



FAITHFUL TIMES

FPC September 2008 Newsletter



Chris' Column

New Commandment vs. Great Commission? Pt. 3

In July, we spent a little time looking at a 'new command' that Jesus gave to His church, 'Love one another as I have loved you,' (John 13:34). In this, Jesus tasked us with loving each other how Jesus loves us—something that is impossible for us to do apart from the Holy Spirit. In August, we spent a little time looking at the Great Commission, 'Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations,' (Matthew 28:19).

Here's the question: Should a church spend it's time 'doing' the New Commandment OR the Great Commission?

I don't think we get to choose between the two. As a matter of fact, I think that one is actually part of doing the other.

Loving each other in the church (the new command) is not an end in itself. It is a means to a greater end, which is mission. It's almost as if Jesus is saying, 'Love each other well, got it? Good. Now here's WHY that's important. By following this command all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another,' (see John 13:35). In the act of loving each other, we're actually giving a witness to the world. When those outside the church see us loving each other well, they should be attracted to the Savior. Keeping this larger goal in mind helps to keep us from becoming inwardly focused as a community of believers.

The church exists for something greater than itself. Our Book of Order says it this way, 'In terms of its work, the first duty of the church is to evangelize by extending the Gospel both at home and abroad, leading others to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and to provide for the nurture of that faith that all might grow in grace and in sanctification,' (Book of Government, § 4-3).

I might even be so bold as to say that in a sense, the church exists for those outside the church! Abraham, the 'father' of the faith was called by the Lord so that he would be a blessing to the world. Jesus came and ministered to those outside of Israel. Paul was sent to the Gentiles—those outside the church of his day, all so they could be a part of the church. Here's what Paul says about his ministry, which is very applicable to the church,

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and *gave us the ministry of reconciliation*: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. *And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation*. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. (2 Corinthians 5:17-20)

The struggle for the church in each generation is to figure out how to be ministers of this reconciliation in the time and place that God has placed her. It will look different for each church, because God has built into each church certain gifts and even a particular 'congregational personality' that is suited to a particular way of ministering. I'd like to call you all again to pray that God would show us how He's put us together so that we can minister best here on Hwy 1085. That will include us continuing to learn how to best love each other so that Covington will know the Savior.

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Children's Ministry

by Pam Greenbaum

Our Sunday School and Children's Church teachers met for the annual FPC Children's Ministry Prayer Breakfast. All of our children and families were prayed for and new materials were reviewed. FPC is blessed by our volunteer teachers who share Christ with our children. Do not miss our special Sunday School classes which begin on Sunday September 7th. Our teachers are here for your children and look forward to spreading the Gospel and nurturing our church family.

The K.L.I.C.ers (**K**ids **L**iving **I**n **C**hrist) will meet Sunday, September 21st following service for pizza and a special project. Our older K.L.I.C.ers will begin puppet practice. Puppets are an important component to our new Children's Church. K.L.I.C.ers is open to all 4 year olds through 6th graders and meet about 6 times a year on Sundays after Worship.



*"What's this rumor I hear about some of you
Skipping my Sunday School Class?"*

SEE YOU IN SUNDAY SCHOOL

NEW MEMBERS' CLASS

**5 weeks during Sunday School hour
Led by Pastor Henry Bishop
Begins September 14 and runs through
October 12th.**

Come learn more about us!!!!

Hidden Treasure



Patience is a hard discipline. It is not just waiting until something happens over which we have no control: the arrival of the bus, the end of the rain, the return of a friend, the resolution of a conflict.

Patience is not waiting passively until someone else does something. Patience asks us to live the moment to the fullest, to be completely present to the moment, to taste the here and now, to be where we are. When we are impatient, we try to get away from where we are. We behave as if the real thing will happen tomorrow, later, and somewhere else. Be patient and trust that the treasure you are looking for is hidden in the ground on which you stand.

Henri J. M. Nouwen
YOUR DAILY DIG, PLOUGH.COM

Session Update

At a stated meeting, the session of Faith Presbyterian Church, Covington, LA met in the library of the church on Tuesday evening, August 8th, 2008. After praying for the congregation, the session took action on the following items:

- A request for the use of the building was considered.
- Some Temporarily Restricted Designated Funds in the budget were moved to the building fund, the general fund, or to the Missions Committee for disbursement.
- Approval was given to split a maturing CD into two smaller CD's which will eventually mature at staggered periods of time.
- A vacation request for TE Chris Curtis was approved.

Women's Ministry



With fall just around the corner, the women of FPC are jumping right back into the swing of things. For those of you who miss the old school days and want to study, Daisy Beck is still leading a **Wednesday morning study** at the church which begins at 10 A.M. Presently the group is studying John MacArthur's book of Romans. This 12 week study began in late July.

Faith Circle is another place to get your learning, as they start their new year off with the first of their monthly meetings on **September 9th at 1:30 P.M.** This group of lively ladies meet during the fall, winter and spring on the second Tuesday of each month for a short Bible study and a dessert. The meeting place is usually here at the church and the members take turns being the hostess by providing something sweet to eat. Susie puts on a pot of coffee and usually laughter can be heard coming from the meeting room. September's hostess will be Mary Edmundson. Their new study is entitled *A Woman's Call to Prayer* by E. George. The price for each book is \$11 which can be collected at the first meeting. Talk with Mary Edmundson or call the church office if you would like to be a part.

If you are more of a recess/lunch type, **Double Nickels** will hold their first meeting on **September 15th**. This group of 55 years and older MEN and WOMEN gather 3 or 4 times a year on a Monday for a game of Bingo (with prizes!) and are served a lovely lunch. This is an event that begs to have you "*bring a guest*". Talk with Patty Frutiger or Susie in the office if you plan on inviting a friend so we can plan on extra food. It's a nice way to show off who we are at FPC!

September is here and is the start of a full calendar for the women. Mark **October 7th** down for our annual **Fall Gathering**. This year Jane Hoogerwerf will serve as our hostess at her Covington home. Invites with directions will be sent out to all the ladies in the church.

November will bring the ladies together for a **Sunday Women's Breakfast** on **November 2nd** which will also be the church's Fish Fry—two meals for the price of a side dish. You can't beat that! November will also get the ladies together to decorate our church for our Savior's Birthday. This is always a special time to work together and share a lunch and then stand back and ooh and ahh at the transformation you ladies work in the church every year. We also set up the "Giving Tree" or as some call it "The Angel Tree". The women will again sponsor the **Church Wide Christmas party** on **December 7th**.

There are so many opportunities here at Faith for our women. Re-read the above. Check out below—there is an extra opportunity to show your love for our Lord. And keep an eye on the Sunday bulletins and future newsletters. Bring on the fall!

Men's Ministry



The men just completed a very successful **Lunch/Bible Study** led by Pastor Chris. They will begin a new study on **Tuesday, September 2nd**. They will meet every Tuesday for 8 weeks at a local restaurant where they will hold the study and enjoy a dutch treat lunch. Call the church office to find out the restaurant each week. It is a fun bunch of men who would love to add numbers to their attendance.

The men will have their monthly **breakfast** on **September 14th at 7:45 A.M.** Please make plans to attend!

REAL MEN LOVE JESUS!

EASY WOMEN'S PROJECT!



At one of the Women's Breakfasts Joy Lynn Hobart spoke to us about Kairos, a prison ministry that she is involved with. In October Joy Lynn will be delivering cookies to the prison with this Kairos program. If you can bake cookies for Joy Lynn to bring, please call the office during the month of September to get the recipe. (THEY ACCEPT ONLY ONE TYPE OF COOKIE WHICH NEEDS TO BE FROM THIS SPECIFIC RECIPE!) The cookies can be made ahead of time and frozen. Twelve cookies to a bag—call the church office so Susie can get the specifics to you.

The mission of the Kairos Prison Ministry is to bring Christ's love and forgiveness to all incarcerated individuals, their families and those who work with them, and to assist in the transition of becoming a productive citizen.

I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me. Matthew 25:36

FPC Financial Update



Estimated Needed Monthly Budget*	Collected in:	Over/Under
	<u>January</u>	
General: \$13,000	17,428	+4,420
Bldg: \$ 4,700	2,585	-2,115
	<u>February</u>	
General: \$13,000	10,249	-2,751
Bldg: \$ 4,700	4,755	+ 55
	<u>March</u>	
General: \$13,000	19,109	+6,109
Bldg: \$ 4,700	6,378	+1,678
	<u>April</u>	
General: \$13,000	9,052	-3,948
Bldg: \$ 4,700	2,206	+2,494
	<u>May</u>	
General: \$13,000	8,696	-4,304
Bldg: \$ 4,700	4,194	- 506
	<u>June</u>	
General: \$13,000	16,145	+3,145
Bldg: \$4,700	3,566	-1,134
	<u>July</u>	
General: \$13,000	9,131	-3,869
Bldg: \$4,700	1,959	-2,741
	<u>August</u>	
General: \$13,000	Collection to be reported	
Bldg: \$ 4,700	next month	

*Current needs without provisions for new pastor.

Administration Committee meetings take place on the second Monday of each month at 6 P.M. and are open to anyone who wishes to attend. Your committee is made up with Harvey Marsolan, Chair, Patty Frutiger, Gary Schoen and Larry Terrell.

FPC's Prayer Chain

If you have a prayer request, contact Jeannie Schoen at 892-1954 or 264-6450 (cell). Leave a message, she will return your call.

When you place someone or a family on the Prayer Chain, a nice follow-up would be to send one of the pre-printed notes that can be found in the Narthex. It also serves as a positive outreach in the community for FPC.

Remember to be in prayer for the Pastor Search, the committee and the candidates!

Attention 7th—12th graders!

YOUTH BREAK-AWAY RETREAT

October 3 -5

**Twin Lakes Camp in
Jackson, Mississippi**

Call or email Chris if interested.

Food Bank Update



Thank you for your immediate response to the Covington' Food Bank cry for help. We will continue to collect during the month of September. Bags of rice, beans, dried milk, baby food pasta, jars of sauce, Dinty Moore Stew, canned tuna are all great choices. Place your donations on the pew in the Narthex for delivery to the Covington Food Bank.

September 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <i>Labor Day Office Closed</i>	2 <i>11:45a Men's Lunch</i>	3 <i>10a Women's Bi- ble Study</i>	4 <i>6:30p Choir</i>	5	6
7 <i>New Children's S/S and Children's Church begins</i>	8	9 <i>11:45a Men's Lunch</i>	10 <i>10a Women's Bi- ble Study</i>	11 <i>6:30p Choir</i>	12	13
14 <i>7:45a Men's Breakfast</i>	15 <i>12p Double Nickels</i>	16 <i>11:45a Men's Lunch</i>	17 <i>10a Women's Bi- ble Study</i>	18 <i>6:30p Choir</i>	19	20
21 <i>K.L.I.C.ers</i>	22	23 <i>11:45a Men's Lunch 7 P. Gospel Jam</i>	24 <i>10a Women's Bi- ble Study</i>	25 <i>6:30p Choir</i>	26	27
28	29	30 <i>11:45a Men's Lunch</i>				

**September
Happy Birthday!**

Micah Calvert	1
Stan Hoogerwerf	2
Ann Calvert	4
Maria O'Keefe	6
Keely Slaton	7
Ryan Fitzmorris	9
Addi Greenbaum	11
Emily Burns	17
Daisy Beck	17
Jane Hoogerwerf	26
Ivan Miestchovich	27

Anniversaries!

Karen & Larry Terrell	1
Joy & Harvey Marsolan	23

FPC Contact Info
Telephone: 985-875-1212
Fax: 985-875-1213
Church/Office Street Address
 16330 Hwy 1085

Church Office Hours:
Monday through Thursday
9 am—4 pm

E-Mail:
 Chris.curtis@faithpreschurch.org
 Susie.lange@faithpreschurch.org
 Pam.greenbaum@faithpreschurch.org

Sunday Times:
Sunday School: 9:00am
Fellowship: 10:00am
Worship: 10:30—11:45am

Deadlines

Bulletin announcements need to be in the office by **noon on the Wednesday before the Sunday they are to appear.**

Newsletter items need to be in the office by the **third Thursday** of each month!



