

A monthly newsletter for members and friends of
First Baptist Church of Painesville - February 2020

CHURCH LINK



From the Pastor's Desk

Great Expectations

As you look back over 2019, do you see any disappointments, or did everything work out as you desired? Life rarely turns out as we'd hoped because we live in a fallen world where people die, kids get cancer, and accidents happen. The truth is that we all face disappointments in ourselves, others, and situations. But worse of all, sometimes we're disappointed with God.

This happens when our expectations don't match what God does. We pray for healing, but we're still unwell; for the restoration of marriages, but now they are divorced; for a job, but we're still unemployed. It seems no matter how much we beg and plead; life doesn't work out as we hoped. That's when we may be tempted to ask, "God, where are you?" or to question whether He is good. After all, if the Lord truly is good, why would He let bad things happen to us?

There's a verse in the Bible which seems to affirm that God indeed does work everything out in the end for our good. It is probably one of the most loved and memorized verses in Scripture. "*And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose*" (**Romans 8:28, NIV**).

I believe if we carefully consider each word and phrase as well as its context, we will learn three important truths. **First**, this promise is for those who love God. There are many people who claim to love God, but their lives show that they really don't. Paul gives further clarification by explaining that those who love God are those "*who have been called according to His purpose*". These are the people who have responded to the gospel by believing and receiving Christ's death as payment for their sins and surrendering their lives to Him as their Lord and are part of His family.

Second, behind this promise is the providence of God. The word providence carries the ideas of foresight and provision. God alone knows the future, and He carefully guides the lives of His children according to His purpose and provides for every event to fit into His good plan.

Third, God will be faithful to fulfill this promise according to His plan. Life will not always work out the way you want because your definition of good is not the same as God's. The divine good toward which the Lord is continually working is found in the next verse: *"For those God foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son"* (Romans 8:29 NIV).

Being healthy, wealthy, or famous is not the greatest good God could work in our lives. His goal is to make us like Jesus, and although this will ultimately be fulfilled in the resurrection when we are glorified (v. 30), it's also a process He is working toward now. And some of the things we experience are not good, but the Lord knows exactly how to use them to produce a life which is progressively being transformed to look like Jesus.

The end of a year is a great time to look back and reflect on how God has worked in your life to make you more like Christ. Consider how He used the painful or difficult circumstances to strengthen your faith and challenge your obedience. Then ask Him to help you trust Him in the coming year

Yours in Christ
Pastor Edwards

Giant Eagle Gift Cards



Giant Eagle gift cards are available for you to purchase from First Baptist.

We have \$25, \$50, \$100, \$200 gift cards. Purchase them during the week in the office. This is a benefit to First Baptist because we earn 5% of the total we sell!

Recycle Paper



Place your paper to be recycled in the green and yellow *Paper Retriever* bin on east side of the church building. Items accepted: **newspapers, magazines, catalogs, direct mail, office paper, phone books, school paper shredded paper in clear plastic bags.** Items not accepted: **cardboard, cereal boxes, kitchen/bathroom paper products, plastic, metals, garbage.** We can earn between \$5 and \$20 per ton of paper we collect and help the environment at the same time!

Hosanna Circle



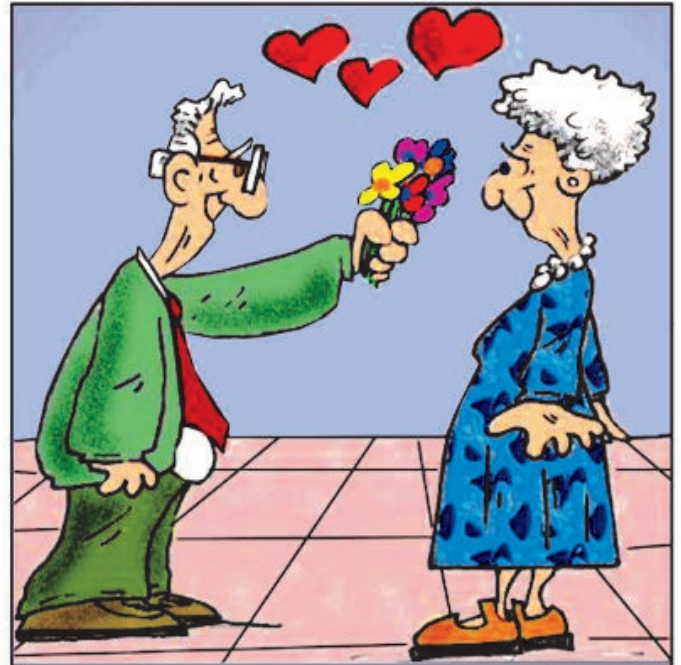
Our regular meetings are about to begin again. Hope to see you Monday, February 3, 2020 at the church at 7 p.m.

Hope you all had a nice Christmas, and weren't too troubled by the big snow fall we had.

Happy New Year...See you soon!

Jacquie Wolf

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



Your teeth are store bought and as white as the hairs on yer head. **Song of Solomon for Seniors**

A big THANK YOU...

...for your food donations. During the month of December, we helped 3 families and in January we helped 4 families with food! Please remember to check the expiration dates on the items you donate.

ChurchLink

A Monthly Newsletter for Members and Friends of First Baptist Church
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Painesville, OH 44077
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Email: fbcpainesville@sbcglobal.net
Website: fbcpainesville.org
Rev. Anthony J. Edwards - Pastor
Mrs. Sandy Namestnik - Editor

February Birthdays

Ralph LaRue	2
Samantha Estep	2
Chloe Namestnik	5
Cathy Benko	9
Brandee Masterson	20
Lucille Thompson	25



No February Anniversaries

If you are not included in our birthday and/or anniversary lists and would like to be, please call the office at 440-354-4454. Thank you!



Nursery/Toddler Volunteers (9:50 am)

2/3	Caregiver: Wendy Fredebaugh Helper: Jackie Dwyer
2/9	Caregiver: Sandy Namestnik Helper: Toni Walker
2/16	Caregiver: Jenny Silbaugh Helper: Sandy Namestnik
2/23	Caregiver: Amu Whipple Helper: Judy Whipple

Hospitality Volunteers

	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Welcome Center</u>
2/2	Hedy Takacw	Lindy Leathers
2/9	Judy Whipple	Wendy Fredebaugh
2/16	Arlene Silbaugh	Carla Reynolds & Mary Anne Kelly
2/23	Jenny Silbaugh	Jacquie Wolf

Wednesday Bible Study/Prayer Meeting

Come at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and join in with others who are seeking God's face, praising Him, and then interceding on behalf of others.

Worship Service Scripture Readers

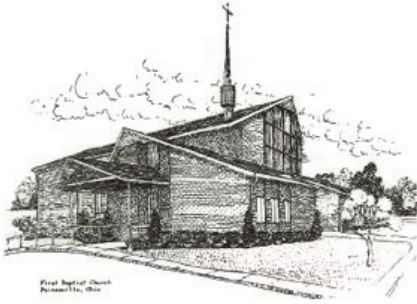
2/2	Bev Smith
2/9	Ingrid Balstad
2/16	Peggy Ryan
2/23	Jacquie Wolf



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

1st Baptist Singers - 3rd Sunday of each month, 12:30 p.m.

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