

THE BEACON

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
301 FOURTH STREET, MARIETTA, OHIO 45750-2002
Telephone: (740) 373-1273–FAX: (740) 373-1271
www.fbcmarietta.org



Vol. XLII, No. 6

The Rev. David S. Bilyeu, Senior Minister
Mr. Sean M. Brakey, Youth/College Minister

June, 2008

My family and I, along with thirteen others from our church, have just returned from the ABC/USA International Ministries **World Mission Conference** held at Montgomery Community Church in Cincinnati. In addition, seven others joined us for the baseball game between the Cincinnati Reds and the Cleveland Indians. We had an awesome experience! And I am NOT just talking about baseball. It is so amazing to hear of the testimonies of missionaries from around the world and how they express the love of Jesus Christ. These events have a tendency to be such a blessing to empower many to “GO into ALL THE WORLD” to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ.

On Monday, June 2, our **church softball league** will begin a new season. This year we plan to add a new element to the team – devotions. After each game, there will be an optional time of sharing a brief devotion, scripture and prayer. We will also say a prayer prior to each game. It is our hope, whether win or lose, that our spiritual lives will grow as a result of this ministry.

Beginning this month, members of our **Rise Up & Build** team will be leading a discussion of John Ortberg’s book The Life You’ve Always Wanted. This will be something different, as we WILL be meeting over the summer, but we WON’T be meeting at the church. Each Wednesday evening at 6:00 p. m. a book study will meet at Muskingum Park on Front Street. Participants will be encouraged to purchase and read Ortberg’s book in preparation for discussions to be facilitated by members of the Rise Up & Build team. Each of our team members has read and discussed this book and participated in a presentation by the Rev. Dan Taylor. So bring your lawn chairs or blankets. Copies of Ortberg’s book will be available for purchase at the church. See you June 4th.

During the month of June our church will receive the **One Great Hour of Sharing Offering (OGHS)**. As you know, the former Burma suffered a cyclone in early May and relief is coming from various organizations, including American Baptist Churches USA who cooperates with many other denominations through the OGHS to assist with the devastation caused by this event. In addition to our prayers, giving through the OGHS is one of the best ways we can help. Resources are being shared through our missionaries who often have contacts and connections that we do not. Even though the news portrays the government as not being cooperative (which they are not), working through our missionaries is still the safest way to provide needed assistance. International Ministries is partnering with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship in assessing needs. “Some are concerned we may not be getting our gifts to our partners on the ground,” said World Relief Officer Lisa Rothenberger. “I want to assure the many people and churches that want to help that we have trusted relationships and partners that allow us to get the needed aid into the country.” Here’s how our denomination is involved currently:

1. Our own personnel are providing on-the-ground assessments.
2. Personnel from our partners like the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship are delivering funds from both denominations and getting the latest information.
3. The Myanmar Baptist Convention has a relief and development agency that has sent out a request that supporters help them raise more than \$2 million to help with relief and recovery.
4. Other Baptist and Christian partners, such as Baptist World Aid and Church World Service are strong partners we can depend on to get money, supplies and clean water and food to those who need it most.

To keep up-dated on this and other developing situations, please visit www.internationalministries.org. To make a contribution specifically for Myanmar, please mark the memo of your check “OGHS – Myanmar Cyclone.” Thank you in advance for your above and beyond giving to this year’s offering.

Pastor David

CANDLE LIGHTERS

The candle lighters for June are as follows:

June 08 – Kyle Kitchen
15 – Kirsten Goddard
22 – Jayde Prescher
29 – Eleana
Goddard

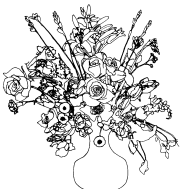


NURSERY SCHEDULE

June 01 – Sally Latture
08 – Teresa Pyles
15 – Julie VanDyk
22 – Susan Vessels
29 – Betty Brammer

Caring Touch Workers

June 03 – Bob Bumgarner and Mary Nowery
10 – Sherrie Miller and Ruth Casto
17 – Gary and Sharon Frye
21 – Brooks and Beverly Harper
24 – George and Barbara Harris
28 – Gary Kriechbaum and Doug Mallett



Flowers This Week

ALTAR FLOWERS TO OUR SHUT-INS

The altar flowers will be delivered to our shut-ins this month by members of the Marcia Binkley Circle.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Articles or announcements for the July issue of The Beacon, are due in the church office by June 19th by calling 373.1273 or e-mail charlene@fbcmarietta.org.



BAPTISMAL SERVICE



On Sunday, May 18, the church celebrated with Ethan and Suzy Vessels as they witnessed to their faith through the act of Believers' Baptism. Ethan is our current chair of the Board of Trustees and Suzy serves on the Board of Deacons. They have been members of First Baptist since April 12, 2005, and have a son, Aaron.

DEACONS OF THE MONTH

Our *Deacons of the Month* for **June** are **Dixie Brown (373.1786)** and **Wade Miller (374.3640)**. They will be *on call* to assist in an emergency situation should Pastor Bilyeu be unable to be contacted.

GREETERS

Our greeters for the month of **June** are members of the **Singles and Doubles Sunday School Class**.

PASS-THE-PACK SUNDAY

Our church is participating in Pass-the-Pack Sunday on June 29th, providing backpacks and school supplies to Marietta's needy children. Checks should be made payable to Backpack Program.

CHURCH SOFTBALL TEAM BEING ORGANIZED

Our church will once again be a part of the Marietta Recreation Softball League this summer. Our first game will be Monday, June 2nd. If you are interested in playing on the softball team, a sign-up sheet is provided on the bulletin board across from the church office or you can contact Eric Mallett (376.9493.)

INSTALLATION SERVICE PLANNED

The Newport Baptist Church will be installing their new pastor, Doug Brown, on Sunday, July 13, 2008, at 7:00 p. m. at the church. The church is inviting their sister association churches to attend. A fellowship reception will follow. Mark your calendar and plan to attend.

MISSIONARY, KIM BROWN, INVOLVED WITH THE HEALTH PROJECT FOR TRIBAL PEOPLE

Kim Brown, missionary with International Ministries in Chiang Mai, Thailand, is currently working with tribal people who are coping with the problems caused by AIDS, disabilities, and migration from their traditional villages to urban slums. Lack of land and employment have forced people from rural areas to cities to find work. They are often exploited on the job, and are at risk for being infected with the AIDS virus.

Kim is involved with *The House of Love*, a home for women and children affected by AIDS; *The House of Blessing Daycare*, a safe place for slum children during the day; and *The Community-Based Rehabilitation Project* which reaches out to families who are caring for disabled in tribal villages enabling them to reach their full potential and be accepted within their families and communities.

If you would like to help Kim in her endeavor to aid the people in Thailand, please look for more information on the bulletin board across from the church office or log on to www.thaitribalhealthservices.info.

2008 - 09 CHURCH BOARD OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

The following is a list of our current church board officers and commissions, with their phone numbers, for the Board of Deacons and Board of Trustees. Feel free to contact any of these people if you have a question or concern.

The Board of Deacons meets on the second Tuesday of each month. The Board of Trustees meets the second Thursday of each month.

BOARD OF DEACONS

Chairperson: C. Zeke Wallis
Vice-Chairperson: Chris Casto
Secretary: Barbara Young
Treasurer: Joyce Marr
Asst. Treasurer: Will Dimit

MEMBERSHIP COMMISSION

Bob Bumgarner: Chairperson
Marjorie Harper
Susy Vessels
Tammy Casto
Barb Young
Elia Marchetti

COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMISSION

Dixie Brown: Chairperson
Bonnie Hamilton
Joyce Marr
Sharon Hambrick
Linda Seevers
C. Zeke Wallis

WORLD OUTREACH COMMISSION

Becky Mallett: Chairperson
Jeff Pyles
Wade Miller
Brooks Freed
Leonard Grant
George Harris IV

WORSHIP COMMISSION

Chris Casto: Chairperson
Bert Goddard
Will Dimit
Pam Kriechbaum
Gib Miller
Richard Young

BOARD OF DEACONS (Continued)

Scholarship Chairperson: Joyce Marr

Crop Walk Representative: Becky Mallett

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chairperson:	Ethan Vessels
Vice-Chairperson:	Bill Mason
Secretary	Hugh McConkey
Assistant Church Treasurer	Hugh McConkey

ADMINISTRATION COMMISSION:

Teresa Pyles: Chairperson
Jenny Machir
Dora Jean Bumgarner
Harold Miller

PROPERTY COMMISSION:

Bunk Hall: Chairperson
Ted VanDyk
Brad Biehl
Kevin Sams

STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION:

Doug Mallett: Chairperson
Bill Mason
Ethan Vessels
Hugh McConkey

OFFICERS:

Moderator - Leonard Grant
Treasurer - Gary Kriechbaum
Assistant Treasurer - Hugh McConkey
Church Clerk and Assistant Financial Secretary - Connie Prescher
Financial Secretary and Assistant Clerk - Judy Wince

2008 NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Dora Jean Bumgarner, Rachel Davis, Will Dimit, Sharon Jones, Bill Mason, Lori Schramm and Zeke Wallis

CHURCH RELATIONS COMMITTEE: (Appointed by Church Council) Dora Jean Bumgarner, Chairperson, Bill Mason, Ginnie Grant, Kevin Sams, Will Dimit, Becky Mallett

DELEGATES TO ASSOCIATION: Gary Frye, Leonard and Ginnie Grant and Bill Hickman

Just a Thought

By Sean M. Brakzy, Youth/College Minister

Better Than Me Concert

For those of you who attended the concert by Marietta College students Kevin McMillan and Anthony Mossburg, I would like to say thanks. I think you saw what gifts God has given them. All of the people who came were truly blessed by their performance, including myself. We are hoping to do another concert next year, and my prayer will be that the church community will improve in our attendance. Supporting students as they use their gifts for the glory of God is very important!

CCO Training

I recently returned from my Spring Institute (CCO training) in Johnstown, PA. It is a week long training event, but also serves as great time in strong fellowship and Christian community. I see the relationships that are built there and how encouraging they are to me, and I am reminded of the early church in Acts that was “of one heart and soul” (Acts 4:32). I see it also within our church here, and I hope that our prayer is to see that type of Biblical community more and more within us.

Jamaica Trip

Our Jamaica team is going to begin meeting weekly on Thursday, June 5th. We will have nine meetings total before we leave for Jamaica on Monday, July 28th. In these meetings we are going to be preparing spiritually, mentally, and physically for what we are going to experience. We will be reading a book called, The Irresistible Revolution by Shane Claiborne, during the summer as we talk about social justice, materialism, and culture issues. These issues are ones that we often overlook as Christians, but we are going to be forced to think about in Jamaica (as we should be).

I am sure that many of you are wondering what you could possibly do to help with the trip. First and most important is prayer. Please start praying now for our trip; that all the details would work out and we would be preparing not just to serve but to learn and grow. Also, we will begin accepting donations towards the trip with these items: soft-sided suitcases (big enough to carry 50 pounds), backpacks, black/brown heavy school shoes, baby powder, sheets, children and baby clothes, batteries (especially size D). However, please remember that we want to be providing Jamaicans with GOOD resources, not trashy or worn down things. So I would not think it weird or odd for someone to go out and buy a new suitcase or backpack to take down there and leave. We want to really try to bless these Jamaicans and not just leave our junk.

Middle School Mission Trip

Our middle school youth group will be having our mission trip from June 18-19th. We will be traveling up to Canton to serve in a soup kitchen at the Canton Calvary Mission on Wednesday. On Thursday, we will be going to the Alive Christian Music Festival in Canal Fulton. There are several bands and speakers, as well as different activities for us to do. We will return Thursday night afterwards. Youth need to sign up with Sean by June 8th to be able to go.

Youth Group

We recently finished discussions on prayer and identity, as well as finished up our small group Bible study on Philippians. We will be beginning a study of John on Tuesday nights this first week of June led by Kari and myself for the girls and guys, respectively.

Camping

This summer the middle and high school youth will be attending Pine Springs Camp in Jennerstown, PA from July 11-18th. I will also be going with them. I worked at this camp three summers ago and Emily Garrity, our new Children's and College Minister, also worked it multiple summers. Middle school students have the option of doing camps focused on adventure, Broadway, or swimming. High school students have the option of adventure, Broadway, mountain biking, or sports. Registration will go through me, so please contact me with interest.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

A scholarship fund has been established by the church for students pursuing post high school education and career training. The seed money for the scholarship fund principal is from the estate of Mamie Pittman.

Persons wishing to receive a scholarship should complete the form on the next page and return it to the church office by June 22, 2008.

A minimum amount will be given to all qualified applicants (see guidelines below) and additional aid, depending on the amount available in the fund, will be given to those who show need. *Even if there is no special need, the form should be completed and returned.*

SCHOLARSHIP FUND GUIDELINES

1. The First Baptist Church has set aside a sum of money in a high interest-bearing account (C.D.'s, etc.) to be granted on an annual basis for general scholarship use. The principal will remain intact and the interest will be used for granting scholarship aid to students of our church family (minimum dollars for all students, increased amount for financial need to be determined each year).
2. A Scholarship Sub-Committee of the Board of Christian Education shall administer the fund, and will include a trustee and a deacon.
3. Criteria for eligibility:
 - The student must be a member of First Baptist Church or a member of a family who is/has been active within the church.
 - The student must be enrolled in a college or school approved by the state agency for higher education or the state agency for post secondary education.
 - The student must be pursuing undergraduate course work in any course of study or a graduate degree for full-time vocational Christian service.
 - The person may exhibit financial need through the Financial Aid Form or other criteria determined by the Scholarship Sub-Committee in order to receive more than the minimum scholarship.
4. Guidelines for administering the fund:
 - Personal interviews may be conducted with each applicant after the completion of the application to determine scholarship amount, if the request is for an amount beyond the minimum.
 - The candidate should share vocational objectives. Interviews should test the seriousness of the educational purpose of the candidates.
 - Scholarship checks are to be made payable directly to the candidate. Candidates should then keep a record of their scholarship expenditures.
 - Candidates are encouraged to view this as a gift of career and educational encouragement from the Church. If the candidate ever wants to repay the gift, a gift in kind to the Scholarship Fund would be appreciated.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____ Birth Date _____

Address _____

Parents' Names _____ Phone # _____

High School _____ Date of Graduation _____

Post Secondary Schools Attending or Planning to Attend _____

Major or Course of Study _____

Two-Year Program _____ Four-Year Program _____ If other, what? _____

Career Plans _____

Church Activities _____

Parent's Employer (Father) _____

(Mother) _____

OPTIONAL--(Seeking More Than Minimum Scholarship)

Financial Need: Expenses _____

Financial Aid Resources: _____

Student Income (summer work and college) _____

High School Grade Point Average _____ Rank in Class _____

High School Activities _____

If now attending post secondary institution, grade point average _____

Number of children in family attending college or graduate school _____

To be completed by Church Office:

Date of church membership _____ Date of Interview _____

Approved _____ Amount \$ _____ Date _____

Amount \$ _____ Date _____

Disapproved _____ Amount \$ _____ Date _____

Amount \$ _____ Date _____

AMERICAN BAPTIST WOMENS' MINISTRIES



NOTES FROM ANNA!

By: Anna Suerken, President

The General Meeting of the ABWM met on May 22, 2008. Several decisions were made concerning the programming for the coming year, 2008-09.

The budget for 2008-09 was reviewed and accepted by the group. It was pointed out that we need additional money to boost our general treasury to fund the mission projects we are doing in Marietta, in Ohio, and on the International levels.

A discussion of several money-making projects followed and it was decided that the membership would be assessed \$10.00 each as this amount of money would be a good start.

Bake sales to be held in Marietta during large events was also discussed as a secondary plan. Please discuss this in your circles for more information from those who attended this meeting.

The proposal made at the March meeting to have two general meetings per year instead of three was approved. This will consist of a luncheon with each circle taking one part of a 3-course meal. The main dish participants would do set-up for the lunch. Installation of officers would be at the May meeting.

A third proposal is to support putting together a *Mission Fest*. This would be a combined effort with the entire church membership along with suggestions from Pastor David.

The community projects will be **EVE, GRADS**, and the **Boys and Girls Club camp fund** at the Salvation Army.

We will continue to collect Campbell Soup labels for the Neighborhood Ministries in Campbell, OH. (Bessie Hamilton just sent 372 Campbell Soup labels to them.) We will also clip box tops to earn cash for the school at the Dayton Christian Center. A product list will be provided with the program

book in the fall. If you need more information, check with your circle members who attended or ask me.

The American Baptist Women's Ministries of Ohio will hold their annual conference at Heartland Conference Retreat Center in Marengo, OH on June 5-7, 2008. This is where many camps for the ABC of Ohio are now being held. It is located north of Columbus off I-71. According to *Mapquest*, it will be 2 ½ hours from Marietta. I will be driving there on Wednesday, June 5th and will be staying two nights. The conference will adjourn with lunch on Saturday, June 7th. Phyllis Holley and Anna Suerken will be attending full time with Ginnie Grant part-time.

Mark these coming events on your calendar:

- Mullen Memorial will host the *Energizer* meeting to be held on July 17th at their picnic pavilion. (inside, if bad weather.) I will be driving and will take those who want to go.
- The World Day of Prayer/Fall Rally will meet with the Newport Baptist Church on November 3, 2008.



The Bible Book for June is *I Kings*. Prominent in the book of *First Kings* are the prophets of the Lord, those courageous spokesmen for God who warned the people not to worship idols and not to disobey God. Especially notable is Elijah and the story of his contest with the priests of Baal (chapter 18).

The Bible Book for July is *Colossians*. Paul writes that through Christ, God created the world and through him he is bringing it back to himself. Only in union with Christ is there hope of salvation for the world. Paul then spells out the implications of this great teaching for the lives of believers.

Dear Friends,

The **call to give** comes regularly in church life: annual stewardship drives and capital campaigns, work trips to the Gulf Coast or another hurting place, special holiday events, youth mission trips and local projects. Each giving opportunity challenges us anew to comprehend the importance of our participation, and to see past numbers and amounts to the practice of praise inherent in the act of giving.

“Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have,” says the writer of Hebrews to the community of faith. The call was personal, a reminder that our actions as Christians speak more loudly than our words and worship services. God desires our participation in the lives of others, an expectation made even more pointedly by Jesus when he tells his followers, *“Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”* (Matthew 25:40, NRSV).

Of course, the *‘least of these’* don’t just live in our community anymore. As our world grows smaller, our lives intersect with so many more lives than they once did — and God’s call to share what we have encompasses more people. The people fleeing violence in Sudan, suffering from AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa, reeling from devastation in Indonesia, starving in poverty in India — we are called to make a difference in these lives, too. *One Great Hour of Sharing* makes that possible.

Gifts to *One Great Hour of Sharing* support programs that help families and villages around the world build lives and communities that are healthy, safe and sustainable, changing the lives of millions of God’s children. *One Great Hour of Sharing*

- helps rebuild communities ravaged by natural disasters;
- creates sustainable sources of income for rural villages;
- provides micro-credit to women to start poverty-escaping businesses;
- teaches trades and job skills;
- offers children a chance to survive past the age of 5 and go to school;
- and much more.

One Great Hour of Sharing gives each of us an opportunity to respond to God’s call: to share what we have, showing the kindness, compassion and mercy of Jesus in every part of the globe. Doing good and sharing what we have gladdens the heart of God, who promises that those who respond, *“shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail.”* (Isaiah 58:11, NRSV). By participating in *One Great Hour of Sharing*, our congregation can experience the joy of showing and sharing God’s love — offering a hand to that stranger in need, and making a difference in the lives of God’s children around the world.

Sincerely,

Pastor David

World Outreach Commission

MOMENT FOR MISSIONS

By Leonard and Ginnie Grant, Mission Advocates



Several members of our congregation went west to Cincinnati for the **World Mission Conference**. Twelve men and women serving as missionaries are from Ohio. They serve in seven posts, five couples and two singles. There are two in Italy, two in Japan, six in Thailand, and two in the U.S. working to help refugees from what we know as Burma get established in the U.S. Most of them seek out American Baptist Churches as most of them are Baptists due to the many years ABC missionaries worked in Burma, and are now working in the camps in Thailand from which the refugees come. **The Binkleys**, after serving in Thailand, are now working with the refugees here and also with the churches that the refugees will call their church home.

Kim Brown works with *The Health Project for Tribal People*, *The House of Love*, and other work among the six tribal groups in northern Thailand. **The Dieselbergs** are in Bangkok where he teaches at three seminaries and she works as director of "mission as business," where women can work and not be slaves in the sex trade. It is more 'exciting' than it sounds.

Chuck Fox works with the *Akha* as sort of an Area Minister while **Ruth Fox** works with the women in finding ways to help support their families. **Kit Ripley** serves at the *New Life Center in Chiang Mai* where children in need are cared for. Many are HIV positive and have been sex slaves or children of victims. They were flooded out and are building in a new location, but are slowed now for funds to go further.

There are a total of seventeen working in Thailand, and all are concerned about what has happened in Burma. There are still thousands of Christians in Burma and they are targets of the government, and will be the last to get aid in the wake of the storm. There is hope.

It is very important that *One Great Hour of Sharing* funds be available if a breakthrough comes along. Other needs are pressing, too. Victims of tornados and fires in the U.S. and earthquakes in China will need all we can provide. **Remember we have it so good.**

"CARING TOUCH" UP-DATE

Joyce Marr, Treasurer, Board of Deacons

The following is a report of "Caring Touch" activity for the period April 23, 2008 through May 20, 2008:

Beginning Balance			\$3,456.96
Receipts:	Deacon's Fund	<u>\$1,295.00</u>	<u>\$1,295.00</u>
Less Expenditures:			
	Rent	\$ 200.00	
	Utilities	\$ 917.47	
	Schooling	\$ 35.00	
	Gasoline	\$ <u>29.03</u>	\$1,181.50
Ending Balance			\$3,570.46

(Assisted 14 families/individuals)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>June 2008</h1>						
1 OGHS Offering 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Sunday School 1:30 Communion to shut-ins 3:00 Middle High Youth Group 5:00 Senior High Youth Group	2 7:00 Board of Christian Education Planning Retreat Softball Game	3 1:30 Staff Meeting 6:30 Caring Touch	4	5 ABWM Ohio Conf. June 5 - 7, 2008 11:30 Morning Glory Circle - DaVincis Restaurant	6 ABWM Ohio Conf. June 5 - 7, 2008	7 4:00 Biker's Pasta Supper
8 OGHS Offering 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Sip 'n' Chat 10:45 Sunday School 3:00 Middle High Youth Group 5:00 Senior High Youth Group	9 Softball Game	10 6:00 Board of Christian Education 6:30 Caring Touch 6:30 Board of Deacons	11	12 5:30 Board of Trustees	13	14 Flag Day
15 Father's Day OGHS Offering 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Sunday School 3:00 Middle High Youth Group 5:00 Senior High Youth Group	16 Softball Game	17 6:30 Caring Touch	18 6:30 Church Relations Committee	19 6:00 Red Cross Banquet	20 7:00 Adult Fellowship Class	21 First Day of Summer 8:00 Men's Breakfast 10:00 Caring Touch Singles and Doubles Class
22 OGHS Offering 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Sunday School 3:00 Middle High Youth Group 5:00 Senior High Youth Group	23 Softball Game	24 6:30 Caring Touch	25	26	27	28 10:00 Caring Touch
29 "Pass the Pack" Sunday OGHS Offering 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Sunday School 3:00 Middle High Youth Group 5:00 Senior High Youth Group	30 Softball Game					