

A monthly newsletter for members and friends of
First Baptist Church of Painesville - March 2018

CHURCH LINK



FROM THE PASTORS DESK

Each one Reach one!

The act of evangelism is the Spirit led communication of the good news of God in such a way or ways that the recipients have a valid opportunity to accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and to become a responsible member of his or her church.

Jesus said to his disciples in Matthew 28:19-20 “go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world”.

In the book of Acts we see how the early church started out as just a flicker and how it turned into a wildfire spreading the gospel throughout the known world. Beginning in Jerusalem with a small group of disciples, the message traveled across the Roman Empire. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, this courageous little group preached, taught, healed, and demonstrated **love** in synagogues, schools, homes, marketplaces, and courtrooms, and on streets, hills, ships and desert roads. Wherever God sent them, lives and history were changed!

The message they proclaimed seemed foolish, and the messengers were unimpressive. These early Christians had no political influence and little money. They didn't even own church buildings but met in homes. And to make matters worse, wherever they went, they were persecuted for their faith, yet the church continued to grow.

There was something magnetic about the church. Many of the Christians lived in the crowded cities of the Roman Empire. This provided an opportunity for people to see firsthand how the followers of Jesus lived on a daily basis, and what they observed was attractive.

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Behold!” **How they love one another**”, was the cry that went out from casual onlookers. Love was the magnetic quality which drew people’s attention to Christianity.

John 13:35 records Jesus’ last teaching at the Passover. He gave a new commandment to his disciples, to love one another. He said “by this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love for one to another”.

We are God’s people, chosen to be part of His plan to reach the world. How people observe how we treat each other, will go a long way in reaching the lost for Christ.

In Love,
Pastor Edwards

Wednesday Bible Study/Prayer Meeting



Come at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday and join in with others who are seeking God’s face, praising Him, and then interceding on behalf of others. We are currently studying the book of Romans. *“We have to pray with our eyes on God, not on the difficulties.”*



A big THANK YOU...

We are grateful for your food donations. In September we helped 6 families with food. Please check the expiration dates before bringing your donations to the church and give only items which have not expired, please. We cannot give out expired food. Thank you.



Hosanna Circle

Nine sisters of the Hosanna Circle last met February 5, 2018. Songs of praise started our evening, followed by scripture, poems, and or thoughts of each. Prayer requests and praises were noted before we went to the Lord to pray for families and friends.

The report of all narthex tree items and other donations was noted. We are very thankful for this 2017 response.

Our next Project Hope dinner obligation is to be March 29. Sisters Love offered to do the meat, potatoes, and vegetables. Thank you.

Wendy spoke about a project we might undertake involving a white cross for our yards. She will further investigate this and report next meeting.

More news is to follow on the Sunday May 6 Bake Sale we’re planning.

We were reminded of the Wednesday, February 28, 6 p.m. potluck at the church for all.

Plans are to have a movie in March.

Bev shared thoughts on our year’s theme: *Feel*, before a variety of delicious refreshments.

We sisters are a caring, praying group. Join us. Our next meeting is Monday, March 5, 2018 at 7 p.m. at the church. Friendship is a special blessing.

Jacquie Wolf

ChurchLink

A Monthly Newsletter for Members and

Friends of First Baptist Church

10801 Johnnycake Ridge Road,

Painesville, OH 44077

Phone:(440)354-4454

Fax:(440)354-0230

Email: fbcainesville@sbcglobal.net

Website: fbcainesville.org

Rev. Anthony J. Edwards - Interim Pastor

Mrs. Sandy Namestnik - Editor



CULTIVATING
LEADERS
EQUIPPING
DISCIPLES
HEALING
COMMUNITIES

Ephesians 4:11-13

Most of us are able to keep clear in our minds the origin and goal of Christian ministry. Its origin is in Christ, who gives spiritual gifts and gifted people to the church. Its goal is the building of the body of Christ in knowledge, faith and love. Less clear is the living, dynamic, God-appointed process that moves from origin to goal. Notice carefully what the following verses teach us. God gives to the church spiritual leaders whose role it is to equip saints for ministry.

The Apostle Paul echoes this truth in Ephesians 4:11-13: *“The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.”*

God’s pattern for producing people with powerful faith and genuine love is not to have the pastor-teachers do all the work of the ministry. They are to equip the saints to do the ministry. They are you—all of you—who have set yourselves apart for God through faith in Christ. According to God’s pattern, the building of the body in faith and love is the immediate result of the ministry of the laity.

The Lord Jesus Christ intends every member of the church to do the work of the ministry. The intention of ministry is to build up each other’s faith and love. God’s design is to use human support and encouragement to sustain the faith of his children and to lighten the burdens they bear in the service of love.

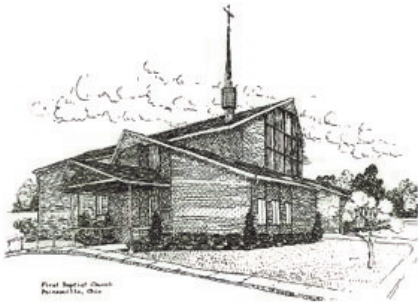
The America for Christ Offering (AFC) 2018 reminds us that it is in our service to the church and the community that many experience the Christ in us. We are encourage by this year’s theme to come alongside people and build them up. I am asking you to join me in giving generously to this year's AFC offering and help us to reach our goal as we partner in home mission.

The America for Christ Offering will be collected the month of March. Please give as you are able.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
10801 Johnnycake Ridge
Painesville, OH 44077

Return Service Requested

Guest



Weekly & Monthly Events & Meetings

Bible Blast & ABF - Sundays, 9:00 a.m.

Praise Practice - Sundays, 10:00 a.m.

Worship - Sundays, 10:30 a.m.

Communion - First Sunday of each month, 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

1st Baptist Singers - 3rd Sunday of each month, 12:30 p.m.

Hosanna Circle - First Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m. (October, November, February, March, April and May; 6:30 p.m. - December & June)

Bible Study/Prayer Meeting - Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Mary/Martha Prayer Circle - 2nd Thursday, 10:00 a.m.

“Link” Reports Due - 18th of each month

Help First Baptist by Purchasing Giant Eagle Gift Cards



See Sandy in the office during the week
if you are interested.



**Also...please remember to place your paper
in the green and yellow
PaperRetriever
recycling bin on the east side of the building.**