

THE BRIDGE

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The BRIDGE

February 2017

a publication of First Baptist Church at the Singing Bridge



YOUTH Ministry

Clint has been our youth minister for about a year. Having him as a youth minister has really changed my interactions with the church. I am always at church and try to participate in as many youth/church events. Clint has made it to where there is a lot of bonding time for all of the youth.

When we have Sunday school we don't split into middle school and high school. That can become frustrating sometimes. But there is always Sunday Night BS (Bible Study). This is the time where the high schoolers and middle schoolers split up. At 5 o'clock the middle school meets for their Sunday night bible study. At 6 the high schoolers come and all of the youth has dinner together and we practice in the "red room" for Wednesday night worship. High School bible study starts at 7 and goes to 8. It's better to be separated because this is time for the high schoolers to get a lesson without some distractions and it is on a level that's right for high schoolers. Just like the middle schoolers get their lesson.

On Wednesday night worship, we sing at most 2 songs before starting the lesson. When we sing a song, we have a chance to express our musical talents, whether its singing or

playing an instrument. Every student here plays a role in being part of First Baptist Church's Youth. Sometimes things can be frustrating like I said before. Whenever someone feels frustrated, Clint is always willing to listen to your complaining. He tries his hardest to try to fix things and tries to get you to come to church and youth as much as he can.

Whenever you have a good idea for the youth Clint is always willing to listen. Everyone plays an important role. He has said so himself. We have a youth counsel that includes a high school representative, middle school representative, and the "general dude" quote by Clinton Walker. Everything is voted on and requires everyone's opinion about new additions to the youth room such as the mini fridge. We also have a social media coordinator, run by yours truly. You can follow us on Instagram and Facebook.

Instagram-@fbcfrankfortyouth
Facebook-@First Baptist Church Student Ministry

Thank you for all of your support and help!

Thanks for Reading,
Julia Rhorer

What's Inside

- 2 Music Ministry
- 2 Missions Ministry
- 2 Staff
- 3 Calendar
- 4 Children's News
- 5 Pastor Bob's page
- 6 Youth Ministry

FBC ANNOUNCES NEW PAYDAY LENDING MINISTRY

First Baptist Church is thrilled to announce our Payday Lending Ministry Team is preparing to launch our newest missions endeavor to help those caught in predatory loan situations.

Your help is needed to make a successful start!

We are hoping to raise up to \$5,000, initially, to begin the ministry. The plan is for this money to be recycled through our account at Commonwealth Credit Union when our clients pay back the fair loan they would receive from our program. Will you pray about and consider contributing to this new ministry?

If you are still unsure about how this ministry will work, please pick up a two page summary at the front and back entrances of our church. You can also go to our website, fbcfrankfort.org and click on the Payday Lending Ministry Launch link located on the homepage of our site as a scrolling slide which will take you to the same summary page.

Infant Blessings

Addison Grace Conner,
September 30, 2016
Daughter of Katie Wright
& Jamie Conner

In Memorium

Sonny Adkins
Charlotta Helton

ONLINE GIVING – Have you taken part in the EASY sign-up for online giving? Visit fbcfrankfort.org and click the GIVE button to register for online giving, today!



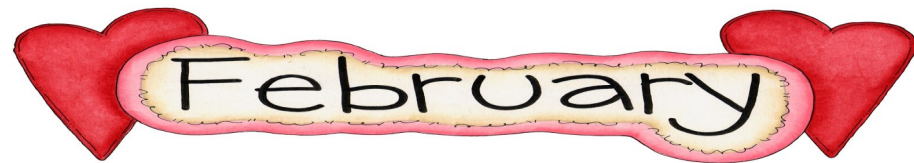
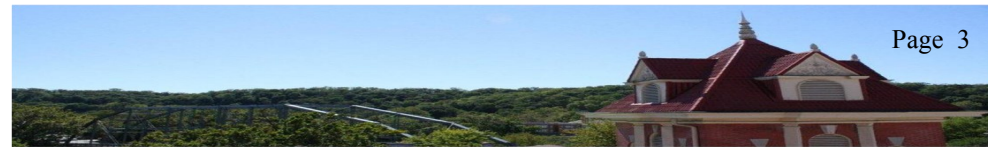
SUNDAY, FEB. 5TH AT 6:00 P. M.

WE WILL BE HAVING OUR 8TH ANNUAL COMPETITION FOR THE BEST CHILI/SOUP.

Family, food, friends, football and inflatable obstacle course!

Please bring new or gently used blankets to donate to the Clothes Closet.

Sign up to bring your favorite Chili/Soup recipe to enter in our Chili/Soup Cook-off. Compete for the coveted Green Jacket award for Judge's Favorite and Peoples' Choice. Signup sheet is on bulletin board outside fellowship hall. Desserts and appetizers are also welcome. Chicken and drinks will be provided.



2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 5:00 pm Meal 5:00 pm Praying the Psalms 5:30 pm Clinic/Clothes Closet 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir	2 6:30 pm Deacon's Meeting	3	4
5 9:45 am Bible Study 10:50 am Worship Service 5:00 pm Youth Activities 6:00 pm Souper Bowl Activities	6	7 12:30 pm Small Group Book Club	8 5:00 pm Meal 5:00 pm Praying the Psalms 5:30 pm Clinic/Clothes Closet 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir	9	10	11
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19 9:45 am Bible Study 10:50 am Morning Worship 5:00 pm Youth Activities	20	21 12:30 pm Small Group Book Club	22 5:00 pm Meal 5:30 pm Clinic/Clothes Closet 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir	23	24	25
26 9:45 am Bible Study 10:50 am Morning Worship 5:00 pm Youth Activities	27 9:30 am Soup Kitchen 6:00 pm Global Women	28				

DEACON OF THE WEEK

Feb. 05 Adam Columbia
Feb. 12 Clay Mason
Feb. 19 Doug Crowe
Feb. 26 Adell Kemper

GREETERS - WORSHIP HOUR

Feb. 05 Don Hines
Feb. 12 Betty Gardner
Feb. 19 Jane Mason
Feb. 26 Stephen Bass

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

Feb. 05 Nursery-2's - Susan Hopkins
3's-K - Sarah Glenn Insko & Jenny Luscher
1st-3rd - Vicky Mitchell & Cynthia Insko

Feb. 12 Nursery-2's - Julia Rhorer
3's-K - Sarah Glenn Insko & Jenny Luscher
1st - 3rd - Amy Thomas & Cynthia Insko

Feb. 19 Nursery-2's - Keyes
3's-K - Donna Roberts & Jenny Luscher
1st-3rd - Joretta Crowe & Cynthia Insko

Feb. 26 Nursery-2's - Frost
3's-K - Laura Stevens & Jenny Luscher
1st-3rd - Julie Roberts & Cynthia Insko

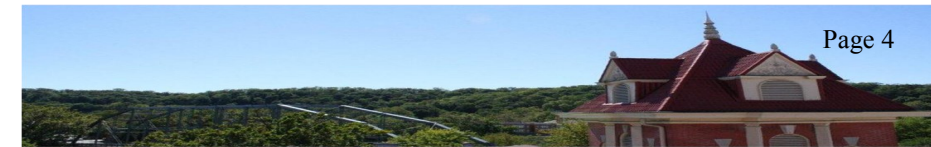
GREETERS - DOWNSTAIRS

Feb. 05 Laura B Branham
Feb. 12 Dan Shouse
Feb. 19 Linda Divine
Feb. 26 Mark & Mason Little



GREETERS - FRONT DOOR

Feb. 05 Jennifer Lewis-Bass
Feb. 12 Mary Hines
Feb. 19 Jo Ann Jenkins
Feb. 26 Tammy Shouse



This month I will be attending an Advanced Godly Play Training in Atlanta. There I will learn more about the faith formation of children and how our Godly Play materials and curriculum that we offer during Children's Worship can continue to nurture the spiritual formation of our children ages 3 through 5th grade.

To prepare for the training I have been asked to write some case studies of my experience with our children in the Godly Play classroom. It has been a joy to recall the insights and lessons I've learned from our FBC children! One story I share is of a 1st grader who listened to the story I told about the prophet Isaiah. One of the pieces of the story is about Isaiah's prophecy that one day God's peace would be so powerful that even the sheep and wolf would be friends and eat together. Later in the session it was time to share our feast (snack) and pray. The 1st grader asked to lead in prayer. "Dear Lord," she said, "thank you for the peacemakers. Watch over them. And help us to be peaceful to all and to love all. We sure need some peace here. Thank you." This sincere and spontaneous prayer was just what my heart needed to prepare me for a week full of controversy and conflict surrounding our recent presidential election and inauguration. Once again, it was a child that showed me what the kingdom of God is like.

Our children's ministry is need of volunteers for Godly Play. We need folks who would agree to be trained by me and Jenny Luscher to tell the stories to the children. Story tellers need not have previous experience teaching. Scripts and supplies and assistant teachers are provided. The class size ranges from 4 to 8 children and varies in age. Please prayerfully consider if God might be calling you to help us sustain this important ministry and to learn from our children in this wonderful way. See me for questions or to come and observe one Sunday and see what it's all about! Be on the lookout for a training opportunity this Spring. I'll have a lot to share when I return from the conference.

- Cynthia

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

If you haven't already, I hope you will pick up a **prayer calendar** at one of the entrances of the church and join us in a month long prayer emphasis. Each day provides a topic and scripture reference that keeps us praying in one accord throughout the next few weeks.

Praying the Psalms continues on Wednesday evenings through Feb 15, 5 - 5:30 p.m. in the classroom across from fellowship hall. All are welcome to join us. No materials or preparation are required.



All adults and adult Sunday School teachers are invited to join Pastor Bob on Wednesday evenings 5:30 - 6:00 p.m. for a discussion and review of the Formations Sunday School lesson for the following Sunday. The group meets in the Keystone classroom inside fellowship hall each week.

Warm peoples' hearts in February with the gift of a warm blanket.

Bring a new or gently used blanket for one or more of the following : Clothes Closet, Owsley County Emma Quire Center or Moroccan refugee friends.

Donations for the blankets for Morocco should be in the form of a check made out to CBF KY with "Morocco Blanket" on the memo line. Blankets are \$7 each.

Other donations for local help should be left in the basket provided near fellowship hall.

John 13:34

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another



Global women will meet on Monday, February 27, 6-8 p.m. at the church. We will be making simple fleece blankets together. All women of all ages are welcome to join us. Contact Cynthia if you would like to bring soup or sandwiches or dessert to share.



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Lois Summers
 Pianist

Timmy Campbell
 Preschool Director

Anthony Hager
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Opportunities to Serve.

I hope your 2017 is off to a great start! This has been one of the busiest Januarys I can ever recall. Our church never sleeps, and it shouldn't. We have so many ongoing ministries and I am excited about each of them. We placed an Opportunity for Service survey in our bulletin recently and then have had copies available on the table in the front entryway. I am grateful for all of you who have taken one and filled it out and returned it. If you have not done so, please take the time to pick one up and prayerfully consider the area(s) of service you can fulfill! Just imagine what we could accomplish if all of us utilized the gifts God has entrusted to us for His service! Take your place now!

New Handchimes. The past few weeks have been filled with planning for the months ahead in the music ministry. Music has been chosen for each ministry team and I'm looking forward to the challenges that lie ahead for each team. I'm also excited that we will be adding a third octave of handchimes to

our current two octave set which will allow our Handbell Ensemble to expand its repertoire! I hope you will hear them soon.

Familiar Hymns . During January the Sanctuary Choir sang very familiar hymn texts to new tunes. Some of you may wonder why? The answer is that we occasionally sing texts to new tunes so that the text may come to life in a new way! Familiarity sometimes is the hymns worst enemy. We become so familiar that we do not pay attention to what we are singing. New tunes offer freshness that hopefully causes us to reflect more on the message being sung. It is not meant to replace beloved tunes that mean so much to us, but rather wake us up to a new understanding of what the text means. I hope you will avail yourself of the text printed in the bulletin each week of the anthem being sung. It is there for your contemplation. Hearing something that passes quickly sometimes fails to deliver the message. The text is what is most important and the music is meant to give it life and deepen its meaning. I think you know I love hymns . They have been important all of my life. I hope they are to you as well!



Due to an increase in personnel expenses combined with reimbursement cuts, the Frankfort Regional Medical Center has come to the conclusion they will no longer be able to provide the same financial support they have in the past for the Mission Frankfort Clinic. Effective May 1, 2017, their monthly allocation will be cut in half for the remainder of the year. Before anyone becomes overly frustrated at the hospital, be reminded that they have supported the efforts of our clinic on a financial basis for more than eleven years. They also assist us through the volunteerism of many of their talented workforce. We are extremely grateful for all of the assistance from our local hospital. Now is the time to research new grant opportunities and have faith that the Lord will provide for our future. You know how valuable the MFC is to our community and how thousands of people without insurance have been treated. Let us pray for new avenues of financial assistance so this vital ministry can continue.

Pray for **DANA NICKELS** – our new Clinical Administrator in the Mission Frankfort Clinic. She is off to an excellent start in her new position. We are blessed to have her on board as she brings a wealth of talent and experience that will help the clinic immensely in the coming days, months and years. Pray for **VANESSA GARLAND** – Director of the Emma Quire Mission Center and the new **EMMA QUIRE MISSION CENTER BOARD**. The calendar for mission teams coming to make a difference in Owsley County is filling up nicely for 2017 and we are blessed to have Vanessa taking care of things. **THANK YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR SUPPORT OF FBC MISSIONS!!**



End of the Year Financial Report

The final figures are in for 2016, and I want to thank you for your generosity. Your attentiveness to our finances and faithful giving each week humble and please me.

The 2016 Budget was \$953,167. Given through tithes, offerings, income from trusts and fees totaled \$946,651. This represents 99.3% of our goal.

I am overwhelmed by your generosity. Your faithfulness makes it possible for us to meet the needs of those who are struggling to survive and to strengthen the faith of those who look to our church for spiritual education and guidance.

I am amazed we came so close to meeting the budget given the fact 32 precious and faithful members have gone to heaven in the last two years. You are continuing their good work by following their example and making sacrifices to compensate for their absence. Thank you!

Sermon Excerpt

Recently, I preached on Philippians 3:1-11. In this passage, Paul wrote about what he gave up to follow Christ, and it was a lot.

This brilliant man had climbed the ladder of success and was in an enviable position. He was on top of the world and wielded a lot of power.

All this changed when he had that encounter with the resurrected Jesus on the road to Damascus. His eyesight was temporarily taken from him, but his vision greatly improved.

What had been important to him, climbing the ladder of religious, political and social success, was replaced with becoming a disciple of Jesus. No longer was life about him--his pedigree, ancestry, status, intelligence, notoriety, goodness or dreams. Life was about knowing and following Jesus. It was about using his talents, skills, abilities, influence and intellect to make hope visible for the many people who were carrying heavy burdens and struggling to survive.

Saul's turn in a new direction was so dramatic it was as if he had been born again. The only appropriate thing to do was to take a new name, which he did. Saul became Paul and devoted his life to spreading the gospel and planting churches.

I don't know that I have ever met anyone who gave up as much as Paul to be a disciple. How hard must it have been for Paul to let go of what he had achieved and accumulated? Did he have second thoughts and consider turning back?

If he did have second thoughts, by the time he wrote this letter to his dear friends in Philippi they were gone. He assured his readers that following Jesus was the best decision he ever made. He had no regrets.

“Whatever was to my profit, I now consider loss for the sake of Christ.” (Philippians 3:7)

In the midst of turmoil, which there was no shortage of in Paul's new life, he was at peace. This is what having the right values and priorities and pursuing the noblest dreams will do for you. It will give you peace of mind even in the midst of adversity.

Do you think your values and priorities are focused upon the most important things in life? The New Year is a good time to ponder this question.

Is it possible you are pursuing the wrong things? Have you misplaced your values and priorities? Have you climbed the ladder of success only to discover, as a friend once said, it was leaning on the wrong wall?

Is God pleased with how you are using the talents, skills, abilities, resources and influence you have? Do you need to change direction as you move into 2017?

I read about a burglar who went into a store after hours. His purpose was not to take anything but to create chaos at the store the next morning.

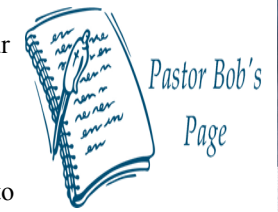
He spent the night changing the price tags on most of the items. He took the higher prices off of the most expensive products and replaced them with the lower price tags throughout the store.

The next day when customers arrived, they had the time of their lives. They quickly snatched up some unbelievable bargains before the owner realized what had happened.

It was said of one of our country's richest citizens in the last century, industrialist and entrepreneur J. Paul Getty, that he knew the price of everything and the value of nothing.

Could this be said of you? Have you misplaced the price tags?

Ponder this question and pray about it.



Until Sunday,
 Bob