



FAITHFUL TIMES

FPC April 2008 Newsletter



Chris' Column



Transitions still...(again)...(continuing)...(to boot)...

Our workday on March 8th gave us a MAJOR facelift, and we didn't even have to visit a plastic surgeon for some botox! Kudos to all who helped out! We do want to take care of the things that God has given us here on Hwy 1085 so that we can share them with Covington. One of the wonderful things that came out of our workday was the banner that was hung in our sanctuary for our Resurrection service. Our children (with some very able supervision!) worked on it during the church workday. Thanks kids of FPC! We have a banner not because we are great, but because the Lamb who rose from the dead is great!

In addition to the weekly things we have going on here @ Faith, we've got the Spring Fling and Gospel Sing coming up on April 20th. This will be a great time to invite your friends—the more the merrier! Even if they go to another church, invite them to join us for some food and singing! See page 5 for more details.

I have been looking over and compiling the CIF forms that you have been sending back. It's been very interesting to see your input in the process. Here's a chart of the top twelve things we thought as a congregation that our congregation needs in a pastor—listed in random order:

- builds a sense of fellowship among the people with whom he works
- continues to develop his theological and biblical skills
- deals effectively with conflict
- is an effective teacher
- has a sense of the direction of his ministry
- has a strong commitment to the educational ministry of the church
- helps people develop their spiritual life
- is a caring and compassionate person, sensitive to others' needs
- is a good leader
- is mature and emotionally secure
- is an effective preacher/speaker
- encourages people to relate their faith to their daily lives
- is effective in planning and leading worship
- is a person who cultivates a close, devotional relationship with God
- makes pastoral calls on people in hospitals, nursing homes, and those confined to their homes
- works regularly at bringing new members into the church

You might say, 'Now Chris, I can count and there are more than 12 items listed.' You're right about that. We had some ties.

Since what we perceive to be needed by our congregation might be different than what we need individually, I also asked you to fill out another line indicating those things that you considered to be a priority for you *personally*. It is sometimes the case that one might need to put the needs of the group ahead of their personal needs. It's interesting that some of you had the same list for both congregation and person, and some only filled out the congregational portion. Here's the list of personal priorities:

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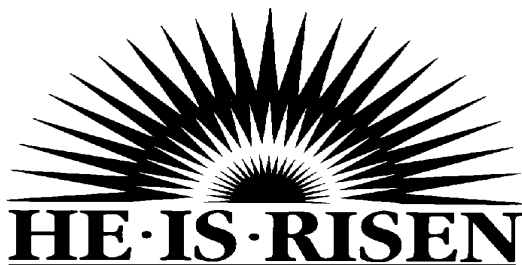
Chris' Column continued

builds a sense of fellowship among the people with whom he works
 is an effective preacher/speaker
 encourages people to relate their faith to their daily lives
 has a strong commitment to the educational ministry of the church
 helps people develop their spiritual life
 is mature and emotionally secure
 is a person who cultivates a close, devotional relationship with God
 is a helpful counselor
 is a caring and compassionate person, sensitive to others' needs
 deals effectively with conflict
 is an effective teacher
 inspires a sense of confidence

I would like to call you all to continue to pray that Jesus would send us the man that we need at this point in our journey together. He always knows better than we do about our deepest needs—He's able to see the forest when we're busy looking at the veins in the leaves on the trees!

In the meantime, take the opportunity to get to know Henry Bishop while he's with us. He's been a tremendous encouragement, and I am praying that his time at Faith is not too short. <grin>

chris.curtis@faithpreschurch.org



Bishop's Corner

by Pastor Henry Bishop

Praise the Lord for our "smallness"; for the feeling of family that we enjoy and, for the fact that 'dearly beloved' is a heartfelt and commonly used expression in our fellowship! This need not change, even as the Lord may choose to increase our number.

Dearly beloved, PRAY...for growth, and growth in grace!

"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." John 14:35



"Our congregation is so small that when the minister says 'dearly beloved', I get embarrassed."

Children's Ministry By Pam Greenbaum

Christmas in April??? The K.L.I.C.ers will put together their annual Christmas boxes for Romanian children at their meeting on April 27th. (Note: due to the Spring Fling & Gospel Sing, KLICers is on the 4th Sunday rather than the 3rd) The boxes will be distributed by *Hopes for Others*, a ministry of Fairhaven Children's Home. The K.L.I.C.er kids need our congregation's help with donations for the boxes. The following NEW items will be needed for children ages 6—9:

- Shoe Box size plastic boxes with lid
- Toothbrushes and toothpaste
- Combs & brushes
- Socks
- Chap sticks
- Barrettes and hair ribbons/bows
- Small dolls
- Balls (to fit in box) - tennis balls
- Play Doh
- Toy cars
- Jump ropes
- Small toys
- School supplies: pencils, pens, markers, small paper pads, crayons, small coloring books—*No Story Books*

Hopes for Others is not able to accept books, items that need batteries or military items.

VBS News! VBS will be held **JUNE 2—6** from **9 A.M.** until **11:45 A.M.** Thanks to a generous donor, a wonderful new re-usable banner will be purchased and will temporarily replace the Circle banner out front for the world to see!!!!

WHAT did he say??

No longer will we be asking that question during our Worship Services thanks to a generous donation from our Faith Circle and Helen Brooks. The new microphone is a true blessing. Thank you ladies!



He works on us in all sorts of ways. But above all, He works on us through each other. Men are mirrors, or “carriers” of Christ to other men. Usually it is those who know Him that bring Him to others. That is why the Church, the whole body of Christians showing Him to one another, is so important. It is so easy to think that the Church has a lot of different objects—education, building, missions, holding services...The Church exists for no other purpose but to draw men into Christ, to make them little Christs. If they are not doing that, all the cathedrals, clergy, missions, sermons, even the Bible itself, are simply a waste of time. God became man for no other purpose. It is even doubtful, you know, whether the whole universe was created for any other reason.

- C.S. Lewis -



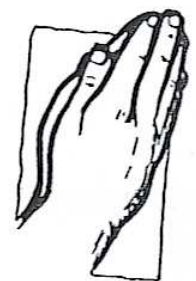
Men's Ministry

The monthly breakfast will be held on April 9th with Stan Hobart and Erik Johansen sharing the cooking duties and Harvey Marsolan providing the devotional.

The men continue to meet on Tuesdays at the *Beck & Call* in Covington by the new Courthouse for a Dutch Treat lunch around noon. Join them whenever you're in the neighborhood!

Pray Daily for our Pastors, Henry and Chris

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|-----------|---|
| SUNDAY | Favor with God, spiritual revelation, anointing and holiness. |
| MONDAY | Favor with the congregation, officers, the family of God |
| TUESDAY | Vision, wisdom, boldness in sharing the Gospel |
| WEDNESDAY | Soul and body, appearance and attitude, wholeness |
| THURSDAY | Protection from temptation, deception and the enemy |
| FRIDAY | Finances, setting priorities, adequate supply |
| SATURDAY | Their families:
<i>Chris and Melinda</i> and their daughters, Tessa and McKenna
<i>Henry Bishop</i> and his children and grandchildren. |



Women's Ministry

WHAM (Woman's Helpful Activity Monday) will meet at the church on **Monday, April 7th**. At 9:30 A.M. Show up for coffee, fellowship and an easy task or two!

Faith Circle will meet at the church on **Tuesday, April 8th** at 1:30 P.M. Dessert & coffee will be served.

Wednesday Bible Study is weekly at 10 A.M. at the church.

Double Nickels have special plans on **April 14th**. See details below.

Book Club meets on **April 15th** and/or **April 16th** at 6:30 P.M.



Spring Luncheon Thursday April 17th 11 A.M. Rips on the Lake

\$25 per person
Salad, choice from 3 main dishes, beverage, and dessert
Tax & Tip included

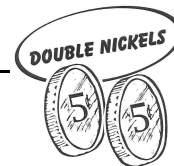


Have money in by April 13 as we need an exact count.
Make checks payable to FPC with "luncheon" in the memo.

Food Bank

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,
I was a stranger and you invited me in. *Mt. 25:35*

For people to go hungry in this land is inexcusable. The Covington Food Bank is still in desperate need for food items. For the month of April we will collect store bought cookies /snacks for delivery to this worthy establishment. God Bless you and thank you in advance for your generosity.



Thank You!

A special thank you for the honor that Faith Circle has bestowed to me. It is really my Christian friends who deserve all the credit. I cannot express the feeling of gratefulness for donating the "Banner" in my honor.

Love,
Marie Louise Preble

Double Nickels

The last Double Nickels before the summer forces us all to take a break will be a very special field trip out to Larry Terrell's home in Lake Ramsey. It will be a fun day on his pier fishing (he has plenty of poles or bring your own) or relaxing on his porch watching others "try" to fish! MEN as well as women (55 years old and older) are invited to join this fun bunch of Double Nickels on **Monday, April 14th**. We will meet at the church and carpool to Larry's at 11:15 A.M. Or, if you know the way to his place at 14405 S. Lakeshore Dr we'll meet you there at noon.) Gary Schoen promises to be on hand to help Larry serve us lunch. Call the church office by April 10 so we can try to have an approximate number of participants. Rain? We just won't fish but we'll still have plenty of fun!

Let Patty Frutiger Know!



If you have a son or daughter graduating from high school in May, please let Patty know or contact the church office. Graduation Sunday will be celebrated sometime in the month of May or June.

Call To Service

The current women's council is coming to the end of its two year term. The council is comprised of seven members. President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer and four other members who oversee the following: Women's Education and Mentoring, Fellowship, Missions and Community Outreach, and Worship Service Support. The incoming president is Nikki Slaton. If you feel the *call to service* and would like to get involved please contact our nominating committee: Jeannie Schoen, Daisy Beck or Leslie Fitzmorris.

Cash Flow Statement



<u>Estimated Needed Monthly Budget*</u>	<u>Collected in January</u>	<u>Over/Under</u>
General \$13,000	17,428	+4,420
Building \$ 4,700	2,585	-2,115
<u>Collected in February</u>		
General	10,249	-2,751
Building	4,755	+ 55
<u>Collected in March</u> (4 collections of 5!)		
General	16,614	+3,614
Building	4,977	+ 277

*current needs *without* provisions for new pastor

Administration Committee meetings take place on the second Monday of each month at 5:45 P.M. and are open to anyone who wishes to attend.

Session Meeting Summary

The Session of Faith met on March 12, 2008 and took action on the following items:

- Approved a request for the donation of a cross to match the smaller cross hanging in the sanctuary
- Approved 2 requests for building use
- Progress of our EPC Annual Statistical report as well as the annual report of the Domestic Corporation was checked
- Consideration was given to a request by a member of the congregation that FPC seek a lower interest rate be sought for our mortgage. It was determined that our mortgage rate cannot be improved currently.
- Harvey Marsolan was appointed as clerk of session in anticipation of Barry Ward's relocation
- Approval was given for a member of the Gideons to speak briefly at a Sunday service.

Several items regarding the Family Conversation were considered:

- The matter of job descriptions for all staff positions is in process through the work of the Administration Committee
- The request for a quarterly financial report will be handled through a report in the monthly Faithful Times church newsletter
- It was decided that now is not the time to consider any changes to our position on ordained officers
- The request for more communication from the leaders will be met formally through the Faithful Times newsletter
- The pastoral search process was reviewed and it was determined that in accordance with the EPC Book of Government, the Session shall nominate a search committee for approval by the congregation at a congregational meeting at which nominations from the floor shall also be considered

This is a summary of the Session minutes. Full minutes are in the office and are available to any member who wishes to read them.

Spring Fling and Gospel Sing
Sunday, April 20th

Immediately following Worship

This year one of our favorites returns!



Our annual Spring Fling & Gospel Sing is getting better. This year the meal will be Fresh Fried Catfish and Hush Puppies. Our guys will be working hard on the outdoor burners to give us the best. All we need to add to this is salads and desserts.

Name starts with A to L - Bring Salad
 Name starts with M to Z - Bring Dessert

The *Bootlegger Road Angel Band* will be joined by some special guests this year. We'll be singing your old favorites and maybe discovering some new favorites too!



April 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Every Monday 6p Violin lessons	1	2 10a Bible Study	3 1p GNOYO 6:30p Choir	4	5
6	7	8 1:30p Faith Circle	9 10a Bible Study	10 1p GNOYO 6:30p Choir	11	12
13 7:45a Men's Breakfast	14 12p Double Nickels 5:45p Administration Mtg.	15 6:30p Book Club 7p Session	16 10a Bible Study 6:30p Book Club	17 11a Spring Lunch 1p GNOYO 6:30p Choir	18	19
20 Church-Wide Spring Fling & Gospel Sing Fish Fry after service	21	22 7p Gospel Jam	23 10a Bible Study	24 1p GNOYO 6:30p Choir	25 <u>Chris at</u> 7p Home school's Talent Show	26 <u>Presbytery</u>
27 Communion K.L.I.C.ers	28 Susie on Vacation all week	29	30 10a Bible Study			

**April
Happy Birthday!**

Lilo Burns	3
Ranetta Marshall	4
Lauren Frutiger	7
Ryan Marsolan	10
Pat Massoth	12
Alex Beck	15
Russ Hobart	15
Tessa Curtis	16
Sarah O'Keefe	17
Ethan Edmundson	19
Bill Marshall	27
Barry Ward	28

Happy Anniversary!

Maria & Gary O'Keefe	12
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FPC Contact Info
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 70433

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 Chris.curtis@faithpreschurch.org
Children's Ministry
 Pam.greenbaum@faithpreschurch.org

Web: www.faithpreschurch.org

Sunday Times:
Sunday School: 9:00am
Fellowship: 10:00am
Worship: 10:30am

Office Hours: 9-4 P.M.
Monday—Friday

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!**

Pastor Henry Bishop is in Covington from late Saturday until late Wednesday each week. He is in the office from 10 A.M. until 1 P.M. each day and available each afternoon for appropriate visitation. Feel free to call him anytime on his cell 601-310-1801.

