



First Baptist Church
Grove City

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JUNE NEWSLETTER

Pastor's Message



Dr. Jerry Neal
Senior Pastor

Dr. Dave Earley
Lead Pastor

Bryan Corbett
Associate Pastor

David Berna
Visitation Pastor

Jeff Bane
Outreach Pastor

Mike D'Attoma
Assistant Pastor

Joshua Wright
Children's Pastor

Robert Stroup
Business Administrator

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www.firstgc.org

The ATM at my bank was out of order. Somewhat put out, I went inside the bank to a teller. She was friendly and ready to help me. When she asked for my ID, it caused me to pause. "The ATM never asks for my ID," I complained. But she pointed out she is not an ATM. She said, "My name is Maria. Are you having a good day?" I quickly saw a big difference in my banking experience. The ATM cares less if I'm having a good day.

Chris and Jen Thompson were honored Saturday at the Upward Celebration for the tremendous contributions they have made to the Upward Ministry. Thirty years ago I met Chris Thompson for the first time as a bank teller at the corner of Hoover Road and Columbus Street. He was cordial, personal, and friendly. Sometime later he came to our church on Kingston Avenue and gave his heart to the Lord. I like to think the time I spent building a rapport with Chris made it easier for him to come to our church.

We finish the series this week on "Who's Your One?" I have prayed with many of our people about those they are praying for to be saved. Many are determined to share their stories of salvation with friends and family. One widow invited her neighbor and, because of that single invitation, six people have given their hearts to Jesus.

We are moving on to preach other sermon series, but don't give up on reaching your ONE for Jesus. And if the line at the ATM is long, go inside, since there are tellers like Chris and Maria waiting to talk to you. They are not machines; they are people. And Jesus gave His life for them!

Pastor Jerry



If I asked you to identify the largest people group in the world needing to hear the gospel message about the love of Jesus Christ, how would you answer? If your answer is the Muslim World,

you would be right. There are over 2.25 billion Muslims in the world who need to find Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. To that end, our church is developing some ministries with the goal of reaching out to Muslims, including a Life Group and a course, English as a Second Language (ESL) that is set to launch this fall.

And so it was an interesting surprise when my visitation partner and I called on a couple who had visited our church for our recent Sunday Evening Missions Emphasis event. They filled out a new visitor card, and, armed with that, we stopped by their home in Galloway. We caught them at dinner, but they were gracious enough to invite us in and to tell us they were missionaries to Muslims right here in Columbus! They serve with the ABWE Mission Board out of Pennsylvania.

As we talked, one of the things the husband mentioned was his belief that, because the Church as a whole has not gone to the Muslim World to share the Gospel, God has brought them here to hear it. While I don't necessarily agree that God brought them here because of a failing of the Church, I do agree they need to hear the Gospel!

Thus, I'm praying that God will give each of us boldness to share the love of Christ with one of the Muslims we all see as we go about our lives right here in Grove City. And I'm praying that they would come to our church and fill out a new visitor card because they want to know more about their Savior and how to serve Him.

After all, I would much rather knock on the door of a former Muslim who now knows Christ than the door of a missionary to Muslims. And you and I can make that happen.

**Pastor Andy Kovalchik,
Assistant Visitation Pastor**

Members' Ministry

"I know pain, and I am sorry you hurt." These are words I will never forget.

As I was doing rehab, there was a middle-aged man who had shattered his legs in a freak accident. After a few years and seven surgeries, a few steel rods, and a couple of new knees he was learning to walk all over again. The look on his face of pain was excruciating. The pain made him gray as the therapist tried to help him walk. A few feet away from him was a young man, wheelchair-bound and almost unrecognizable as a human being since he had suffered burns over 75 percent of his body. One hand was gone, and he had two fingers on the other. His face seemed like a canvas of graphs clinging to one another. He hadn't healed much since he was burned, but he moved his wheelchair over to the man, laid his fingers on him, and said these words "I know pain, and I am sorry you hurt."

I sat in awe as this incredible scene unfolded. The young man told the story of how the ones who were supposed to love him, protect him and provide for him had almost killed him. You see he had suffered greatly at the hands of his parents. About five years ago, they wanted to be free of their child and they set him on fire as he slept. My heart sank as I heard these words, and then the young man told his new friend how God had spared him and has great plans for him. He told how every other day he gets to come in here and meet people, talk to them about Jesus, and comfort others as he has been comforted. There are no words that can describe the emotions of this day. No way I can ever forget the words I heard, the face I saw, and the presence of the Holy Spirit I felt. This young man knew great pain, but he knows greater joy—a joy that is beyond skin deep. This joy, this peace, this hope is found only in Jesus Christ.

I understand we all have pain. Pain can be a game changer if we let it. We can surrender to that pain or choose to surrender that pain to God every day (this is my prayer daily).

I made a vow to not complain about how I feel, for I don't know pain like this young man. He suffered physically and emotionally at the hands of his parents, but in that pain Jesus rescued him. For Jesus knows his pain. The same Jesus that knows his pain, knows my pain and your pain. He took all of it—the physical, emotional, and spiritual pain upon the cross—and said "it is finished" declaring victory over it all for us. For by His stripes we are healed.

Wherever you are in life, know this Jesus cares deeply for you and has great plans for you. He knows pain like no other, and He gives joy everlasting, hope for today and tomorrow, and peace that passes all understanding.

Are you missing joy, hope, or peace? These are only found in Christ Jesus.

"I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. You will have suffering in this world. Be courageous! I have conquered the world." **John 16:33, CSB**

In Christ,

**Pastor Brian Kinnett,
Members' Minister**

Friday
JUNE 14th
7:00 pm

**BRIAN FREE &
ASSURANCE**

SINGING NEWS FAN AWARDS
Favorite Male Singer
Favorite Young Artist – 2 Times
Favorite Tenor – 8 Times
Favorite Album – For God So Loved

\$15 Tickets Available at the Welcome Center

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

JONES, Jo	06/01	MEYERINK, Robert	06/23
UPTON, Misty	06/01	EVANS, Barbara	06/23
HUGHES, Jeff	06/01	O'DONNELL, Donald	06/24
BARBRE, Josiah	06/01	WILLS, Marlene	06/24
HAUGHN, Raymond	06/02	GRAVES, Paul	06/24
KINNETT, Faith	06/02	BERTRAM, Mary	06/25
KUHLMAN, Richard	06/02	HIGGINS, Melissa	06/25
LOVE, Sherri	06/02	HAMBLEY, Sarah	06/25
WELCH, Hayden	06/02	EBERST, Minerva	06/26
BISHOP, Hope	06/03	HEIBY, Joe	06/26
GIFFORD, Lee	06/03	BURNELL, James	06/26
HILLMAN, Talmer	06/03	CHANNEL, Vick	06/27
WARNER, Jeffrey	06/04	KNAPP, Shirley	06/28
BERRY, Brenda	06/04	WARD, Dwight	06/28
STENGER, Deanna	06/04	WEISS, Kevin	06/28
HILYARD, Bethany	06/04	GREEN, Don	06/28
SOBONY, Tony	06/05	HEJDUK, Katie	06/29
DUNCAN, Leigh-Anne	06/06	CAIN, Chase	06/29
HOLLINGSWORTH, Greg	06/06	CHADWICK, Robert	06/30
RATLIFF, Audrea	06/07	GEBHARDT, Sophie	06/30
MCCONNAUGHEY, Brett	06/08	GRIFFITH, Dawn	06/30
STEWART, Desiree	06/08	GRIFFITH, Olivia	06/30
SHOEMAKER, Kason	06/08	GRIFFITH, Julia	06/30
TYLER, Emily	06/09		
JAMES, Rachel	06/10		
LANE, Miles	06/10		
MARTIN, Ron	06/10		
STEWART, Judith	06/10		
ANDREWS, Lucas	06/10		
GRAHAM, Glenn	06/10		
VERNON, Debi	06/10		
SUHAYDA, Tim	06/11		
ERNST, Larry	06/11		
HAMMOND, Jane	06/12		
PRINCE, Linda	06/12		
GAMMELL, Charlene	06/12		
LEHMAN, Scott	06/13		
NORTH, Adrienne	06/13		
VIRGIN, Jeremy	06/13		
CRAMER, LeeAnn	06/14		
GABRIEL, Ron	06/15		
KINNER, Joanna	06/15		
GAINES, Brenda	06/15		
ELLIOTT, John	06/16		
STOLL, Avery	06/16		
LEETH, Gene	06/17		
LOGSDON, Ron	06/17		
BOSWELL, Carla	06/18		
MCFARLAND, Jim	06/18		
DOLCH, Michelle	06/18		
CARSON, Sarah	06/18		
BARBER, Aaron	06/19		
WILHELM, Valerie	06/19		
SOSA, Jeremy	06/20		
SHEWALTER, Susan	06/20		
PULLINS, Betty	06/22		
BARTLETT, Gary	06/22		
ZEMBITZKY, Mindy	06/22		
HILER, Debby	06/22		
CROPPER, Chris	06/23		

From Our Worship Leader

Prime Time

Excursions

August 1-2



Join us for an exciting two-day trip to **Sight and Sound Theatre in Lancaster, PA**. Seating is first come, first serve. Details are being finalized. More information will be forthcoming.

Please contact Bryan Corbett or Sharon Myers at 614-991-0205 for reservations. Payment is due at the time reservation is made. Adults Only.

Pastor Bryan Corbett
bryan@firstgc.org

Women of FBC continued from page 5

Summer Thursday Morning Bible Study: Beginning Thursday, June 6th, at 9:30 AM, in the Fellowship Hall. We will be studying *God of Covenant: A Study of Genesis 12-50*, by Jen Wilkin. Discover how God orchestrates everything for His glory and the good of His people, and see how the God of creation and covenant is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Contact Barb Lovingshimer at 614-875-4613 or 614-551-9781.

REFIT: Come for a fun cardio dance class that will fit YOU, no matter your fitness level! We meet every Thursday from 7:00 to 8:00 PM, in Genesis Auditorium. Please contact Carla Wells at 614-579-1237 for more information.

Craft Day: We will get together again on Friday, June 21st from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM to work on any craft project you have. You can also come and watch someone create or learn a new craft. Contact KyleAnn Williams at 614-440-5953, with any questions.

Single Senior Ladies' Tea: Save the date for Saturday, July 27th, at 12:00 PM. Please join us for an afternoon of tea, a light lunch, and an interesting program. Sign-ups begin Sunday, June 30th. Contact Grace Herderick at 614-875-0366, for more information.

Women's Retreat 2019: Registration will begin soon for our Fall Retreat to Oglebay Resort in Wheeling, WV. Mark your calendars for November 1-2 and be praying about who you can invite!

Neighbors Helping Neighbors is a volunteer-based initiative to assist people in our area who are seniors and/or struggling with disabilities, with projects around the home. If you are available to assist in any way or if you know someone who is in need of this ministry, please contact Becky Grundei at 614-947-9296 or Sherri Love at 614-871-3053.

Trustee Ministry

Reflecting God's magnificence, spring has ever so slowly returned. The welcome warmth of the sun streaming into our lives always produces an inward joy and cheerfulness; watching busy squirrels dart up and down tree trunks, shrubs coming alive with flowers, bunnies nesting, the sound of birds chirping in the distance, warm starry nights, and the aroma of freshly cut grass bring the refreshing thoughts of a new season's beginning.

"Yours Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor." **1 Chronicles 29:11**

The Trustees purchased a 2016 Ford F-250, standard cab, 8' bed, 8-cylinder, 6.2 V-8 truck. It had 15,000 plus miles on it and came with a 10' snowplow.

A contract was signed with an area vendor to deep-clean the kitchen. This has been completed. The large range, oven, hood, backsplash—and the metal appliances will be cleaned, as will the floor. This will be done on an annual basis.

Denny Dalton's asphalt company has completed the repairs, crack filling, sealing, and striping the main campus parking lot and the KKDC parking lot.

Gravel is beginning to be a problem in the ditch between the Upward Field and the parking lot. Slinger Jones Gravel will be called. A 20-ton load of gravel will be delivered and slung into the ditch. Water stands following each rain—and so the gravel will be spread out to find out if more is needed. The water needs to drain out beneath the gravel. Wood 2 x 6 boards have been added to the runners on the bottom of the Upward Field Bleachers.

An estimate for the reroofing of the KKDC roof was received from Burns Roofing. The roof has deteriorated to the point of screws almost poking through the rubber. The contractor has suggested taking the roof down to the bare minimum. There is a new product, which might be considered, that puts a new coating on flat roofs and could possibly give the upper flat roof another 15 years of service. Bids are being shopped at this time.

Two 15-passenger buses passed inspection. The 48-passenger bus did not; steps needed repair and decals needed to be put onto the windows. The work has since been completed.

The fountains have been reinstalled and turned on in the ponds on both sides of the entrance drive.

The front entrance of FBC was pressure-washed. Both sides of the front canopy are scheduled to be repainted.

Cracks will be repaired and leveled. The front sidewalks will be pressure-washed with heavy detergent to remove any visual residue stain which resulted from several families of geese attending recent Weekly Services.

The yard crew is ready.

Phyllis McCloy,
Trustee Ministry Secretary

Women of FBC

Women's Fellowship Luncheon: Saturday, June 8th, at 12:00 PM, in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your favorite sandwich, salad, or dessert to share. Contact Pam Leeth at 614-507-6306, with any questions.

The Living Stones: We are currently studying the teaching of Jesus in the book of Matthew. Matthew's portrayal of Jesus as a King means He has authority But Jesus' authority is exercised with gentleness, humility, and service toward those who trust Him. Matthew gives numerous glimpses of the heart of Christ. Please join us on Sundays at 10:45 AM in room A-194. Contact Sharon Myers at 614-562-2600 for more information.

Surviving Grief with Hope: Come and be supported on your journey through grief in dealing with the loss of a loved one, a marriage, one's health, a job, and more. To arrange a meeting or ask questions, please contact Barb Lovingshimer at 614-875-4613 or 614-551-9781.

Women of Faith Bible Study: We study the Bible because God's Word is infallible, complete, authoritative, sufficient for all our needs, and accomplishes what it promises. We meet bi-weekly on Monday at 1:00 PM in room C-146. For more information, contact Mindy Stith at 614-871-4812.

Wednesday Night Women's Bible Study: Our summer study will be through the minor prophets. Please join us at 6:45 PM in the Student Center. Just bring along your Bible and a notebook for journaling. Contact Ronda Kinnett at 614-313-7871 for more information.

M.O.M. (Moms on Mission): Want to come together for encouragement with other FBC moms with children ages birth through 6th grade? Our NEW study will begin Wednesday, June 5th at 6:45 PM in room S-106. For more information, contact Bethany Heath at 614-323-9721.

Book Club: Will meet Thursday, June 6th from 7:00 to 8:30 PM, at Cimi's to discuss, the book, *Greeting from the Flipside*, by Rene Gutteridge. Join us again on July 11th from 7:00 to 8:30 PM at Olive Garden to discuss, *With You Always*, by Jody Hedlund. Please contact Kari Jones at 614-589-7557 for more information.

Tuesday Evening Bible Study: Beginning Tuesday, June 18th, at 7:00 PM in room C-145. We will begin the book, *The Apostles' Creed*, by Matt Chandler. During this 12-week study we will discuss essential Christian doctrines and beliefs that make up the foundation of our faith. Contact Debbie Watts at 614-530-1463 for additional information.

Women of FBC continued on page 4

Dear FBC Family,

I was recently listening to a new hymn, originally written by Matt Papa, but recorded by Shane and Shane called, *His Mercy is More*, and it encouraged my heart, and I wanted to share the words with you:

*What love could remember
No wrongs we have done
Omniscient all-knowing
He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea
Without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many
His mercy is more*

*Praise the Lord
His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness
New every morn'
Our sins they are many
His mercy is more*

*What patience would wait
As we constantly roam
What Father so tender
Is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest
The vilest the poor
Our sins they are many
His mercy is more*

*What riches of kindness
He lavished on us
His blood was the payment
His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt
We could never afford
Our sins they are many
His mercy is more*

My prayer is that no matter what you are walking through—that you would remember—His Mercy is More. Be encouraged, Church!

I also wanted to take a minute and introduce our Summer Interns!

Caden Andrick is a student at Cedarville University.

Kaleigh Hayes is a student at Marion Tech.

Bryce Stamey is a student at Liberty University.

As you see them on campus—introduce yourself and make them feel super welcome!!

Blessings, Church!

Sola Deo Gloria,

**Pastor Mike D'Attoma,
Assistant Pastor**



Men's Corner

The next Men's Fellowship Breakfast will be Saturday, June 1st, at 7:30 AM. Dave Poole will be sharing his testimony. Below is the testimony of Scott Molino from the May breakfast.

I grew up in a very loving family and was raised Catholic. I was involved in my church as an altar boy for many years and will always embrace being Catholic. I always had God in my life, however I did not realize or pay attention to the signs that were all around me until I experienced them in a drastic way.

One of the toughest times in my life and career was when I was in a position to purchase the family business. It was a unique situation as the company that I was purchasing it from did not want me to have the entire agency. They wanted me to purchase a piece and break the other part up to meet their goals. I had a huge responsibility to the employees who worked there as well as in acknowledging that this had previously been my father's business. It was a huge financial commitment that put an extreme amount of stress on me and my family.

One night while I was at my office, everyone had left for the day and I was walking around making sure everything was locked up. I was trying to figure out how I was going to put all the pieces together to make this transition happen. As I was walking back to my office and almost feeling defeated, something caught my eye. As I looked over, I saw a reflection of Jesus in the window of one of the doors. It was a matter of seconds yet clear as can be—as if He was standing there saying, “You're not alone.” I immediately called my wife and told her about what had happened. It was hard for me to explain the feeling of support I felt. I did not understand. That moment is what started my journey to dig deeper into my faith.

A few months later, after visiting different churches and experiencing different ways to worship, my wife showed me a picture that her mother had kept in her Bible when she was a child. It was a picture of Jesus knocking on a door that did not have a doorknob for Him to open. The relevance of that picture was very powerful to me. My wife then explained that Jesus was knocking at my door and it was time for me to let Him in. After visiting many churches, we went back to the church I grew up in and I kneeled down to pray. After mass, I told my wife that when I was praying, I opened the door and that is when I asked Jesus to be my Savior.

**God Bless,
Pastor David Berna**

Notes of Appreciation

Our sincere thanks to our loving church family for the beautiful flowers for the loss of my husband, Bob Leonard. Bless the ladies who prepared and served the meal. It was great and gave us time to visit. I found myself looking forward to the many cards and God's encouraging messages. To the folks in Genesis, thank you from the bottom of my heart for all your hard work. God bless you!

**Joanne Leonard and Family
Tim and Sandy Leonard and Bobbie, Greg, and Isabel Hively**

Vacation Bible School—July 7-11th

There are still plenty of opportunities to serve in VBS 2019. Please make a special note of the schedule change this year. Our program will begin on Sunday evening and conclude on Thursday evening of that week.

Please contact Pastor Josh Wright at josh@firstgc.org or at 614-991-0205 to discover where you may fit in!

My View From The Back Of The Pew

*“Train a child in the way he should go,
and when he is old, he will not turn from it.”*
Proverbs 22:6

She calls me “Ladybug,” I believe because she doesn't remember my name. I met her the day we moved in our office building about nine years ago. I often see her make a purchase from our lunchroom vending machine. Apparently, the building she works in next door does not offer such fine dining options.

As our conversations moved past the standard greetings, I found she is raising her nephew due to her sister's unexpected death. Since he is the same age as Enzo, we found common ground. Both Enzo and Darius play football. Both could make better grades. Both believe Ohio State's coach will come ask them to play any day now.

She works in the building housing Vital Statistics. A while back, Denise was bemoaning her busy office. She stated the law changed allowing adoptees to see their “real” Birth Certificate. I related that, as an adoptee, I can see how some might want to know, but I do not as I have enough crazy relatives without feeling a need to seek out more.

Last year, when my marital status changed, so did my living arrangements. With my Birth Certificate safely in a moving box somewhere, I needed a copy. I made the short walk next door to obtain it. The guard was locking the door, but a familiar voice said, “It's OK, let Ladybug in, please!” Denise quickly took my check and simple paperwork and handed it to a co-worker. Before I had a chance to say a word, she told him, “She wants her regular Birth Certificate! She has enough crazy relatives!”

I certainly do not condone sharing personal info with complete strangers, but my friendship with Denise has encouraged me to be a little bolder with acquaintances. I may not know even their full name, but Jesus does. I figure if we build a friendship, God can use our small conversations to let me ask if they know Him. I was happy to find that Denise does, and we will see each other in Heaven someday. She will probably still call me Ladybug. As long as Jesus finds our names in His Book, I'm okay with it.



**Blessings,
Cindy Matlock**