rearing when their teen reaches the Youth Department. Dad, mom, your job is not finished until they leave home! As the teen grows older there should be room for more freedom and personal space, but never neglect.

3. Make conversations interesting and fun. Instead of barking orders or a list of demands to your teen each time you see them, take time to ask them how their day was or bring up a subject that interests them. Take a different approach. Instead of avoiding certain subjects, bring them up in a lighthearted way. If your child is involved in a sport, become knowledgeable about it so you can have relevant conversations. If you haven't noticed, people love to talk about things they love. Find out what they like and learn about it.

4. Communicate on their level. If they don't like receiving phone calls, learn how to text them. I've heard many parents bashing cell phones and texting and refuse to learn how to use them. Let me ask you a question, would you rather keep the line of communication open or be stubborn and refuse to put effort into the relationship? I think our kids are worth spending a few minutes of our time learning how to use a cell phone. In fact, if you want to flatter them, have them teach you how to text or Tweet or Facebook. Praise them when they do on how smart they are and how much more they know about that stuff than you do. You'll gain a lot of ground by doing so.

Before we finish, I want to give you some communication warning signs and anecdotes if you notice them.

- Be concerned if your child constantly locks themselves in their room and does not want you around. Be assured, there is something they don't want you to see or hear.
- Also, if your child gets angry when you ask them where they are going, be assured, it's somewhere you will not approve of.
- Finally, get to know your teen's friends, this is a great barometer of what they are becoming.

Okay, so what is the anecdote? Be the parent. When parents take the "I'm their friend" role, they have lost their authority. There may be times that your child won't think that you are the best, but at least they know who the authority is. There is no reason authority has to be harsh and demanding. Authority can be vibrant and encouraging...those two characteristics take one thing most are not willing to give...effort! Love is an action word and that doesn't mean just showing affection all of the time. It means putting in the effort, even when it is not fun or exciting.

Prayer, effort and love can break down strongholds. The problem is, it takes effort. Decide today with fresh resolve to put effort into your relationship with your teen.

Mark your calendar for these upcoming events:

- ✗ Lock-In**
Mercy Healthplex
January 15-16
6th – 12th grade
- ✗ Youth Rally**
January 30th
6th – 12th grade

Bus Ministry

By Joey Madden

“And it came to pass at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that thou [art] God in Israel, and [that] I [am] thy servant, and [that] I have done all these things at thy word. Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the LORD God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again. Then the fire of the LORD fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces: and they said, The LORD, he is the God; the LORD, he is the God. - 1 Kings 18:36-39a



By Joey Madden

When I read the story of Elijah calling down fire from Heaven, it is a real encouragement to me as a Christian and I hope it is to you as well. To see someone call upon the Lord to do a great and mighty miracle and then seeing the Lord answer in a way only the Lord could, proves what a mighty and powerful God we serve! Looking at what God has been doing in the Bus Ministry here at Friendship Baptist Church in recent days, I stand amazed at how He has shown His power and might!

There are so many exciting things happening in the Bus Ministry and I would like to share some of the excitement with you. Over the last year and a half, we have seen over 150 precious souls saved through the Bus Ministry here at Friendship. Nearly every week we see a precious child, teenager or adult saved. Praise the Lord! We are seeing many of the bus riders that trust Jesus Christ as their Savior, following the Lord in believer's baptism. Another exciting thing we see is many of the bus riders becoming more faithful to the Lord and to the Church. Some of the kids get rides from their parents so they can come to Church on Sunday nights and Wednesdays. Just recently, the sixth grade class had an outing, and there were a good amount of kids that normally ride the bus there at the outing! Yes, we want to see people saved; but we also want to see them follow the Lord in baptism, get discipled, and become faithful! What an encouragement and testimony of all our Sunday School teachers and Youth Leaders that faithfully teach God's Word.

In August we had a **“Bring a Parent to Church Day”** promotion on the bus routes, and on that Sunday we had eight parents come out on the buses. The best part about it is that we had eight parents come to our church and hear the Gospel! I had a mother of one of our bus kids come up to me and say “I don't know what in the world has happened to my daughter, but I like it! All she wants to do is talk about church and read her Bible!” Her daughter was saved about six months ago after a faithful Sunday School teacher shared the gospel with her. There is nothing more encouraging than seeing a life changed!

One more encouraging fact that I would like to share with you is the growth in the Bus Ministry. **We have nearly doubled our attendance from just one year ago!** This goes back to the story of Elijah on Mt. Carmel. Elijah called down the power of God, and the Lord answered in a mighty way! Over the last year and a half, I have exhorted all of the Bus Captains and Bus Workers to call down the power of God on their bus routes and in their own lives. The most amazing thing is that God has begun to open Heaven in the bus ministry. We have

been growing consistently every week, and it is all because of the power of prayer!

Please continue to pray for the Bus Ministry. We covet your prayers! Are you feeling that God would have you work in the Bus Ministry? We can use you!! Right now we have a DIRE need for more bus workers! We are currently operating at the bare minimum on nearly every route. Won't you pray and ask the Lord if He would have you to work in this very rewarding ministry? We also have many opportunities coming up where you can get involved! Our annual **Thanksgiving Sunday will be coming up on November 22nd**, as well as our yearly **Christmas Giving Tree** where you can purchase a gift for a child that isn't as privileged as others. There are many other exciting promotions coming up as well that include: **Pumpkin Sunday**, a five week promotion during the month of October, and our quarterly **Candy Shower!**

Before I go on, I want to thank all of the people at Friendship Baptist Church for giving faithfully to the Lord's work. The Bus Ministry is an expensive ministry, but I am thankful for a Pastor and a church family that truly believes that you cannot put a price tag on a lost soul!

As I look back at all God has been doing in the Bus Ministry, we can only give God the praise. However, I would like to thank all of our faithful bus captains and bus workers for the hard work they put into their bus route each week. Our Bus Captains give up at least 3 hours every Saturday to go visit their bus riders. Some of our Bus Captains are even out 7 - 8 hours visiting their bus route on Saturday and knocking on doors on Thursdays nights to find new riders for their bus route. They do all of that just so they can bring children, teenagers and adults to Church so that they will hear the Gospel. We have been so blessed at Friendship Baptist Church to have faithful, hard-working servants of the Lord.

Deaf Ministry

There are over 250 million deaf people in the world, with 8 million deaf or hard of hearing living in the United States.

Some reports state that only 2% of Deaf are Christians, meaning 98% of Deaf are in need of learning about God and the saving power of His Son, Jesus Christ.

What better way to reach them, than in their own language, which has its own rules, structure and grammar. With more than 200 Baptist churches in the Cincinnati area, God chose to establish a deaf ministry at Friendship Baptist Church.

This October, 2009, the Friendship Baptist Church Deaf Ministry celebrated a milestone anniversary. Twenty years ago, two women – one deaf, the other a sign language interpreter, visited our church. Kitty Coltrane and her interpreter friend, Diane Nolte, were seeking a new church home. Just as the Holy Spirit drew their hearts to become members of the church, a small group of FBC members were drawn to these two women to learn how to communicate with the Deaf.

Within months, Kitty and Diane began teaching sign language classes. Out of that first class of 10 women, 4 are still presently serving in the ministry today: Carol Brusaw, Jamie Keller, Mary Lance and Debbie Stephens. Sign language classes are still offered periodically, focusing on acquiring a basic knowledge of the language, as well as an awareness of Deaf culture. These classes are available not only to our church members, but to the community as well. They have served as a great outreach, drawing both Deaf and hearing to the church, where people can hear (or see) the news that Jesus saves.

Although learning the language was important, Kitty believed that real learning came by personal involvement with the deaf community. She encouraged us to go to deaf camp, fellowships, revivals, workshops and Silent Dinners (first Friday night of each month set aside for the Deaf to congregate at neighborhood malls for food and fellowship). We still participate in all of these today, helping us continue to learn and grow as a ministry.





Throughout the years, 16 different interpreters have served in this ministry and 43 Deaf have been involved at one time or another. Currently, there are 7 interpreters who rotate signing services and activities, and 18 Deaf that attend church on a regular basis. We are committed to providing a ministry, not just an interpreting service. Because of this commitment, the ministry has expanded to include interpreting for all church services and two adult Sunday School classes, voice interpreting, a sign choir, a recently added deaf Sunday School class, as well as scheduled Deaf fellowships.

Friendship Baptist Church's sign choir includes both Deaf and hearing. We practice throughout the year, preparing for the Patriotic Service during the Fourth of July holiday, the Christmas Cantata and, occasionally, for signing with the hearing choir at church services. **This year's Christmas Cantata is December 20th at 6:30PM.** There is reserved seating for the Deaf and their families with a time of fellowship immediately following the Cantata. (Arrive by 6:00 for a reserved seat!) Those involved in the Deaf Ministry look forward to each opportunity to lift their hands and hearts to the Lord in worship.

The FBC Deaf Ministry is an open door to the community. College students visit our church and mingle with the Deaf to gain credit for their "live lab" class. They may view their visit as extra credit, but we consider each visitor as a soul needing to hear the Word of God, with an opportunity for seeds to be planted, watered and reaped. Many people, Deaf and Hearing alike, have come to know the Lord through this ministry.

It was our loss, but Heaven's gain, the day Kitty Coltrane went home to be with the Lord in August, 2005. She would be so pleased to know that what God had started with her and Diane Nolte's first visit 20 years ago, still continues today, leading people to Christ and ministering to the needs of the deaf community.

We can truly see the hand of God moving in our midst under the leading of the Holy Spirit, supportive Pastors, faithful interpreters, and dedicated members, such as Jim and Ginny Scott. Thank you to all that have been instrumental serving in the Deaf Ministry during the past 20 years. Let's continue to pray and work together, reaching the deaf community for Jesus.

The Salvation of Eugene Luneack

By Earl Wafford

In the fall of 2006, I visited a Christian friend of mine, Jack Teegarden, who was a patient in the Veterans' hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio, having his knee replaced. He was in a semi private room that was designated for two people, but he was the only person in the room at that time. While I was visiting, an orderly came in and prepared the empty bed for a new patient. We had a nice conversation with the orderly and he readily admitted that he was a Christian and it was obvious that he loved the Lord. He finished his work and soon another patient entered the room and took the second bed.

The new patient was a 70 year old man whose name was Eugene Luneack. He was being admitted into the hospital so that he could have his leukemia treated. Leukemia is a disease of the bone marrow in which unrestrained proliferation of white blood cells occurs, usually accompanied by anemia, impaired blood clotting, and enlargement of the lymph nodes, liver, and spleen. We knew Gene had a very serious blood disorder.

My friend Jack started a conversation with Gene and soon asked him if he was ready to meet his Maker. Gene said he thought he was. Jack asked him what his credentials would be for entering the pearly gates and Gene told him that he had lived a pretty good life and had been especially good to his friends.

At this time, Jack had to use the restroom so he hobbled across the room and disappeared behind the door. I continued the conversation with Gene. I didn't have a Bible with me, but what follows is pretty much how the conversation went with Gene and I: "Gene, the Bible says, 'Hebrews 9:27 And as it is appointed unto man once to die, but after this the judgment.' It says 'Psalms 14:3 They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: there is none that doeth good, no, not one.' 'Romans 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;'" "Isaiah 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him (Jesus Christ) the iniquity of us all." "...The Bible says that, 'Revelation 20:15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.'"

I said, "That's some pretty serious stuff, Gene." I told him that in, "John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." Then I said, "Jesus Christ is the Saviour of the world, you must ask Him to save you, Gene." "He died for our sins and was raised for our justification." He died that we might live." At this time Gene had locked his eyes on mine. I quoted a couple more verses and got up out of my chair and walked over to his bedside.

I touched Gene on his shoulder and again said, “Gene you must ask Him, (I pointed up) to save you,” and again, I touched him on his shoulder (I try to make it as personal as I can). “Gene, the Bible says that, ‘Romans 10:13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.’” “His Name is Jesus Christ, Gene, and He died for your sins on Calvary’s cross.” “...At the time of His death, Jesus Christ was the most sinful man in all the universe, ...but none of those sins were His.” “...They were yours and they were mine.” “Do you understand that?”

Gene said that he understood. I once again touched Gene on his shoulder and said, “Gene, you must ask Him, (I pointed up) to save you,” ...and again, I touched him on his shoulder. (I did this at least three times during the course of our conversation) I said, “Gene, the Bible says that, ‘Romans 10:13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.’... His Name is Jesus Christ, Gene, and you must call on Him and ask Him to save you.”

“Are you willing to do this, Gene?” Gene said that he was. “Gene, I’m going to pray and ask the Lord to look at your heart and hear your prayer.” “You must ask the Lord to forgive your sins and you must ask Jesus Christ to save you; are you willing to do that?” He said he was. “Are you willing to pray out loud?” Gene said that he was not willing to pray out loud. I said, “That’s Okay; that would be fine, you can pray silently, but after you pray and ask for the Lord’s forgiveness and ask Jesus Christ to be your Saviour, I want you to place your hand in mine?” Gene said that he would.

I prayed and asked the Lord to hear Gene’s prayer and to make it clear to Gene that he had to ask Jesus Christ to forgive his sins and ask Him to save him. When I finished my prayer, I looked at Gene and could see that he was deep in prayer. After a moment, Gene reached out and grabbed my hand with a very strong grip. I said, “Did you receive Jesus Christ as your Saviour, Gene?” Gene said that he had. I said, “Gene, where are your sins?” With tears in his eyes, Gene said that they were gone. I said, “Gene, if you were to die right now, where will you go?” Gene said that he would go to heaven. I said, “Gene, if you die 30 years from now, where will you go?” He said, I’m going to heaven. I said, “That’s right Gene, you’re going to heaven.

Gene is gone from us for now and we will miss him but we will be reunited with him one day in the future. You can be with him too but you must first trust in the Risen Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Romans 10:13 “For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

Upward

Basketball and Cheerleading

The 2009-2010 season of Upward Basketball and Cheerleading will be starting soon. This is the fourth year of this exciting ministry. Practices begin the first week of December, and the *first game is scheduled for Saturday, January 9, 2010.*

This ministry is a wonderful outreach to our community and touches the lives of many families that may not otherwise enter our church doors. Last season we had over 140 children involved in the basketball and cheerleading programs. Approximately 70% of these children are not members of Friendship Baptist Church, or any other church.

During the Upward program last year 15 children were saved, and numerous seeds were planted. At every game the children, parents and visitors get to hear a half-time devotion. Please keep this ministry in your prayers: for the children, their families, and the 80+ Upward workers.

Feel free to contact Friendship Baptist Church at 741-1017 or Ken Bryan at kbcinc@fuse.net if you have any questions or would be interested in serving in this wonderful ministry. Come out and watch our games to see what the Upward Basketball and Cheerleading ministry is all about. We are still in need of basketball and cheerleading coaches. Even if you have little or no experience we can train you. All you need is a heart willing to serve where the Lord leads you.

All evaluations, practices, games and awards will take place at Friendship.

In Christ,
Ken Bryan





Important Dates

Evaluation Dates

Saturday, October 17th.

9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

Thursday, October 22nd.

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 24th.

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Practices begin Monday, Dec.7, 2009,
and our first game is Saturday,
January 9, 2009.

Upward Awards will be held
on Saturday, March 20, 2010.

**MORE THAN
A GAME**



Awana Clubs™

- Oct. 28 (Dress as Your Favorite Bible Character Night)
- Nov. 11 (Who? Deanie)
- Dec. 23 (Decorate Your Leader Night)
- Jan. 13 (Drive-in Movie Night)
- Bible Quiz practice for Truth and Training begins in January



Children's Christmas Cantata - "What Child Is This"

Sunday, December 13th at 11:00 am

Come enjoy our children as they present the Christmas story through the eyes of a young girl named Becky that has just accepted Christ as her savior.



Trunk or Treat

October 29th – 6:30 to 8:00 pm

- Free to the public
- Bring some candy for the kids and park your car in the lower parking lot.

"Happy Birthday Jesus Party"

December 12th
9:00 to 11:00 am



This the new "breakfast with Santa" name.

This party is for all parents and kids up to 5th grade.

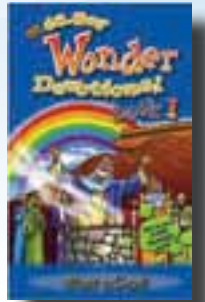
Make sure you are hungry and ready for lots of fun, games, crafts, prizes, and even get your picture taken with Santa. Don't forget to bring a birthday present for Jesus by bringing an unwrapped toy, the gifts will go to the Friendship Life Ministry.

Wonder Devotional Guide

The new Wonder Devotional Guides will go out in November with the latest KidCity update newsletter.

You are encouraged to use the devotional with your children or grandchildren.

10 minutes a day – morning, dinner, bedtime.



Children's Church

Learning about David, Solomon and The Christmas Story.



Winter - Pastor's Pal for the month of January

Kids that make it to Sunday School for all 5 Sundays in January will get to stay for "Crazy Olympics" on February 7th (Beginners – 5th grade).

Advertising's influence on children begins sooner than you may realize

by Focus on the Family

Children can begin to distinguish brands during their preschool years. Six-month-old babies can visualize corporate logos and mascots, according to the Center for a New American Dream. Brand loyalty begins as early as age 2. The average 3-year-old recognizes 100 different brand logos. Toddlers cannot distinguish a commercial from a television show. The same is true for stories and puzzles versus an advertisement. It isn't until age 8 that kids begin to realize advertising can be untruthful or misleading.

As children take in multitudes of commercials, they learn to place worth in material possessions. As they grow, this materialism can contribute to discontentment, unhappy relationships and drug or alcohol abuse. In 2000, \$2 billion was spent on advertising to children in America. Today, that figure has increased to \$15 billion.

One-third of young children have a television in their bedroom, as do two-thirds of pre-teens and teens. In a study of more than 1,000 U.S. families, researchers found that 40 percent of 3-month-olds and 90 percent of kids aged 2 years old and younger regularly watch television, DVDs or videos. Children greatly influence parental spending. In 2008, households are likely to spend up to \$2 billion online for children's toys, and an average of \$172 per household.

According to advertisers, children under age 3 represent a \$20 billion market.

Young People in the Church ... Going, Going, Gone?

Statistics show that up to 70% of young people are leaving the church and few believe in absolute truth.

But what exactly do today's young people believe about moral issues, and what is causing them to leave the church? Answers in Genesis set out to find these answers through a poll conducted by America's Research Group last September.

This scientific poll was based on 1,000 Americans in their 20s who regularly attended an evangelical church during high school but no longer do. Here are just a few of the questions and responses:

- 1.** Do you believe all the accounts/stories in the Bible are true/accurate?
No: 43.5%
Yes: 38.3%
Don't Know: 18.2%
- 2.** Do you believe in creation as stated in the Bible or in evolution?
Biblical creation: 71.8%
Evolution: 28.2%
- 3.** Do you believe the earth is less than 10,000 years old?
No: 57.1%
Don't Know: 22.4%
Yes: 20.5%
- 4.** Have secular science dates of the earth being 6 billion years old caused you to doubt the Bible?
Yes: 46.4%
No: 42.4%
Don't Know: 11.2%
- 5.** At what age did you begin to really question content in the Bible?
High school years: 45.7%
Grades 7–9: 29.3%
Grades 4–6: 12.8%
Early college: 11.2%
Grades K–3: 1.0%
- 6.** Should abortion continue to be legal in most instances?
No: 48.8%
Yes: 38.0%
Don't Know: 13.2%
- 7.** Do your closest friends attend church regularly right now?
Yes: 33.7%
No: 64.9%
Don't Know: 1.4%





Walk through the Word on Wednesdays

Bible Reading Chart

October

01	Malachi
02	Matthew 1-4
03	Matthew 5-6
04	Matthew 7-8
05	Matthew 9-10
06	Matthew 11-12
07	Matthew 13-14
08	Matthew 15-17
09	Matthew 18-19
10	Matthew 20-21
11	Matthew 22-23
12	Matthew 24-25
13	Matthew 26
14	Matthew 27-28
15	Mark 1-3
16	Mark 4-5
17	Mark 6-7
18	Mark 8-9
19	Mark 10-11
20	Mark 12-13
21	Mark 14
22	Mark 15-16
23	Luke 1
24	Luke 2-3
25	Luke 4-5
26	Luke 6-7
27	Luke 8-9
28	Luke 10-11
29	Luke 12-13
30	Luke 14-16
31	Luke 17-18

November

01	Luke 19-20
02	Luke 21-22
03	Luke 23-24
04	John 1-2
05	John 3-4
06	John 5-6
07	John 7-8
08	John 9-10
09	John 11-12
10	John 13-15
11	John 16-18
12	John 19-21
13	Acts 1-3
14	Acts 4-6
15	Acts 7-8
16	Acts 9-10
17	Acts 11-13
18	Acts 14-15
19	Acts 16-17
20	Acts 18-20
21	Acts 21-23
22	Acts 24-26
23	Acts 27-28
24	Romans 1-3
25	Romans 4-7
26	Romans 8-10
27	Romans 11-13
28	Romans 14-16
29	1 Cor. 1-4
30	1 Cor. 5-8

December

01	1 Cor. 9-11
02	1 Cor. 12-14
03	1 Cor. 15-16
04	2 Cor. 1-4
05	2 Cor. 5-9
06	2 Cor. 10-13
07	Galatians 1-3
08	Galatians 4-6
09	Ephesians 1-3
10	Ephesians 4-6
11	Philippians
12	Colossians
13	1 Thessalonians
14	2 Thessalonians
15	1 Timothy
16	2 Timothy
17	Titus-Philemon
18	Hebrews 1-6
19	Hebrews 7-10
20	Hebrews 11-13
21	James
22	1 Peter
23	2 Peter
24	1 John
25	2 John-Jude
26	Rev. 1-3
27	Rev. 4-8
28	Rev. 9-12
29	Rev. 13-16
30	Rev. 17-19
31	Rev. 20-22

Unto Us A Child Is Born

“A child is born!” says Isaiah, “a Son given!” Matthew and Luke tell us of the child that was born; John tells of the Son that was given. The child born! That points us to the Son of man. The Son given! That points us to the Son of God. The child born was the Babe of Bethlehem; the Son given was “the Lord from heaven.” The Child born! That reminds us He was truly Man, the son given tells us He was God, overall blessed forevermore. The Child born! That marks a beginning in time, the Son given is the ancient of days, from everlasting to everlasting. Jesus was both the child born and the Son given.

The prophet gives us a four-fold description of this glorious One born of the virgin Mary, conceived of the Holy Ghost.

He is “the wonderful counsellor.” That is, there is no problem He cannot solve. There are some 27,000 psychiatrists in the United States alone. People go to them to pour out their anger, frustration, bitterness, hatred, fear, envy, and guilt – and the problems in our society multiply and grow more and more horrendous all the time. Obviously psychiatrists, psychologists, and social workers, trained counsellors, do not have any real answers to the problems of people in general and society at large. But Jesus does! **There is no problem He cannot solve.** No one ever appealed to Him in vain. No one ever found Him at a loss. For “in Him are hid all the treasures of wisdom.”

Then, too, He is “the mighty God.” **There is no power He cannot subdue.** He is the “Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime.” One Who can fling a hundred billion galaxies into space, or populate a drop of ditch water with countless microscopic germs, or pack enough power into an atom to incinerate a city can surely put down at will any power on earth or in heaven or in hell.

Moreover, **there is no period He does not span.** He is “the Father of Eternity.” We go back, ever further back in time, and always He is there. Back we go to beyond creation. And there He is, about to launch countless stars and their satellites into vast orbits, at inconceivable velocities, to travel with mathematical precision on predictable paths! Always He is there – inescapable, gathering all time into the eternal present tense.

And, too, **there is no person He cannot save.** For the One who sits astride the centuries, who walks amid the galaxies, who has all wisdom and who dwells amid great certainties has nail prints in His hands. He is mighty to save: “Whosoever will may come,” He says. That Child born, that Son given is our Savior and our Lord. And, blessed be God our God, He is our peace.

“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”

Isaiah 9:6

- Excerpt from Exploring Here & There, Vol. 1
by Dr. J. Phillips



Pastor's current series on the book of James

"Steps to Spiritual Maturity"

James 1:22

"But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving our own selves"



From the Pastors' Desk...

The Secret of Investing

There is no shortage of advice when it comes to investing. Some proclaim "diversity" is the key to wise investments while others say it is "risk avoidance." Some simply say the key to wise investing is to start early. While all of these thoughts might be true for financial investment, what is the key to the wise investment of one's life? I heard a man speak this week who really made me think about this subject. I was at a meeting of pastors from around the country and the speaker I am referring to was Charles Coleman, Missionary to Pakistan. I had seen his name on the program but it did not capture my interest as I knew nothing about him or his ministry in Pakistan. I did have an element of curiosity as Pakistan has certainly been in the news recently. Even this week it was reported that, "About 100 Muslims attacked a Pakistani church on Friday in the latest "vigilante attacks" against Christians in the country." (According to Agence France-Presse.)

Missionary Coleman opened his comments by stating, "Many people think Pakistan is a dangerous place to serve the Lord but it is not." He then related three experiences in which his life was threatened and in every case God took care of him. He said that both he and his wife of 61 years, Elda, felt totally safe while serving the Lord in Pakistan. It was not his lack of fear or his bravery that caught my attention; it was his length of service. Charles and Elda Coleman have been serving the Lord faithfully in Pakistan for 54 years! As I watched this 86 year old man hobble up to the podium, it was obvious his tired knees were worn, weary and hurting, yet in spite of this physical pain, a smile broke through that none could deny was genuine. Missionary Coleman shared how he and his wife were committed to stay and serve the Lord in Pakistan as long as the He gives them strength. He challenged young men to invest their lives in the Lord's work and to join him in sharing the good news that Jesus saves with the Pakistanis he loves so dearly. It was then clear to me that the secret of investing is to invest what we hold most dear—our lives—not in an earthly pursuit but in an eternal one! We all are not called to the foreign mission field but we are all called to dedicate our lives to serving the Lord. That is the secret of wise investing!

Friendship
8580 Cheviot Road
Cincinnati, OH 45251
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Sunday School 10:00am
Sunday Morning 8:45 & 11:00am
Sunday Evening 6:30pm
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00pm
Teen SWAT (Wed) 7:00pm
Awards (Wed) 7:00pm

Visit us on the web at
www.cfriendshipbc.com



Mission Letter

September Mission Letter from Missionaries David and Billie Blessing

Dear Friendship Baptist Church,

A tragedy took place this week in Guinea. Your prayers are urgently needed. You may know that Guinea is currently under the rule of the military which took power in a coup last December. Monday, September 28, opposition leaders organized a peaceful demonstration against continued military rule. According to estimates, 50,000 people or more turned out for the demonstration. During the demonstration, the military opened fire on the crowds of protesters. There were reports of brutal killings. The death toll currently stands at more than 150 people with more than 1200 wounded. Please pray for the people in Guinea who are suffering so greatly. Our hearts are broken for the Guinean people. They have suffered so much already. Their plight just seems to go on and on. Pray for Christ to bring his peace to these people.

We would covet your prayers as well. Our lives have been very busy lately. A couple weeks ago, we were greeted with the wonderful news that the twins Billie is carrying are both girls. There is a chance the ultrasound is wrong, but in a few weeks another ultrasound should give confirmation.

We will also be traveling soon. This Sunday evening, we are flying to Florida. Our mission agency is having an orientation for new missionaries, and we will once again be hoping to recruit new team members for the work in Guinea. Then, we will be visiting one of our supporting churches in Florida. Pray that God would grant us a safe and fruitful trip.

After mid-October, Billie is not permitted to travel anymore due to her pregnancy. Thus, I will be striking out alone on speaking trips to Virginia, Columbus, and Illinois. Please pray for safety.

Thank you so much for your prayers and encouragement.

In His Service,

David and Billie Blessing
david@monclovabaptist.org



tonight, heaven touches earth

*Sunday, December 20th at 6:30 pm.
Full Cantata Choir and Sign Choir*

Hymn History



Silent Night, Holy Night

Joseph Mohr, the priest at St. Nicholas' Church in Oberndorf, Austria, hurriedly wrote the words to this song for the Christmas Eve service. Otherwise there would have been no music for their service because the organ was broken. He asked his friend Franz Gruber to compose a tune for the poem. So on December 24, 1818, the two friends sang it together, with Gruber accompanying on his guitar. It was simple. It was gorgeous.

From a tiny village that night an unknown Christmas carol began its worldwide journey. When an organ repairman came to the church a few days later, he discovered the song and jotted it down on a piece of paper. Asking if he could share it with others, it eventually got into the hands of a well-known singing family, who included it in their concerts. It arrived in America with the German-speaking immigrants; the first publication in English was in 1849 in a Methodist hymnal.

A friend and I were just commenting how we “come alive” inside when Fall rolls around.

I love everything about Fall... the colors, the smells, the clothes, enjoying the fireplace once more....and especially the food...pumpkin pie and apple pies and cinnamon everything. I love brisk mornings when you open the door and it's fresh and invigorating outside. This is truly my favorite time of year. You can never have enough mums on the porch or fragrant candles lit inside. I want to take time for walks in the woods to praise God for His majestic plan in creation.

On one of those recent walks this week, I noticed a maple tree beginning to turn that magnificent red and orange that takes your breath away with its sheer beauty. I began to thank God for His “love gift” to us....that He would care so much for us to have joy and pleasure that He planned such magnificence for us to view every day. Every part of the earth and every season has its own special beauty for us to drink in and see more of God and His love for beauty and life.

As I considered the amazing show this maple tree was displaying for me, I had to wonder if I “shined” with God's glory more than this tree which had no breath, no mind, no eternal life. If God made a tree to glorify Him and show forth the beauty of the Creator....what more could He do in me? He surely loves me more. He proved that as He sent His Son to die for my sins. Just like the trees and the stars and the wind and the waves and the flowers... I also was made to glorify God and to reflect His power and majesty. The beauty of this tree was so amazing, that it distracted me from my thoughts and burdens and “to-do” list. The tree was just doing what God made the tree to do....and it was so astounding that I couldn't help but notice and to reflect on the glory of God.

Am I doing what God created me to do? If so, do I shine so marvelously with God's work within that people notice my beauty. Do I light up the day as I display God's glory? As people around me are going through their daily routine....do I distract them as I reflect all of God's magnificence, love and grace? Do I stand out in a crowd of ordinary people that says, “I am a child of God....can you see Him through me?”

I began to search the scripture for verses about how creation praises God, and I just had to smile at this verse, “Then shall the trees of the wood sing out at the presence of the Lord...” (I Chr. 16:33); and also, “Let the field be joyful, and all that is therein; then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice.” And, listen to this amazing verse, “For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.” (Is. 55:12)

Well, I feel sure this tree that God set before me, to remind me of His glory, was clapping his hands to worship the Creator. When's the last time I actually clapped my hands in praise, adoration and worship to God? Each week at church, I clap for a song well sung, I clap for my grandchildren's latest accomplishment, I clap for a sports team that got another point. But, do I clap in sheer abandon for the joy in my heart because of God's love, mercy, majesty and power? We sing the wonderful song, “Shout to the Lord all the earth let us sing. Power and majesty praise to the King...” When's the last time you shouted for joy and thanksgiving before the Lord?

Maybe we should all hide this precious verse in our hearts and put it into action in our lives, “O clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph.” (Ps. 47:1) If a tree can glorify God....surely His children can? I'm sure I'll never see a tree in its full burst of beauty without thinking about “the trees of the field clapping their hands”. Maybe on my next walk, I'll join in.

by Connie Nieporte

Senior Spotlight



Forster Baird was born on October 6, 1931 in Campbell County, Tennessee. This county in northeastern Tennessee, nestled between the Cumberland Mountains and the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains, was home to Forster and his two brothers during their early childhood days. At the end of World War II his family moved to Kentucky. After attending high school in Kentucky, Forster moved to Detroit, Michigan and began working at the Chrysler Assembly Plant.

Upon being drafted into the army, Forster decided to enlist in the United States Navy. It was while on leave from the Navy that he met and fell in love with a beautiful young high-school girl named Dessie. They communicated occasionally during Forster's time in the Navy, and upon his discharge, he immediately set out to contact her personally. He succeeded in locating her, and one year later, in 1956, Forster married his high school sweetheart.

The Baird's have two children, Jeff and Tami. They are also blessed with eight wonderful grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Forster and Dessie Baird were both saved in March of 1968 at Friendship Baptist Church on Chesswood Drive. They continue as faithful members of our church and are still active in various ministries.

ATTENTION: Coming to a (Senior) Sunday School class near you.....

During the month of **December** our **Sunday School** lessons in our senior adult classes will be themed around well-known and **well-loved Christmas songs**, "God's Christmas Songs":

- December 6** Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus
– Micah 5-7
- December 13** Joy To the World – Luke 1:46-55
- December 20** Go, Tell It On The Mountain
– Luke 1:67-79
- December 27** Hark, The Herald Angels Sing
– Philippians 2



In **January, 2010**, we will wrestle with some of life's greatest mysteries as we study the Book of Ecclesiastes together.

- January 3** Wrestling With The Meaning of Life – Ecclesiastes 1, 12
- January 10** Wrestling With Time – Ecclesiastes 3:1-14
- January 17** Wrestling With Injustice – Ecclesiastes 3:16-17, 4:1, 8:2-13
- January 24** Wrestling With Riches – Ecclesiastes 2:4-8, 5:10-16
- January 31** Wrestling With Work – Ecclesiastes 2:18-26, 5:18-20

Bible ? Trivia

Who am I?

I led a rebellion against Moses and the earth swallowed me up. Who am I?

ANSWER:
Numbers 16 (Korah)



The Homebuilders Sunday School Class

Our class is comprised of couples that are newly married or have young children. The class is taught by Ryan Maynus and Joe Maurits and is located on the second floor next to the College and Career Classroom.

The curriculum of the class is very diverse, alternating from both topical and verse by verse studies of God's Word. Practical application, honest investigation and light hearted moments help create a sense of home as we build up our faith. Throughout the current year, we've had series on "The Book of Acts", "Being a Godly Husband or Wife" (including a split session for men and women), "The Life of Abraham", and a "Back to School" series focusing on the foundations of Christian Living. As young couples and families, an overarching theme throughout many of the lessons taught is to know what God wants for marriages and families in our roles as husbands, wives and parents.

Another important feature of our class is the fellowship. It is important for us to not only gain knowledge, but strengthen our ties to fellow believers in similar stages of life so we can learn from and minister to each other. Our class has numerous outings throughout the year, where we have fun as we fellowship with each other and our families.

If the above information isn't enough to convince you that Homebuilders is the best class at FBC; we normally have breakfast and always have hot, fresh coffee each Sunday. Come on by and see what God is up to in the Homebuilders Class, we'd love to have you.



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