

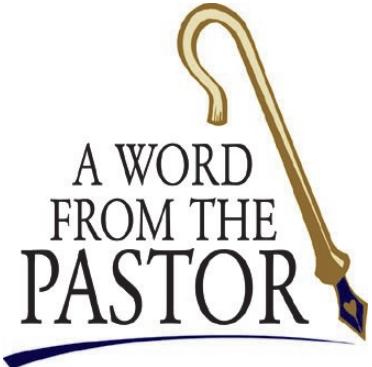
A monthly newsletter for members and friends of
First Baptist Church of Painesville - November 2021

CHURCH LINK



From the Pastor's Desk

What does God want from me?



Have you ever asked yourself the question, “*what in the world does God want from me?*” We are experts at telling God what we want from Him, but it is much harder to ask God what He wants from us. However, Christian’s ought to ask God this question and, more importantly, be completely willing to follow His answer.

The good news is I believe God has made clear what He wants from us. After reading and studying God’s Word for many years, I believe there are essentially three things God wants from His children. *First*, God says to *believe Me*. God wants your faith. You cannot please God if you do not first believe in God and trust God. Therefore, the first step in having a meaningful relationship with God and truly understanding what He wants from you is to put your faith in Him completely. (**Hebrews 11:6** “**but without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him**”)

Second, God says to *love Me*. Jesus said the greatest commandment of all is to “*Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind*” (**Matthew 22:37**). The Scripture says that “God is love” (**1 John 4:8**) and goes on to teach how God loved us first (**1 John 4:19**). All God wants for us is to love Him back.

Finally, God says to *obey Me*. In John chapter 14, Jesus is recorded as He speaks to His disciples about love. Up until now, for almost three years, Jesus has built the faith of His disciples and poured out His love for them. But now, He turns the tables and essentially says to the disciples, “*if you love me, keep my commands*” (**John 14:15**). In this single verse Jesus tells all believers three crucial things we must do to truly experience God.

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There's an old saying that says "talk is cheap". You can say you love something or someone all you want, but if your actions don't line up with your words, your words are meaningless. This principle applies just as much to your relationship with the Lord as it does anything else. If you truly love the Lord, your obedience in action will make that clear.

"...because you love Him...you will experience a close, thriving and transformative relationship with your heavenly Father."

My prayer for you is that you will live a life in obedience to Christ because you love Him, and as a result, you will experience a close, thriving, and transformative relationship with your heavenly Father. As you work to proclaim, prove, and practice obedience to God, let me encourage you by sharing one of the most amazing verses in Scripture: "*The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them*" (**John 14:21**).

Jesus says He will show Himself to the people who obey Him. You see, we experience who God is to us when we respond to what God says to us. Reading the Bible will give you information about God, but obeying the Bible brings transformation by God.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Edwards

There are always extra monthly newsletters located on a table in the foyer. Please feel free to take some to share with your neighbors or friends.



Hosanna Circle

Twelve circle sisters attended our first meeting of fall—October 4. We were in good singing voice, followed by inspirational readings: scripture, poems, thoughts. Thankfully our prayer list wasn't too long, but those appearing received sincere thoughts and prayers.

We are pleased the new air conditioners are in place. Wendy washed and hung the old sheers, which did nicely. She's investigating a colored material to use yet in accent.

It was noted the east drive exit has a hole to be fixed.

Sandy announced there's to be no Messiah again this year.

Jacquie gave a brief introduction concerning results of COVID 19—positive and negative. Hopefully, sisters will volunteer to elaborate on this material more in future meetings.

Our next meeting is to be Monday, November 1, 2021 at 7 p.m. at the church.

In closing I share Psalm 100:4
Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and bless His name.

Happy Thanksgiving

Jacquie Wolf

ChurchLink

A Monthly Newsletter for
Members and Friends of
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NOVEMBER

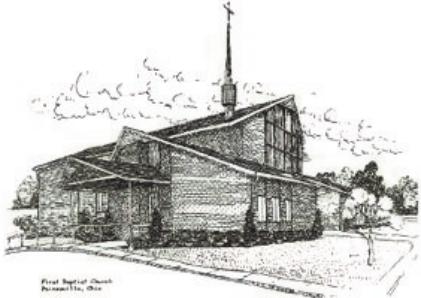
A cartoon illustration of a person wearing a hat and a vest, raking fallen leaves into a pile. A small star is visible in the air above the leaves.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7:00 p.m. Hosanna Circle	2	3 No Bible Study/ Prayer Meeting	4	5	6
7 9:00 a.m. Bible Blast, ABF & Youth 10:00 a.m.. Praise Practice 10:30 a..m. Worship, Communion	8	9	10 6:30 p..m. Bible Study/ Prayer Meet-ing	11	12	13
14 9:00 a.m. Bible Blast, ABF & Youth 10:00 a.m.. Praise Practice 10:30 a..m. Worship	15	16	17 6:30 p..m. Bible Study/ Prayer Meet-ing	18 10:00 a.m. Mary/ Martha Prayer Circle “Link” Reports Due	19 OFFICE CLOSED	20
21 9:00 a.m. Bible Blast, ABF & Youth 10:00 a.m.. Praise Practice 10:30 a..m. Worship	22	23	24 6:30 p..m. Bible Study/ Prayer Meet-ing	25 OFFICE CLOSED A graphic with the words "Happy Thanksgiving" in a stylized font, surrounded by autumn leaves.	26 OFFICE CLOSED	27
28 9:00 a.m. Bible Blast, ABF & Youth 10:00 a.m.. Praise Practice 10:30 a..m. Worship	29	30				

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
10801 Johnnycake Ridge
Painesville, OH 44077

Return Service Requested

Guest



Weekly & Monthly Events & Meetings

Bible Blast, Youth & ABF - Sundays, 9:00 a.m.

Praise Practice - Sundays, 10:00 a.m.

Worship - Sundays, 10:30 a.m.

Communion - First Sunday of each month, 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Hosanna Circle - First Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m. (October, November, February, March, April and May); 6:30 p.m. - (December & June)

Bible Study/Prayer Meeting - Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Mary/Martha Prayer Circle - 2nd Thursday, 10:00 a.m.

“Link” Reports Due - 18th of each month