

The Happenings

First Baptist Church

Issue 2
July

PASTORS PERSPECTIVE

Christianity & Patriotism have a lot in common.

Paul said in Galatians 5:1 ***“It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened by a yoke of slavery.”***

Christianity and patriotism have a lot in common. For example did you know that our patriotic hymn “My Country , Tis of Thee”, was written by a Baptist pastor named Samuel Francis Smith? Did you know that the “Pledge of Allegiance” was written in 1892 by a Baptist minister, Francis Bellamy? Did you know that the words, “In God We Trust”, carried on all our coins, are traced back to the efforts of the Rev. W.R. Watkinson of Ridleyville, Pennsylvania? He sent a letter of concern, addressed to the Hon. S.P. Chase dated November 13, 1861. Seven days later Mr. Chase wrote to James Pollock, the director of the U.S. Mint. The following is a portion of the letter he wrote...

“No nation can be strong except in the strength of God, or safe except in His defense. The trust of our people in God should be declared on our national coins. Will you cause a device to be prepared without delay with a motto expressing in the finest words possible, this national recognition.”

Did you know the former president of the College of New Jersey, the Reverend John Witherspoon a (Presbyterian), was the only clergyman to sign the Declaration of Independence. He is too much forgotten in our history books: John Witherspoon had a far-reaching influence on democracy. He had personally taught several of the signers of the document, and nine of them were graduates of the little college over which he presided at Princeton. When he took up his pen to put his name to the document, Witherspoon declared this...

“There is a tide in the affairs of men, a spark. We perceive it now before us. To hesitate is to consent to our own slavery. That noble instrument upon the table, that insures immortality to its author, should be subscribed this very morning by every pen in this house. He that will not respond to its accents, and strain every nerve to carry into effect its provisions, is unworthy of the name of free man. For my own part, of property I have some: of reputation, more. That reputation is staked, that property is

Special Points of Interest

- Pastor Perspective
- Thank you’s
- Missions
- Ministry of the Month
- Sports
- What’g goin on?
- 20in10
- Schedules

Happy Anniversary!!!

**Randy & Karen
Blan
July 7**

**Dennis & Penny
Larson
July 15**

**Did you hear
the one about
the Liberty
Bell?**

**Yeah, it
cracked me
up!**

Thank ya's

Thank ya'll for making our VBS boot scootin good.

Judy Anderson, Laura Bennefield, Rina Bills, Diane Friend, Ronda Myers, Kevin Jonasen, Jess Lueshen, Mindy Carver, Connie Reiter, Chris Blan, the Blan Boys, Sarah Ayers, Brett Ayers, Shannon Mueller, Kiera Schmeltzer, Melody Hamper, Kim Toepper, Christina Oziemkiewicz & kids, Rachal Ayers, the McCoy family, the R & T Bennefield family, all the rest of you'uns, & the TEXAS Team.

These willing servants decorated, cleaned, gave rides, decorated some more, painted cactus's, painted cowboys, let Texans stay in their home, and helped to make this years VBS so very successful.

There were 12 kids that gave their lives to Christ...WOO HOO!!!

I would call that a successful VBS



Pastor's Perspective continued....

pledged on the issue of this contest: and although these gray hairs must soon descend into the grave, I would infinitely rather they descend by the hand of the executioner than desert at this crisis the sacred cause of my country.”

If we are going to see this country turn back to God it must start with us! If the fire of Christ is burning on the inside of us, then shouldn't that same fire spread to the outside and to all those around us?

We have learned that we need to pray. Pray in the morning. Pray in the evening. Pray at noontime. Pray for the sick. Pray for the sinner. Pray for the mercy of God to be shed upon our nation and its leaders. We need to pray when it is convenient. We also need to pray when it is inconvenient. When trouble comes knocking or when you are being showered with blessings, pray. Don't forget God! We've got to pray if we are going to see this nation rebuilt upon its Godly foundation.

I believe that Christ is the only hope for anybody and for any country! Including America!!! I believe that America can return to greatness when you and I begin to seek God's face. When you and I say, "Here I am Lord, send me." When you and I have our hearts broken with the brokenness of our society, America will turn around. When you and I repent of our sin first. When we ask God to help us as we begin our way back from despair to walking in the way of our King! Let's celebrate our freedom this month by returning our hearts to the one who set us free.

God Bless You and God Bless America,

Pastor Randy



Cell Phone VS...Bible

Ever wonder what would happen if we treated our Bible like we treat our cell phone?

What if we carried it around in our purses or pockets?

What if we flipped through it several times a day?

What if we turned back to go get it if we forgot it?

What if we used it to receive messages from the text?

What if we treated it like we couldn't live without it?

What if we gave it to kids as gifts?

What if we used it when we travel?

What if we used it in case of emergency?

Where is your Bible?

M I S S I O N S

The Florida Team is set to begin work on July 5th. We are going to need to provide them with lunch & dinner. If you have not yet signed up to help you can contact Jenny @ 815-260-0011. On Friday July 9th we are going to have a pot luck/ice cream social at the pavilion. The men can show off their grillin skills while the ladies provide the sides. We will wrap up the Florida teams week with ice cream while we sit and visit before they head back home.

Did ya'll see what was happenin in this buildin?

We went from FBC to FBC at the ranch! It was an amazin week...filled with excitement, fun, rain, food, laughter, cowboys, rain, music, puppets, teens, rain, little kids, The HOLY SPIRIT, and more rain. But in spite of the rain,

God made His presence known to many.

This ol church was filled with teens doin everythin from huggin little kids, to workin puppets, to cleanin bathrooms.

Never did you see them without a smile and a thankful heart to be doin God's work.

"I thought we were coming to bless them, but instead, I feel like I have been the one blessed." "I hate to leave these kids, it makes me sad to think that I will probably never see them again" was the resounding sentiment heard over & over durin the week.

One teen at baseball camp was overheard sayin, "This kid is me at that age, I want to make a difference in his life." And boy did they make a difference. 12 kids have eternal salvation because of the difference they made in Channahon.

July 19 is the day that the **Alabama** Team will begin to work on our new church with us. They are bringing their own tool trailer and are able to make cabinets for the kitchen, hang dry wall, and other much needed skills inside the building. For their skills we are going to need to provide them with lunch and dinner. Contact Jenny at 815-260-0011 to let her know which of your favorite dishes you would like to prepare for them.

Watch for more information about the Georgia Team coming in September

FAMILIES OF FAITH CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

FOFCA is very excited to be starting their 6th year of school. Many students have been blessed over the past 5 years and we have seen tremendous growth. This year we have many applicants but because of the economy they are not able to send their child here. FOFCA is looking for scholarships in the amount of \$500, \$1000, \$2000, or \$4000 to help a family in need. Your donation goes a long way to help others.

The Fourth of July weekend was coming up, and the nursery school teacher took the opportunity to tell her class about patriotism. "We live in a great country," she said. "One of the things we should be happy about is that, in this country, we are all free." One little boy came walking up to her from the back of the room. He stood with his hands on his hips and said. . . . "I'm not free. I'm four."

If you know of anyone who has a birthday or anniversary in August, please let Kellie know!

GOD JOBS

- Looking for a job?
- Want to work for a Christian?
- Looking for Christian Employees?

Kristen Buddin is starting a ministry to match Christian workers with Christian employers. If you are interested, pick up the appropriate paper work in the office, fill it out & return it to the office.







Stitches of Love would like to welcome the following people...

*Betty, Kristina C. and Christine C.
You make a great addition and we are so blessed to have you stitching with us.*

Hurry back Mrs. Thelma...we miss you!!!



Look Who Blessed Us with Their Birth in July!!!!

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------|-------------------------|---|
|  Troy Bunyard 1st | Randy Blan 3rd | Cameron Lueshen 3rd |  |
|  Thelma Welch 5th | Mary Hedrick 18th | Lloyd Welch 20th |  |
|  Kiera Schmeltzer 20th | Joyce Bowling 26th | Fred & Faye Armour 26th |  |



Ministry of the Month

YOUTH

He has shown you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

Andy and Jen, Gabe, Rachal & Hannah were the leaders for our students as they traveled more than 8 hours to Student Life at Camp Windermere in the Ozarks. Imagine for a moment being in a bus with 20 teenagers!!! YIKES....These guys did it willingly and with a servants heart. **And** they returned with 20 teenagers..WOO HOO!!! What happened between those miles was amazing...God was BUSY!!!

The theme for the week was **RE**.

Their day began by getting teens up to eat breakfast by 6:45 A.M. We know that God's presence was **required** to get them up at that foreign hour. After breakfast they spent time **relating** with God in Bible Study, quiet time, and worship...Can you even imagine **remaining** in His presence for 3 hours at a time everyday for 4 straight days ??? Well, this group of kids can not only imagine it, they did it! And boy did God **reveal** Himself to them!!! The afternoon was spent swimming, playing games, eating (again) and just hanging out. After dinner was served (they ate a lot), these same kids began another time of group worship and prayer with their group leaders. They were able to **reflect** on Gods love, grace, and purpose for their lives during this time. Jen said a change in attitude was very obvious. It was very **refreshing** to see positive attitudes that **reflect** the mind of Christ. The kids that went down to Camp Windermere were not the same kids that **returned**.

The 2nd day there, Andy met with the camp leaders. He returned promising the students that God would do something amazing that night. Out of our group of 20, 5 **responded** by **repenting** of their sins and **received** Jesus as their Savior. Another student **renewed** his relationship with Christ. I would say that was something amazing!!!



Some Great Things About Chicago
Magnificent Mile, Cubs, Sox, Bears, Blackhawks, Navy Pier, Pizza, Willis Tower, Hancock Tower, The Bean, & many others.
But when your from Texas the greatest thing about Chicago is..... There is a Dunkin Donuts on every corner!!!

Luckily our kids did not have to have a camel wash!!! That might have been easier than some of the things they did. They moved furniture, painted walls, cleaned out a rental house, and many other things in order to raise money to go to Student Life. Almost \$5,000.00 was raised and they didn't wash a single camel. GREAT JOB TEENS!!!



Our Youth also hung out with the Texas teens. They had Sunday a.m. Bible Study, canvassed the neighbor hoods passing out 1000's of flyers. They had an extreme bonfire, played Frisbee and football, and hung out at the pool. Some great friendships were formed as these teens from the north and the south served the same Almighty God. Wednesday night they all gathered in the sanctuary to worship. If you have never seen or heard 100 kids singing praise to our Lord, then you have missed out on an inspiring display of our youth!

Join us for FBC Channahon and All-Stars Baseball night at the Jackhammers!! We will be going as a group on **Saturday, August 7**, the game is a 7:05 pm start. **Tickets are only \$9 each and must be ordered by July 14th**. See Kenton Ayers to order your tickets.

All-Stars Baseball season is upon us!! It's exciting to see that as of this writing we have more than 150 baseball players signed up and almost half of them are new to our program!! It's interesting that God has chosen now to bring so many new faces to us, right before we move into our new facility! It's been awesome to be available for more of the sign-ups as I've gotten a chance to learn more about what is going on in people's lives.

During registrations this year we had two men volunteer to help build the building. One is an electrician. We've had no need for electrical people, now here we have one. The other is a plumber!! We've not needed to do any plumbing work until now and now we have a plumber volunteering to help us out! And both of these men were excited at the prospect to help us, after we've helped them. Both talked about how our baseball program has benefited them and they want to give something back to us.

I sat one evening and talked with a lady who broke down in tears as she told me how she hasn't been to church in several years. Her pastor and his wife were killed in an automobile accident a few years ago and she hasn't been able to bring herself to a point of going to church since.

One man registered three girls to play and redeemed a coupon for free play that was given out at the Easter Egg Hunt. He told me that the free spot was the only way they could afford to let their girls play this year. While we were talking, his seventeen year old son volunteered to coach a team. I started coaching when I was eighteen, so I was excited at the prospect of allowing this young man the opportunity.

I would ask that you pray. There are many things to pray for this summer in our baseball program. Pray for these that I've mentioned and for the others that I haven't who have lost jobs, marriages that are in trouble, kids that are out of control and causing problems at home, families that are facing illnesses that are overwhelming to them and the list goes on.

We get a chance this summer to minister to these people. Would you pray for me, for the messages that will be delivered, for these people and their families? God has blessed us with an abundance of new opportunities and it wasn't an accident. He has plans for all of these people and I'm excited and anxious to see how the summer unfolds.

If you would like to meet some of these folks and offer additional help (along with your prayers), stop by and watch a game some evening or some Saturday. There will be lots of opportunities, see the July schedule.



Monday	07/05/10	6:00 PM Opening Ceremonies	
	Ayers Field	6:30 PM Royals	@ White Sox
	Feeney Field	6:30 PM Angels	@ Rangers
Tuesday	07/06/10	5:30 PM Opening Ceremonies	
	Ayers Field	6:00 PM Cardinals	@ Cubs
	Feeney Field	6:00 PM Astros	@ Mets
Wednesday	07/07/10	6:00 PM Opening Ceremonies	
	Ayers Field	6:30 PM Diamondbacks	@ Dodgers
	Feeney Field	6:30 PM Rockies	@ Giants
Thursday	07/08/10	6:00 PM Opening Ceremonies	
	Ayers Field	6:30 PM Blue Jays	@ Red Sox
	Feeney Field	6:30 PM Rays	@ Orioles
Saturday	07/10/10	9:00 AM Royals	@ Angels
	Feeney Field	9:00 AM White Sox	@ Rangers
	Ayers Field	10:30 AM Diamondbacks	@ Rockies
	Feeney Field	10:30 AM Dodgers	@ Giants
	Ayers Field	12:30 PM Blue Jays	@ Rays
	Feeney Field	12:30 PM Red Sox	@ Orioles
	Ayers Field	2:30 PM Cardinals	@ Astros
	Feeney Field	2:30 PM Cubs	@ Mets
Monday	07/12/10	6:00 PM Royals	@ Rangers
	Ayers Field	6:00 PM White Sox	@ Angels
	Feeney Field		
Tuesday	07/13/10	6:00 PM Cardinals	@ Mets
	Ayers Field	6:00 PM Cubs	@ Astros
	Feeney Field		
Wednesday	07/14/10	6:00 PM Diamondbacks	@ Giants
	Ayers Field	6:00 PM Dodgers	@ Rockies
	Feeney Field		
Thursday	07/15/10	6:00 PM Blue Jays	@ Orioles
	Ayers Field	6:00 PM Red Sox	@ Rays
	Feeney Field		
Monday	07/19/10	6:00 PM White Sox	@ Royals
	Ayers Field	6:00 PM Rangers	@ Angels
	Feeney Field		
Tuesday	07/20/10	6:00 PM Cubs	@ Cardinals
	Ayers Field	6:00 PM Mets	@ Astros
	Feeney Field		
Wednesday	07/21/10	6:00 PM Dodgers	@ Diamondbacks
	Ayers Field	6:00 PM Giants	@ Rockies
	Feeney Field		
Thursday	07/22/10	6:00 PM Red Sox	@ Blue Jays
	Ayers Field	6:00 PM Orioles	@ Rays
	Feeney Field		
Saturday	07/24/10	9:00 AM Angels	@ Royals
	Ayers Field	9:00 AM Rangers	@ White Sox
	Feeney Field		
	Ayers Field	10:30 AM Rockies	@ Diamondbacks
	Feeney Field	10:30 AM Giants	@ Dodgers
	Ayers Field	12:30 PM Rays	@ Blue Jays
	Feeney Field	12:30 PM Orioles	@ Red Sox
	Ayers Field	2:30 PM Astros	@ Cardinals
	Feeney Field	2:30 PM Mets	@ Cubs
Monday	07/26/10	6:00 PM Rangers	@ Royals
	Ayers Field	6:00 PM Angels	@ White Sox
	Feeney Field		
Tuesday	07/27/10	6:00 PM Mets	@ Cardinals
	Ayers Field	6:00 PM Astros	@ Cubs
	Feeney Field		
Wednesday	07/28/10	6:00 PM Giants	@ Diamondbacks
	Ayers Field	6:00 PM Rockies	@ Dodgers
	Feeney Field		
Thursday	07/29/10	6:00 PM Orioles	@ Blue Jays
	Ayers Field	6:00 PM Rays	@ Red Sox
	Feeney Field		
Saturday	07/31/10	10:00 AM Royals	@ Angels
	Ayers Field	10:00 AM White Sox	@ Rangers
	Feeney Field		
	Ayers Field	11:30 AM Diamondbacks	@ Rockies
	Feeney Field	11:30 AM Dodgers	@ Giants
	Ayers Field	1:30 PM Blue Jays	@ Rays
	Feeney Field	1:30 PM Red Sox	@ Orioles
	Ayers Field	3:30 PM Cardinals	@ Astros
	Feeney Field	3:30 PM Cubs	@ Mets

WHATS GOIN ON ???**MEN'S MINISTRY**

Band of Brothers meets on Tuesday July 13th & July 27th at 7:00p.m.. They are studying The Driving Force - Living Life at Full Speed!!!. You won't want to miss this exciting fast paced Bible Study designed especially for the fast paced man.

For more info call
Jeff Toepper @ 815-467-8144.

DIVORCE CARE

For divorce care, please contact Judy Anderson at 815-942-8437

Living Manna Food Pantry is open Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday from 9:00 — 10:30 a.m. and Sunday following the evening service.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Adult Bible Study meets 6:30—8:30 p.m. on Wednesday nights at FBC.

Childcare is available.

PRAYER MINISTRY

We would love to pray for you! Contact Audrey Karr @ 815-467-7883, email Karen Blan @ Blan2@netzero.net, or write it on the Prayer Warrior sheet in Sunday School. If you would like to be added to the prayer net, contact Karen.

MIDWEEK CONNECTIONS

All ages welcome! Are you retired, a senior citizen, shift worker or homemaker? Every Thursday at 1:30pm we have a traditional worship service that offers hymns, biblical preaching, testimony, and fellowship. We are well connected! If you would like to connect and transportation is an issue, please contact our church office at 815-467-6846

SPECIAL NEEDS**YOU ARE WONDERFULLY MADE**

YAWM provides an opportunity for persons with special needs to grow emotionally, socially, and spiritually. Families of those with disabilities can come together and be a natural part of church life; enabling everyone to use their gifts for God's glory. See the calendar online at www.fbcchannahon.org. Join us for the next service, July 10 at 5:00pm.

Additionally, a Bible Study for those with special needs meet the **1st Wednesday** of each month at 6:30pm.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

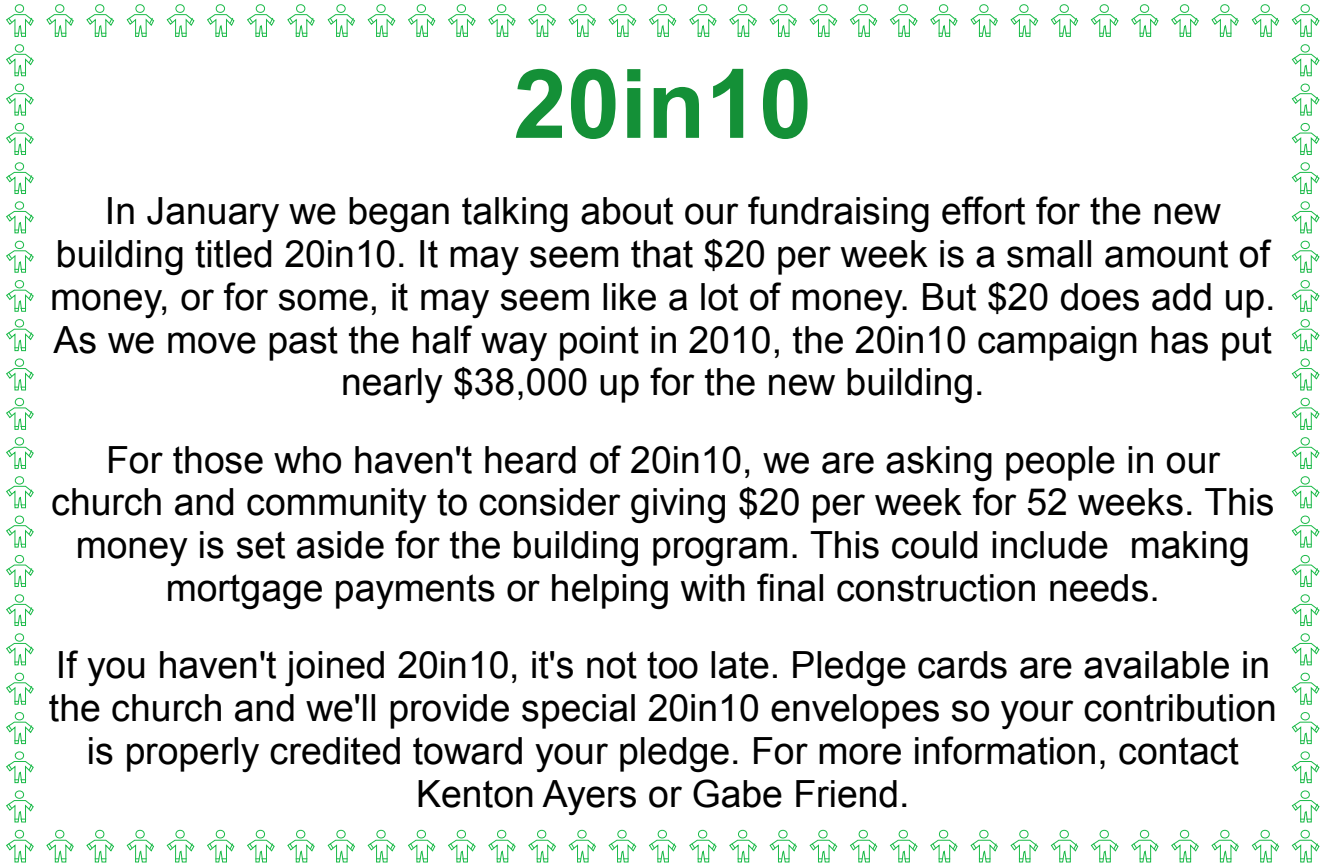
The women will be starting a new Bible Study July 27 at 7:00. For more information contact Harriett Honaker at 815-467-4359

STITCHES OF LOVE

Meets Wednesday at 1:30 to create beautifully crocheted items for a variety of ministerial purposes.

STUDENT MINISTRIES

Jesus Freaks meets Wednesday nights at FBC from 6:30—8:00. For more information contact Andy Terry at 815-325-1788



20in10

In January we began talking about our fundraising effort for the new building titled 20in10. It may seem that \$20 per week is a small amount of money, or for some, it may seem like a lot of money. But \$20 does add up. As we move past the half way point in 2010, the 20in10 campaign has put nearly \$38,000 up for the new building.

For those who haven't heard of 20in10, we are asking people in our church and community to consider giving \$20 per week for 52 weeks. This money is set aside for the building program. This could include making mortgage payments or helping with final construction needs.

If you haven't joined 20in10, it's not too late. Pledge cards are available in the church and we'll provide special 20in10 envelopes so your contribution is properly credited toward your pledge. For more information, contact Kenton Ayers or Gabe Friend.

Singing

Acting

Dancing

Bravo

Coming Soon

Tiny Tots Theatre

Training for the *littlest* Stars!!!

August 2-6th 10-11:30a.m.

ages 3-6

\$60.00 per child

(for more infor contact Ta-Tanisha Jordan 708-601-9337)



July Schedules

8:00	<u>USHERS</u>	10:45
	July 4	Gubbins & Rivera's
Sue G., & Sue R.	July 11	Hedricks & Brett & Sarah
Mike G. & Dennis R.	July 20	Carr Family & Cathy B.
Sue G. & Sue R.	July 27	Mike B & Boys & Luke S.

8:00	<u>NURSERY</u>	10:45
Kim T.	July 4	Joiners/Chris
Destiny M.	July 11	Donna, Connie /Angie, Jodi
Sue G.	July 18	Harriett, Tammy/Amanda, Julia
Juanita	July 25	Mary H., Karen/Kiera,

Leader	<u>CHILDREN'S CHURCH</u>	Helper
James	July 4	Rose
Jess L.	July 11	Sarah
John C.	July 18	Cathy B.
Mindy C.	July 25	You???

Men	Sunday Morning Prayer Warriors	Women
John C./Andy	July 4	Audrey K./ Kay
Wayne/Andy	July 11	Karen/Kay
Gabe/Joe	July 18	Karen/Jenn
Mike B./Joe	July 25	Jenn/Donna