

A monthly newsletter for members and friends of
First Baptist Church of Painesville - September 2019

CHURCH LINK



From the Pastor's Desk

The Bible is Powerful



The Word of God can transform any situation or person, because built into it is the ability to pull off whatever God desires it to accomplish. Power is the ability to affect change or produce the desired effect. This is a good working definition of what I mean by the power of God's word.

A key Scripture passage that teaches this truth is found in that great section of Isaiah 55 where we are told in verse 11 **“so will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; it will not return to Me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it”**.

The unstoppable power of God's word is another attribute that sets it apart from anyone else's word. We humans spew out a lot of words, and people make all manner of boasts, promises, and threats. But a lot of what we say never comes to pass, for which we can be thankful. Our plans are frustrated all the time because we are not all-powerful.

God's word has no shortcomings. It cannot be frustrated or stopped. His Word is always purposeful when it goes out from His mouth, and that purpose is always achieved. He always has a plan that He intends to fulfill.

When the writers of Scripture wanted to illustrate the awesome power of God, they often pointed to His creation of the world.

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The psalmist declared, “*by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and by the breath of His mouth all their host*” (Psalm 33:6). Then he added in verse 9, “*For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast,*” referring to the earth and all of its mighty oceans.

To simply speak a world into existence is power beyond anything we can imagine. In chapter one of the book of Genesis it is recorded again and again that “*God said...and it was so*”. In other words, God did not need any raw materials to work with when He created the world. He created the raw materials and everything else with His word. This is creation, making not just something out of nothing, but *everything* out of nothing.

The Apostle Paul puts it like this in **Romans 4:17**. He said that God “**calls into being that which does not exist**”. Now the fact that God can speak and make it so ought to be good news when you look at your circumstances and don't see any way that anything can happen. Remember that God doesn't need anything to do His work, because His word is powerful and all of God's authority stands behind the Bible.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Edwards

Baptism

Sunday, September 1,
10:00 a.m.

Come Join in the
Celebration!



A big THANK YOU...

We are grateful for your food donations. Please check the expiration dates before bringing your donations to the church and give only items which have not expired, as we cannot give out expired food. Thank you.

Help First Baptist by Purchasing Giant Eagle Gift Cards

FIRST...buy Giant Eagle gift cards from First Baptist. We have \$25, \$50, \$100, \$200 gift cards. Purchase them during the week in the office.



NEXT...Spend them at Giant Eagle to purchase gift cards from your favorite retailers...or groceries...or you may purchase gasoline with them. When you buy gift cards or groceries you will earn fuel perks! (Don't forget to show the clerk your Giant Eagle Advantage card.) When you spend \$50 at Giant Eagle on items you are going to spend money on anyway, you get 10 cents a gallon off of your Giant Eagle gasoline purchase! This is a benefit to you but it also benefits First Baptist because we earn 5% of the total we sell! It is a win...win deal!

Recycle Paper



Place your paper to be recycled in the green and yellow *PaperRetriever* 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!

ChurchLink

A Monthly Newsletter for Members and Friends of
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Rev. Anthony J. Edwards - Pastor
Mrs. Sandy Namestnik - Editor



WORLD MISSION OFFERING

One of the questions I often hear in my travels is, “what is my purpose in life?” Usually, the person asking is feeling aimless in terms of identity and purpose, or they are troubled by the times of uncertainty and unrest in the world around us. It is the human condition to long for a sense of purpose, and to search for meaningful ways in which we can leave a positive mark on history.

Our thirst for more is much like the woman at the well. We desire to know our true purpose, and once our Creator meets that need and heals our brokenness, we cannot help but rush to spread the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ so that others can know Jesus as well.

The World Mission Offering resources from International Ministries provide inspiring stories of hope for your congregation. Each shows how Christ is working in the world through IM global servants and our partners – to baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. (Matt. 28:19) Like water, the most essential ingredient for life, the life-changing love of Christ is flowing and moving throughout the world, satisfying the thirst of those who seek him.

Your gifts through the IM World Mission Offering bring your congregation into partnership in God’s mission with IM’s global servants and partners worldwide. Each of us has an essential role, and none can be considered insignificant.

I invite you to come alongside IM’s global servants and partners to give generously for the World Mission Offering. In God’s hands, your gift impacts communities around the world and I pray that you are inspired, knowing you are a part of these stories.

Please join me in praying for our global servants and in giving generously to the IM World Mission Offering as the Lord Jesus leads you to give.

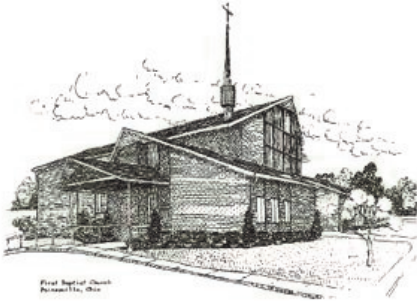
Gratefully,
Sharon Koh Executive Director / CEO P.S.

The First Baptist Church of Painesville will be collecting the World Mission Offering during the month of September. Please give as you are able.

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