



First Baptist Church
Grove City

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OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

PASTOR'S MESSAGE



Dr. Dave Earley
Lead Pastor

Dr. Jerry Neal
Pastor Emeritus

Bryan Corbett
Worship Pastor

Dr. John Foster
Discipleship Pastor

David Berna
Visitation Pastor

Jeff Bane
Outreach Pastor

Joshua Wright
Children's Pastor

Brian Kinnett
Members' Minister

Robert Stroup
Business Administrator

Andi Earley
Office Manager

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www.firstgc.org

Sharon and I recently moved out of our house where we lived for 25 years. The stress of selling, buying, and closing was painful. The pain was more overwhelming for Sharon than myself. She is much more sentimental than I am. So many things went to Goodwill. Bags and bags were carried out. It finally hit her when she came to her wedding dress, 45 years old. It hung in a spare bedroom on the wall as a conversation piece. To my surprise, it is now on sale at the thrift store!

Our new condo doesn't have nearly as much room. However, there is much more space on the ground floor where I live. We do have a guest room upstairs, but I don't climb those stairs to see if we have a guest. The convenience of having the bedroom and office on the first floor made the transition easy for me. Sharon says she feels guilty not working as much. In our old house she was cleaning three levels daily.

Some people wait until they are forced to make changes in their lives. I believe when you see the inevitable, you greet it and accommodate it. That is true of taking a new title at FBC as Pastor Emeritus. I can't do what I used to in the church. But thanks to Pastor Earley's great leadership, I can support him as his number one fan.

As Pastor Emeritus, I will be speaking once a month in Genesis and once a month in the Neal Auditorium. I will be working with our Deacon and Deaconess teams in member care. Wednesday Night Bible Study will still be my responsibility both in person and online. I truly feel blessed at age 74, that I'm still able to serve and that Pastor Earley wants me involved. Make no mistake, I place myself under the authority of our Lead Pastor. We are very blessed to have his leadership.

After Sharon disposed of her wedding dress of her own volition, I felt I was home free to get rid of a few things, like a glass "pig" which had been in my way for 45 years. I dropped it in a bag—it broke. I hid the bag. End of story. Oh no! Even though I never hear Sharon speak of that pig, pet that pig, nor shine that pig, all of a sudden, "where is my pig?" She had it, so she says, since she was a baby. Our grandson, Perry, glued it back together.

This has been a month of change. We moved into our condo with fewer possessions. I'm surprised that we can do with less. When you have Jesus you don't need as much stuff as you think you do. One day we will say goodbye to it all. In that day we will downsize one last time only to inherit much more than we could imagine. By then maybe we can let go of our glass pig!

Pastor Jerry Neal
Pastor Emeritus

MEMBERS' MINISTRY

Whenever the enemy comes against us, remember these words: **Our God Is Able!** Stop living in fear, start living in the strength of our God, by faith.

This war has been won. Jesus declared, "It is finished," and He alone holds the keys to life. It is time we place all of our faith in Him.

God is able to deliver from our enemy and from ourselves.
God is able to save our marriages.
God is able to save our children.
God is able to save our friends.
God is able to save our community.
God is able to save our nation.
God is able to heal our bodies.
God is able to heal our hearts.
God alone is able to save our souls.
God is able to do all things we say are impossible!

What area of your life do you need God to do what only He can do?

I need God in every area of my life, for He does things far more excellent and exceedingly abundantly more than we can ask or imagine. Turn your cares, your worries, your hurts, your fears over to Him and start living the life God has called us to.

God's Word says this!

For this reason, I kneel before the Father from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named. I pray that he may grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with power in your inner being through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. I pray that you, being rooted and firmly established in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the length and width, height and depth of God's love, and to know Christ's love that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who is able to do above and beyond all that we ask or think according to the power that works in us — to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all.

Ephesians 3:14-21

In Christ,

Pastor Brian Kinnett
Online Pastor and Members' Minister



GriefShare meets at FBC on Sundays from 4:00-6:00 PM. We are meeting in the Fellowship Hall or online if you prefer. If you have suffered the death of someone special to you, let us join you in your journey through the grieving process. Please contact Barb Lovingshimer at 614-551-9781 for more information.

TRUSTEE MINISTRY

Enjoy God's marvelous works and the Autumn blessings so abundantly showered over us. Cloudless blue skies of Indian Summer are rapidly approaching and His colorful handiwork will soon be resplendent in every direction.

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.
Psalm 150:6.

Transitioning from summer to fall has resulted in a flurry of activities for the Trustees.

FBC Campus

Mowing equipment has been winterized.

Building furnaces and air conditioning units have received annual fall maintenance inspections.

Shatter-resistant film was installed over the glass of exterior windows and doors in the Children's wing for security purposes.

Annual bus inspections (2021) have been completed.

The garage roof was repaired—shingles replaced.

Outdoor electrical outlet covers were upgraded and replaced.

Two cameras were replaced on the outside of the building.

A front door was repaired as a result of wind damage.

King's Kids Day Care

The furnaces and air conditioning units at KKDC have received annual fall maintenance inspections.

Downspouts and sump pump outlets were also repaired last month.

KKDC's north and west outside basement walls have been sealed. A drainpipe was also installed at the base of the walls which empties into the sump pump curb outlet.

Baptist Builders

The Trustees partnered with Baptist Builders in the repair and reinforcement of the outdoor stage used for Drive-in church and other events.

The Trustees also partnered with Baptist Builders at Seneca Lake in re-shingling a cabin roof, sealing a floating dock, replacing a 25' wide/120' long deck, and painting the long wall of the two-story cabins.

Phyllis McCloy
Trustee Ministry Secretary

NOTES OF APPRECIATION

To our church family,

In the name of Jesus we bless you all. So thankful for your prayers and cards and visits through this season of life. God's grace is sufficient for each day. He gives strength, joy, and laughter in the midst of what appears to be a time of suffering and despair. He is so good!

Tom and Linda Matlock

Women of FBC

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

Join us Saturday, October 10 at 9:00 AM for a prayer-focused time of fellowship. We will be praying for unsaved family members, health issues, schools (students and teachers), our church (pastors, leaders, and members), addictions, human trafficking, America, and our leaders, Women's Ministry and more! Once again, we would like to bless you with a catered meal. Please RSVP to Ronda Kinnett at 614-313-7871 or ronda@firstgc.org by October 5 so we can account for seating. If you have a special request for gluten-free or allergens, please let us know.

LIVING STONES LIFE GROUP

Ladies, if you are hungry for the Word of God, we invite you to stop in at the Living Stones Life Group at 10:30 AM Sundays in room G-101 for an in-depth, verse-by-verse Bible study. We have a very diverse age group so you will feel very welcomed. We are looking forward to meeting you. If you have questions, please call Sharon Myers at 614-562-2600.

CRAFT DAY

The October Craft Day is scheduled as a 2-day event (October 16-17). For now, we will keep it that way on the calendar. To participate, you must RSVP to KyleAnn Williams at 614-440-5953. We will have only 20, six-foot tables set up with only 1 person per table. Masks are recommended, no shared meals or tools, and no children. So, dig out that project that has been calling to you to finish it and bring it in October!

GIRLS' NIGHT OUT

On Tuesday, October 6 at 6:00 PM we will try one more outside dinner together and hope for good weather. Meet us at the shelter house at First Baptist and bring your own dinner. We had a great time last month. Can't wait to see you there! Contact Jodi Butcher at 614-620-6380 for more information.

LADIES' CLASS

How we all miss being together on Sunday morning, and we still like to see each other and study together. We are continuing our third lunch in the shelter house on Saturday, October 17 at 12:30 PM. We will be in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, November 21 at 11:00 AM. We eat our meal together and then play some games—observing social distancing. Now, we are adding a class on Thursday nights. You can bring your own dinner and eat there, or just come and listen to the lesson. We welcome guests and new members for these events. Stay connected with us and call if you have any

questions. Barb Lovingshimer at 614-551-9781, Mindy Rucker at 614-595-3054, or Kathy Yencer at 614-425-8608.

TUESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

We are beginning a new study on October 27 at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Join us as we enter a study of 1 and 2 Kings. Our book is *Trustworthy* by Lysa TerKeurst. Please contact Debbie Watts at 614-530-1463 for more information.

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

We begin meeting in person on October 15 from 9:30 to 11:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. We will be studying *Counter Culture* by Matt Chandler. Childcare is provided. Please contact Kay Hardman at kayhardman@gmail.com or call 614-323-6891 for more information.

Blessings,

Ronda Kinnett
Women's Ministry Director

AN EVENING of SOUTHERN GOSPEL MUSIC
First Baptist Church of Grove City - 3301 Orders Rd., Grove City, OH

FRIDAY, NOV. 6th @ 7pm



"Main Stage" Artist at the National Quartet Convention, Silver Dollar City, Dollywood, and on television networks such as Fox News, DayStar & TBN

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MEN'S CORNER

The next Men's Fellowship Breakfast will be held Saturday, October 3rd at 7:30 AM. Tommy Davis will be sharing his testimony. Below is the testimony of Dale Todd from our September breakfast.

It all began on May 6, 1957, in the "small town" of Xenia, Ohio, at Greenfield Memorial Hospital, when Dr. David Warner slapped my bottom and welcomed me into this world and into the Todd family.

I was the third of four children raised in a Christian home with two older sisters and a younger sister born two years after me. This is not the testimony of someone saved out of a life of sin and what Satan uses to defeat us, but is a testimony of God's grace and guidance that has kept me through this journey.

I was raised with a strong Christian heritage. My mother was one of seven siblings and by God's grace all were children of God along with their spouses and their children. At about the age of ten during a revival service, I felt the tug on my heart to accept Jesus Christ as my personal savior. When it came time for baptism, we had a cold, clear running stream located nearby. Now I do not have anything against present day baptism, but the imagery of the water flowing over you in a stream of water, washing away your sin has a very powerful impact.

On April 3, 1974 (in my junior year of high school), I arrived home from school and my next oldest sister was there and needing to be taken home. Mother was working on supper, so I quickly volunteered to take her, after all it meant that I got to drive the car! I remember just as I dropped her off I was facing west. There out in front of me, in what looked to be a couple of miles, appeared to be a huge explosion with hundreds of birds trying to escape and I was curious. As I was driving west, I heard someone say turn south. I turned south and the street dropped down in a low spot and as I looked in my rear view mirror I watched a tornado pass behind me. I was alone in the car but God was faithful and kept me from harm. That was the first tornado that ravished the city of Xenia.

During my college years at Circleville, I met and married a young lady and over the next six years we had three children. Like a lot of young couples and families, there were ups and downs, and it was not long before that the marriage was in trouble and fell apart. Satan had gotten a hold of my wife and drug her back into the life she had come from and she filed for divorce. Through God's guidance, grace, faithfulness, and a supportive Christian family, I was given physical custody of my three children.

I remarried and God was faithful to bless me with a Christian lady who loved and raised my children as her own. Through these years God blessed me with the ability to minister in "sound" in the local church as well as community Christmas and Easter musical productions. God blessed me with the talent of photography, spending several years as a wedding photographer, and I might add that God gave me the grace to deal with blended family situations during these weddings. God was always faithful!

On May 27, 2017, my wife, six months shy of 30 years of marriage lost her battle with cancer and joined her Father in heaven. In December of 2018, I made the move to Grove City to be with my sister and to get a new start. During these last two years God has blessed me: I have a deeper relationship with

Him; I have seen prayers answered; my devotional life has greater meaning; and I am excited to see what God has in store for me in the future.

The verse in Philippians 4:13 has held true over the years.

I, Dale Todd, can, with the power of the Holy Spirit, do all things, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, through Christ, which, with His faithfulness, gives me strength to overcome and push through what I am facing!

There is a popular highway that spans this country called Route 66, and like life itself, it has its ups and downs, twists and turns. I am thankful that I have Jesus Christ as my Savior and King and that I am following the Route of the 66 books He has given to us known as His Holy Scriptures.

I ask Him daily to minister to me so that I may minister to others.

**God Bless,
Pastor David Berna**

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."*

A friend recently stated that she not only survived a recent personal issue, but was actually thriving despite it. She said, "I thank God for my Rotrucks." I immediately replied, "Hey, I have thanked God for *my* Rotrucks too!" And my Babberts, Ebersts, Cunninghams, Fultons, and a host of others.

Exactly four days after my dad came to pastor at First Baptist, I moved out of state to college. By the time I came home for Christmas break, there were all sorts of people visiting our home. I met a lot of strangers during that break; however they quickly became friends. Actually, they became more than friends. They were my intercessors when my life was in upheaval during my move toward adulthood with a new hometown, church and friends. They were my cheerleaders when I struggled and my biggest fans when I was succeeding. They sent cards. Funny or sweet—they all held a verse and a quick reminder that they were praying for me and hoped to see me in church.

My favorite thing about our church are our stories. I'm giggling just thinking of Gene Cunningham and the "communion juice" incident.

Celebrating with my parents as they reached Emeritus status, our church poured out their love. Some of "my" families have moved to places like Texas and Florida. Others are already in the presence of Jesus. Yet I still have some intercessors, cheerleaders, and fans.

If you need some of your own, there is a building located at 3301 Orders Road.

Come on in and meet our church!

**Blessings,
Cindy Matlock**

