

FAITH NOTES



FBC Newsletter • June 2008 • Volume Three, 6th Edition

FATHER'S DAY...

The first celebration of Father's Day is thought to have been in July 1908, in Fairmont, West Virginia. Grace Golden Clayton suggested the special observance to her pastor after a deadly explosion in a nearby town killed 361 men.

Soon after, Sonora Smart Dodd of Spokane, Washington, wanted to show her gratitude to her father, who'd cared for the family after his wife died. Dodd asked her pastor to choose a June Sunday to honor all fathers, and he selected June 19, 1910.

In 1924, President Coolidge suggested that Father's Day become a national holiday. In 1966, President Johnson designated the third Sunday of June to be Father's Day. Six years later, President Nixon instituted Father's Day as a national observance.

A FATHER'S INFLUENCE...

Studies show that if the mother of a family attends worship, there's a 16 percent chance that the rest of the family will also attend.

Yet when a father attends worship, there's a 93 percent chance that other family members will be present, too.

Just think, Dad, of the clout you have. Hope to see you in church!

NEWSLETTER NOTE...

In an effort to save money on postage, we will be printing hard copies of the FBC newsletter **only for those who do not have access to the website**, beginning July.

Please contact the office (573-7777) if you need a hard copy of the newsletter.

FROM PASTOR MIKE'S DESK...

"Reward and Honor"

"Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men, because you know that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does, whether he is slave or free" (Ephesians 6:7-8).

Jesus said, "Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me" (John 12:26).

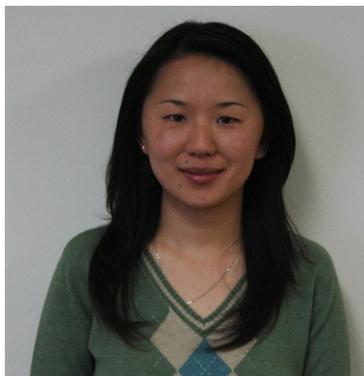
The following are comments, written or verbally shared, concerning Sunday, May 18, the day of our RICH service projects:

- "The fellowship was fantastic!"
- "It was a great experience!"
- "A very meaningful day."
- "A great bonding experience."
- "Today was one of the greatest blessings I've ever been a part of."
- "I believe what the Word of God says – we will be blessed when we serve. The Lord is busy blessing us more than we can fathom."
- "In doing the work for the Lord it was great to see the Lord work in it."
- "It was one of the most uniquely rewarding Sundays."
- "My faith grew."
- "We all worked together so well."
- "I was energized by the experience."
- "God's work can be a blessing to the servant more than the served."
- "We need to do this more often."

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MEET YAO HUI HUANG...

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- The Benevolent Offering
by Jess Wenick

“Reward and Honor”

By Pastor Mike (*Continued from front page*)...

It was a truly wonderful experience that exceeded all my expectations. Our lives were impacted as well as the lives of others. We experienced something different in our church family and that made a statement amongst our community.

In a recent editorial Jim McGee observed, “In the U.S. over the next decade, those churches that are marked by visible acts of sacrifice for others are those that will be most successful in attracting outsiders.”

Our first passion is to glorify God and we definitely want to make the gospel attractive. To make the gospel attractive and genuine we must first understand that “church” is not what we come to Sunday mornings, but that “church” is who we are as believers. We are the church 24/7.

In order to “be the church” we must be obedient to Christ and in order to do that we follow His example. He served others. He loved others. He also proclaimed to them their need for salvation. With balance and ardor we are to “be imitators of God” (Eph. 5:1).

Serving others doesn’t seem to always come natural for us. It is apparent that the majority of people have a consumer mentality which always puts “me” at the top of the list to be concerned about. On the other end of the spectrum are those who are concerned about the needs of others. In the end, people have either a “serve us” or “service” mentality and it’s not hard to figure out which one God blesses and which one makes a more attractive statement to others.

Service brings reward and honor, and I have to tell you of the reward I received from this experience. I was absolutely thrilled and blessed to see our FBC family come together in a phenomenal way. Each participant worked hard and steady side by side on a hot day. The attitude was never groaning or complaining, but instead wondering how they could do more or do it better. It was obvious that the service was coming from the heart and done for the glory of God, not for the glory of man.

The energy is contagious as many are looking for new places and ways to serve. Laboring for the Lord is sincerely rewarding. “Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain” (1 Cor. 15:58).

I have also been truly blessed by each of our service project team leaders. They put in a lot of work and deserve a big word of thanks.

May the glory go to the Lord as we continue to serve and may He RICHLY reward us as we impact those in our county.

Pastor Mike

CHRISTIAN ONE-LINERS...

- It is easier to preach ten sermons than it is to live one.
- People are funny; they want the front of the bus, the middle of the road, and the back of the church.
- Be ye fishers of men. You catch them – He’ll clean them.

“The Benevolent Offering”

By Jess Wenick

Chapter 6 of the book of Acts gives an account of the formation of the very first deacon board. Faced with exponential growth and an increased work load, the Apostles realized that they could not oversee every aspect of church life. Those Jews from outside of Palestine (sometimes referred to as “Hellenistic” Jews because they were submersed in Greek culture) began to complain that their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. In response to this situation, seven men were selected to oversee the physical needs of the Body of Christ (the Church).

Faith Baptist Church carries on this tradition and appoints deacons to oversee various commissions ranging from facilities to missions. As Deacon Chair, my favorite role is overseeing the use of the Benevolent (Deacons’) Fund. It is exciting to see how the Lord has used this fund time and again to offer emergency relief, hope, encouragement and spiritual awakening in those who come to us sincerely seeking assistance. The Deacon Board carefully and prayerfully considers every request and takes discreteness and confidentiality very seriously.

For those of you who are not familiar with the Benevolent Fund, it is a pot of money that addresses unforeseen personal circumstances such as unexpected financial crises, health emergencies, and catastrophic events. Its purpose is to provide assistance for one-time emergency situations. In rare circumstances, the Deacons will approve of the use of this money for longer-term assistance, but only when it is the expressed wish of the congregation.

The Benevolent Offering is taken on the first Sunday of every month. Ushers can be found in the back of the sanctuary accepting offerings at the end of the service. This fund is supported by these discrete offerings and is not supplemented by the annual budget.

The other deacons that serve at my side include Mark Doverspike (Finance Commission), John Friedrichsen (Mission Commission), Andy Dobrinin (Men’s Ministry Commission), Irvin Gibson (Guest Services Commission), Larry Asmussen (Visitation Commission) and Tom King (Building and Grounds Commission).

On behalf of the Deacons, I would like to thank the congregation for the opportunity to serve. Please support us through prayer as we strive to make Spirit-led decisions that enhance our church and glorify our Lord.

Your fellow servant in Christ,
Jess Wenick

I WANT TO BE READY...

I want to be ready when Jesus comes.

I want to be ready when Jesus comes
to take me to Heaven.

Yes, I want Jesus to come to take me to Heaven,

To take me to Heaven, to take me to Heaven.

– By Anna Brewer

“Little” Things

By Pastor David

The year was 1996 and I was fresh out of high school. That summer I moved to Coeur d’Alene, Idaho to live with my brother Dennis and work on the resort golf course. During those years, Dennis was not attending church so I was on my own when it came to finding a church. Now, I am not saying that I was a spiritual giant at 18. I had plenty of issues in life, but it had been ingrained in me from my parents that you were to attend church on Sunday morning. I had noticed a Baptist Church on the road that I drove to get to work, about a mile from my brother’s house and, even though it was a southern Baptist and not a conservative Baptist Church, I decided it was safe enough to try.

Now, even though I had attended church my entire life, I think I could count on one hand how many Sunday mornings I had missed, and this was the first time I had attended a church without knowing a single soul there. As I came in, I shook a couple of hands and received a bulletin from an usher and then found a seat in the small sanctuary. Everything seemed normal; it was just that no one really acknowledged that I was there. It wasn’t that they ignored me, they just didn’t stop from their routine to really notice that there was someone new. That is, until a young college student came over and introduced herself and invited me to sit with a group of students who attended the church. Because that one person reached out to greet and invite me into a circle of friends, I attended that church the entire summer that I worked there.

The impact of that simple act didn’t stop there. In the fall, when I attended Western Oregon University, I started attending the Campus Crusade for Christ group. At one of the meetings, the request was made for people to help greet other students as they attended our meetings. I thought about how welcome that one student had made me, and I decided that greeting and welcoming other students to the meeting was a significant way to serve. This led me to sign up as a greeter, which led me into student leadership in our Campus Crusade ministry. As a student leader, I was challenged to consider serving God on a mission trip for the summer, which I did, serving in Anchorage, Alaska. The following year I continued as a servant leader now directing the entire weekly meeting for our ministry. It was during this year that I felt God calling me to serve Him in full-time Christian ministry. The following year I began working as a youth pastor at my church and have been doing ministry in the local church ever since.

It is now twelve years since that summer right out of high school, and I don’t even remember the girl’s name who had invited me to sit with the rest of the college students. I never returned to Coeur d’Alene to work and my brother doesn’t live there anymore.

THE JOY OF GENEROSITY...

He who has received much should also give much. It is essential to give a goodly part of what God has allowed us to accumulate. Otherwise greed and miserliness will seize our hearts and minds. Furthermore, by not giving generously, we will miss the many joys that generosity brings to us.

Let us not cheat ourselves of those blessings.

I doubt that she has any idea that the simple act of greeting me, and inviting me to be a part of their group was one of the steps that God used to lead me to be a pastor.

I know that sometimes it is difficult to see how the “little” things make a difference in people’s lives, but I would imagine that you could, like me, look back in your life and identify people who were faithful in those “little” things in your life. God can use the little things that we do each and every day. The tragedy is when we stop doing the “little” things because we don’t think they matter, but trust me, they do.

‘Til next time,
Pastor David

YOUTH EVENTS...

SNAC(K)

Sunday Night After Church

High School & Junior High Youth

FBC Youth Center

Sunday Nights, 5-7pm

SPLASHDOWN 2008

High School & Junior High Youth

Roaring Springs Water Park

Friday, July 11

Meet at FBC at 7:30am

Return 9:30pm

Early Registration \$30 – June 22 Deadline

Regular Registration \$35 – July 6 Deadline

(Includes drinks all day & all-you-can-eat pizza plus ice cream)

No registrations after July 6

Registration – www.faithbchc.com/youth_ministries

or contact Pastor David

Disciple Now Weekend

College & High School Youth

August 21-24

Portland

Registration \$80 (must register before August 3rd)

Register before July 20 and receive a 10% discount

Toby Mac, Kutless, Mercy Me & More

Join us for a great weekend of **growing** in God’s Word,
reaching the lost with the Gospel,
and **worshipping** with other believers.

Questions, contact Pastor David
or go online at www.faithbchc.com/youth_ministries

MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE

Give this unusual message to a family member or friend to announce summer's arrival — and invite them to join you in some summertime fun!

What you need:

- Summer treasures and trinkets (see ideas below)
- Empty plastic bottle with cap
- Paper and pencil
- Ribbon or tape

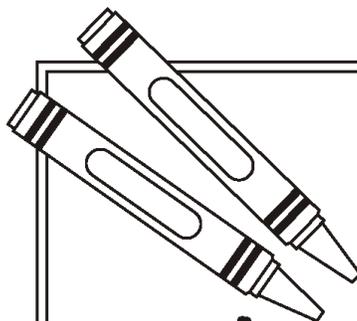
What you do:

1. With your parents, think of summertime activities and destinations. Then find, make or buy related items that will fit inside the bottle. (Note that you can also use stickers, magazine pictures or your own drawings.)

Examples include:

- Beach day: sand or shells
- Camping: ingredients for s'mores
- Vacation Bible School: biblical bookmark or VBS trinket
- Making Popsicles: wooden craft stick
- Going to a movie: popcorn

2. Place all your objects in the bottle.
3. Write a letter asking someone to guess your summer plans — and inviting them to join you.
4. Roll up your letter tightly with ribbon or tape it closed. Then place the letter inside the bottle and close with cap.
5. Deliver your message.



Just for KIDS

God made the seasons

Warmer weather means summer has arrived! God's beautiful creation is always changing, and we can praise God for every season.



Use this code to finish Genesis 8:22, NIV.

A = 	I = 	T = 	S = 
E = 	O = 	R = 	N = 
	U = 	D = 	

“   l   g   h       h

       ,

          h   v    ,

c  l     h    ,

  mm      w      ,

  y      gh  ,

w  ll  v    c    .”

Genesis 8:22, NIV

Answer: “As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.”

MEET YAO HUI HUANG...

Yao moved to Harney County in July of 2005 and began attending Faith Baptist in September of that year. She followed the Lord's leading in baptism on January 28, 2007 and became a member on September 16, 2007.

Yao moved here after being employed with Harney Behavioral Health as a Behavioral Rehabilitation Specialist/Family Care Coordinator.

Yao was born in Taiwan. She has two brothers and is the middle child. She came to the United States in August of 2000 to pursue her Master's Degree in Counseling and Human Services from the University of Idaho.

Yao accepted Christ as her personal Savior in 1997 while she was attending Shengte Christian College in Taiwan. Yao said, "God has changed my life and my perspective for myself. The relationship between my parents and I has improved because of Christ. Even though I am the first Christian in my family, my parents are open to my belief. I hope one day my parents and brothers will accept Christ as well."

Yao's ministries include working with the youth group at Faith Baptist Church and with Young Life.

Her hobbies include enjoying good food, watching movies, reading, swimming, talking with friends, hanging out with friends and playing with kids.

Yao has a special gift of encouragement for others. Yao serves the Lord behind the scenes in many different ways here at Faith Baptist. There are always smiles and laughter when Yao is around!

UPCOMING EVENTS...

June 1	Communion
June 3	Elders, Deacons, Deaconesses, 6:30pm
June 7	FBC Family Fishing Day at Yellowjacket
June 15	Babies & Young Children Dedications The Aspens Service, 1:45pm
June 29	John & Bev Adams 50th Anniversary Celebration, hosted by their family

The pastors meet for prayer in the church offices on Tuesdays at 8:30am. Everyone is welcome.

THE MEANING OF SERVICE...

After the Korean War, an American journalist was searching for human-interest stories. Inside a clinic run by Christians, he found a nurse who was treating a Korean peasant's gangrenous wound.

The sight of the ugly infection turned the reporter's stomach. He said to the nurse, "I wouldn't do what you're doing for all the money in the world."

The nurse calmly kept at her task and simply replied, "Neither would I."

HYMN STORIES...

Sunshine in My Soul

1887

"But the path of the just is like the shining sun, That shines ever brighter unto the perfect day."

Proverbs 4:18

Edmunds Rhoad, account executive for an information systems company, has spent many hours researching his family tree. In the process, he discovered the diary that his great grandmother, Zeruah Edmunds, started keeping at age nineteen, and it reveals a passionate love for Christ.

Zeruah married James S. Hewitt, a young sailor who also kept a journal that tells of harrowing storms, shipwrecks, near escapes – and an earnest faith. One entry, for example, tells of a voyage to China in which he was surrounded by "a rough irreligious body of men who paid no attention or any duty to God on the Sabbath or on any other day. Oaths, card-playing, etc. marked their conduct when at leisure." James, deeply saddened, would slip off to quiet spots to read his Bible and pray.

It was into this Christian home that a daughter was born in 1851, in a house on Christian Street in Philadelphia. Little Eliza grew up in the nurture of the Lord. She was a teenager during the Civil War, but she managed to concentrate on school well enough to graduate valedictorian of her class. She displayed an unusual love for children, and after further study she became a schoolteacher.

In 1887, while teaching at the Northern Home for Friendless Children, Eliza, 35, was struck by an unruly student. He slammed his slate across her, severely injuring her back. The doctor placed her in a heavy cast for six months, and Eliza was virtually immobile, perhaps wondering if she would ever walk again. When the cast was removed in early 1887, the doctor told her to take a short walk in nearby Fairmont Park. It was a warm spring day, and she was overcome with joy. Returning home, she picked up her pen and immediately wrote the hymn:

*There's sunshine in my soul today
More glorious and bright,
Than glows in any earthly sky,
For Jesus is my light.*

Her injuries were severe enough to preclude school teaching, so she devoted herself to Bible study and hymn-writing. Eliza lived many more years and wrote scores of hymns, including "My Faith Has Found a Resting Place," "When We All Get To Heaven," and "Will There Be Any Stars In My Crown?"

Eliza died in 1920, and her grave at Woodlands Cemetery in Philadelphia, reads simply: "Eliza Edmunds Hewitt, Hymnwriter, author of Sunshine in My Soul."

Robert J. Morgan

Then Sings My Soul, Thomas Nelson, Inc. 2006

Dad's incredible...

Author Jim Wallis tells how his young son ends telephone conversations with him.

"Daddy," the boy says, "I love you, I like you and you're incredible."

What makes an "incredible" father? It isn't as difficult as it might seem. Children, of course, aren't awed by the size of your paycheck, office or retirement account. Instead, it's the simple, everyday gestures that make you a No. 1 dad.



In *Stories for the Family's Heart*, Steve Stephens offers some sure-fire ways to be incredible in your kids' eyes:

- Play tic-tac-toe and hide-and-seek.
- Be consistent.
- Buy ice cream cones.
- Don't discipline in anger.
- Count stars together.
- Pray with (and for) your children.
- Hug and say "I love you" often.

The Newsletter Newsletter©

FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH OF HARNEY COUNTY

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Web site: www.faithbchc.com

Sunday Schedule

The Nine 9:00am

Fellowship 10:15-10:45am

The Quarter 'til. 10:45am

Sunday School runs concurrently with services.

Staff

Rev. Mike Fast Senior Pastor

David Curtis Associate Pastor

Tom Garo. Director of Worship

Dona Johnson Secretary



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