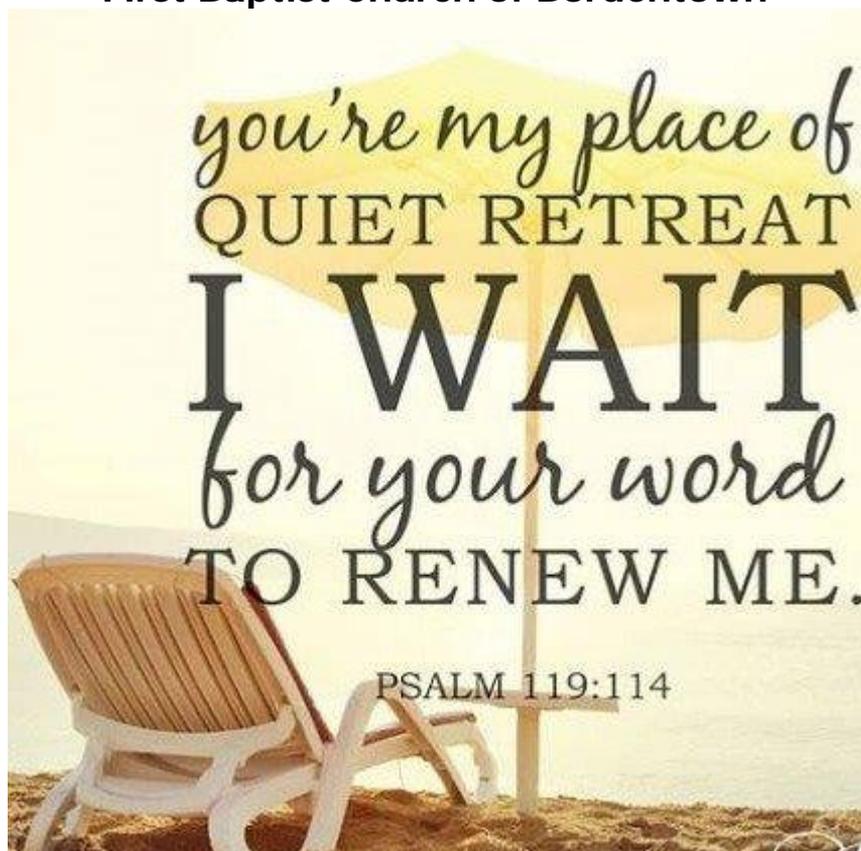




THE TIE THAT BINDS

June 2018 Newsletter of the
First Baptist Church of Bordentown





Prayer Can Be a Difficult Thing

One ancient theologian put it this way: "Amongst all our different activities, Father, which is the virtue that requires the greatest effort?"

He answered, "Forgive me, but I think there is no labor greater than praying to God. For every time a man wants to pray, his enemies, the demons, try to prevent him; for they know that nothing obstructs them so much as prayer to God. In everything else that a man undertakes, if he perseveres, he will attain rest. But in order to pray, a man must struggle to his last breath."

God wants nothing more than to have a relationship with you and it takes two to have a relationship. So, as the corporate giant Nike puts it: "Just Do It!" Make the time. Find a spot that is comfortable. And, come to Him humbly. Paul says to the Romans: When we pray, it's good to know we don't pray alone. Jesus always prays with us and for us (Romans 8:34). Prayer is simply having a conversation with God.

Let me give you an easy form to follow:

1. Acknowledge God – Tell God how good He is. God already knows it, but He wants to hear it from you.
2. Confess your wrong doings – In order to receive God's message to you, you must empty yourself of the stuff in your life. Give it to Him.
3. Thank Him – Give God thanks for all the ways He blesses you.
4. Ask – Let God know your needs.

This is a suggested order. Certainly, you don't need to keep this order, but it helps. Unfortunately, many of us fast forward to step number 4 and forget all the other steps. God knows your needs already and can't wait to hear you ask, so He can respond. But remember, the other steps are just as important – Praise God, Confess, and Thank Him. Most importantly, pray without ceasing as the Bible reminds us.

In the Name of the Great Pray-er,
Pastor Mark

Worship for June Continuing the Series: Who Am I?



identity

Sunday, June 3rd

Scripture: Ephesians 4:1-16

Message: "I Am Gifted"

Sunday, June 10th

Scripture: Ephesians 4:17-24

Message: "I Am New"

Sunday, June 17th

Father's Day

Scripture: 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

Message: "Great Encouragers"

Sunday, June 24th

Scripture: Ephesians 4:25-32

Message: "I Am Forgiven"

Thank You...

To My Church Family,

I want to thank you for your prayers and cards during my recent hospital stay. I also want to thank Pastor Mark of his visits and prayers. It meant so much to me.

Sincerely

Joyce Maugeri



For June

Bible Study



Wed/Thurs, June 6th/7th
Colossians 1:15-23
The Supremacy of Christ

Wed/Thurs, June 13th/14th
Colossians 1:24-29
Serving Christ

Wed/Thurs, June 20th/21st
Colossians 2:1-10
Walking with Christ

Wed/Thurs, June 27th/28th
Colossians 2:11-23
Phoolish Philosophies

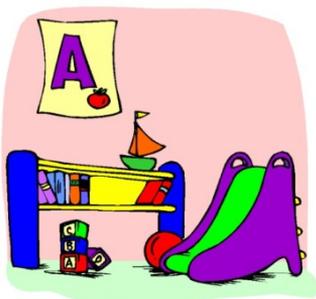


Where Is the Nursery?

Where is the nursery? That's usually the first question when young parents visit a new church. At a minimum, they expect their question to be answered with confidence, not bewilderment. Beyond simply asking directions, the inquirer wants to know, "Does this church care about us and our children?" "Is this a place where we can belong?"

Granted, we don't have much choice in where our nursery is located. The further questions are these: "Is it clean?" "Is it well-lit?" "Is it safe?" The answers to these questions are: Is it clean? – "usually, most of the time, but there's a permanent smell about it." Is it well-lit? – "yes." And, Is it safe? – "maybe, the toys and furniture are right out of a 50's catalog."

The Board of Christian Education in conjunction with the Board of Trustees are in the process of a total **Nursery Makeover**. By the time Sunday School begins again in September, our church nursery will look 100% different with new carpet, new play structures, new curtains, new toys, and more. In addition, our volunteer screening process and child abuse training policies have all been updated and implemented, so we can brag that our nursery will now be in the 21st century and ready to welcome new and existing children.



Watch the progress. Watch for an Open House. You might even want to volunteer in the nursery, 'cause it will be fun to play in. The worship service can also be heard inside.

As one pastor said, "I learned as a pastor that if the preschool ministry was not going well, the rest of the church was not going well either." Conversely, a church that pays special attention to its nursery may be laying the foundation for revitalization. It signals to young families a commitment to provide a place of belonging for anyone, no matter what age.

Thank you to all who made donations to the Yard Sale. If you are available to help set up or take down, or spend some time behind the tables being at the church, contact Amy Farina at 609-298-1992, or just show up between 7 am and 1 pm on Saturday the 2nd.



Welcome William D'Alesio & Family as Youth Pastor



It is with great excitement that we announced the Board of Christian Education has filled the position (created last fall) of Youth Pastor.

We welcome Will D'Alesio, who will begin June 1st as our Part-time Youth Pastor here at First Baptist.

Will is a graduate of Eastern University, in Saint Davids, PA with a degree in Youth Ministry & Biblical Studies. He is currently attending Westminster Seminary in Glenside, PA, seeking a Masters of Divinity degree.

Will has previously served as Youth Director at Maranatha Christian Fellowship in Moorestown, Columbus Baptist Church in Columbus, and a few other congregations while at Eastern.

Will lives in Robbinsville with his wife Britt (also an Eastern graduate in youth ministry), and their 18-month- old son Benjamin.



Will says, "I am detail oriented, self-motivated, and have a clear sense of my calling in ministry. I love to teach and communicate the truth of scripture in ways that are accessible and applicable to teenagers. I have had a great deal of experience teaching, developing curriculum, and leading small groups and find great fulfillment in leading teens in their discovery of biblical truth. I have experience with the administration of youth ministries including planning events, retreats, and mission trips as well as everyday tasks of balancing a budget and keeping up with students and parents through phone, text, and social media. Above all, however, I desire to keep Jesus Christ as the central focus and love of my life. I know that my ability to effectively lead students to Christ is totally dependent upon my own connection to Jesus Christ. He is to be the leader of my whole life both inside and out, professional, and personal."



When God Created Fathers

by Erma Bombeck

When the good Lord was creating fathers, He started with a tall frame.

A female angel nearby said, "What kind of father is that? If you're going to

make children so close to the ground, why have you put fathers up so high? He won't be able to shoot marbles without kneeling, tuck a child in bed without bending or even kiss a child without a lot of stooping."

...And God smiled and said, "Yes, but if I make him child-size, who would children have to look up to?"

And when God made a father's hands, they were large and sinewy. The angel shook her head sadly and said, "Do you know what you're doing? Large hands are clumsy. They can't manage diaper pins, small buttons, rubber bands on ponytails or even remove splinters caused by baseball bats."

When God Created Fathers continued

And God smiled and said, "I know, but they're large enough to hold everything a small boy empties from pockets at the end of a day, yet small enough to cup a child's face."

And then God molded long, slim legs and broad shoulders.

The angel nearly had a heart attack. "Boy, this is the end of the week, all right." she clucked. "Do you realize you just made a father without a lap? How is he going to pull a child close to him with the kid falling between his legs?"

And God smiled and said, "A mother needs a lap. A father needs strong shoulders to pull a sled, balance a boy on a bicycle or hold a sleepy head on the way home from the circus."

God was in the middle of creating two of the largest feet anyone had ever seen when the angel could contain herself no longer. "That's not fair. Do you honestly think those large boats are going to dig out of bed early in the morning when the baby cries? Or walk through a small birthday party without crushing at least three of the guests?"

And God smiled and said, "They'll work. You'll see. They'll support a small child who wants to ride a horse to Banbury Cross or scare off mice at the summer cabin or display shoes that will be a challenge to fill."

God worked throughout the night, giving the father few words but a firm, authoritative voice and eyes that saw everything but remained calm and tolerant.

Finally, almost as an afterthought, He added tears. Then He turned to the angel and said,

"Now, are you satisfied that he can love as much as a mother?"

The angel shutteth up.

From the Trustees



With an anonymous gift of \$1500 and an additional \$1500 authorized by the Trustees, the upgrade to the nursery is now in the detailed planning stage with work to follow soon thereafter. Planning will include new carpet, toys, painting, and climbable structures. Wow!

Oh, to be a child again.

As many of you are aware, the property adjacent to the educational building is in a state of substantial neglect. Although our church workers attempted to clean up the five-foot-wide area next to our building during the April 21 church-wide cleanup, growth from vegetation and trees from the property next door is still overgrowing on to our property. Other issues are involved in the back yard of the adjacent property. The City of Bordentown Assistant Zoning & Code Enforcement Officer has issued a formal citation to the property owner with a compliance date of May 25.

Our organ has been repaired to operational status. It required the motor to be rebuilt. However, there are many other repairs needed to the organ in order for its life to be extended. Those will be prioritized and completed slowly but surely.

Thank you for those who were present on May 20th and heard the first communication of our new Building Safety Policy. That step was to identify the exits in the sanctuary. For those who were not present, there are Emergency Exit Cards located in each pew indicated which exit you should utilize in the case of an emergency. Those are different in each pew. Please familiarize yourself with the instructions on the card each Sunday if you do not sit in the same pew each week. Stay tuned for more information from our Building Safety Policy.



At your request at the December 2017 Business Meeting, there will be a Church Business Meeting Sunday, June 10th, following morning worship, to update the congregation on the current state of the church's finances.



Pastor Mark and Lynne are excited and proud to announce the upcoming wedding of their son *Mark Alan, Jr.* to *Amanda Elizabeth Gagnon*, on Saturday, June 23, 2018 at 11:30 a.m. at the Joseph Ambler Inn, North Wales, PA.



All Sunday School Classes (in their current form) will end on Father's Day, June 17th for the Summer months and resume Sunday, September 10th. Stay tuned for special intergenerational devotions at the same time throughout the summer for those in attendance.

Happy Birthday To Everyone Born in June!



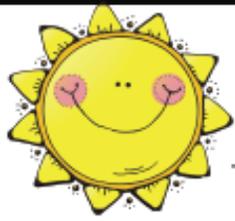
Conner McCormick	4	Betty Jo Marek	14
Tricia Alustiza	6	Aiden McCormick	15
Cissy Maugeri	6	Jeff Foster	21
Alexa Santiago	10	Beverly Thomas	22
Anna Strusz	11	Louise Bunting	23
Sugar Huber	12	Jim Lathrop	24
		John Lafferty	28

Keep Praying For

Barry Carlson
Phil Heitzenroeder
Mary Lou Hengeli
Mike Immordino
Paige Inman
Michael McCormick
Truck Stop Ministry

Betty Nelson
Madeline Strusz
Dorothy Wilbert
Terry Zahorchak
Rose Zaiss





JUNE



2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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Notes:					1	2 FBC Yard Sale Daughters of the King 4:30 p.m. Drop-In Center 6-9 p.m.
3 9:00 a.m. S.S. 10:15 a.m. Worship	4	5 Food Pantry 9:00 a.m. Christian Ed. 7:00 p.m.	6 Bible Study 7:15 p.m.	7 Bible Study 11:00 a.m. Bells 6:00 p.m. Choir 7:30 p.m.	8	9
10 9:00 a.m. S.S. 10:15 a.m. Worship Church Business Meeting following worship	11	12 Food Pantry 9:00 a.m. Trustees 7:30 p.m.	13 Single Dinner 6:00 p.m. Bible Study 7:15 p.m.	14 Bible Study 11:00 a.m. Bells 6:00 p.m. Choir 7:30 p.m.	15	16 Daughters of the King 4:30 p.m. Drop-In Center 6-9 p.m.
17 Fathers Day 9:00 a.m. S.S. 10:15 a.m. Worship	18	19 Food Pantry 9:00 a.m.	20 Bible Study 7:15 p.m.	21 Bible Study 11:00 a.m.	22	23
24 10:15 a.m. Worship	25	26 Food Pantry 9:00 a.m.	27 Singles Dinner 6:00 p.m. Bible Study 7:15 p.m.	28 Bible Study 11:00 a.m.	29	30